

New Adventures at Restored 2 Life Church --- a ministry of Center of Hope

The Restored 2 Life church has gone through some changes in the last few years.



One of the changes was the discontinuation of the Sunday night meal that was served after the worship service. We saw what was becoming a "Mission-like" feel. People would come and sit through the worship so they could get to the meal. By removing the meal, we knew that some would no longer come, so it was not an easy decision. One confirming word that Jesus gave to our leadership was in John 6.

John 6:26-17 & 35 --- JESUS THE BREAD OF LIFE

²⁶Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, you want to be with me because I fed you, not because you understood the miraculous signs."²⁷But don't be so concerned about perishable things like food. Spend your energy seeking the eternal life that the Son of Man can give you...

By Aaron Van't Hul

³⁵Jesus replied, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry again. Whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." (NLT)



Jesus had just fed the 5,000 people and they were following him to see if he would do another food miracle. Maybe they thought he would multiply some prime rib, or turn dirty water into Starbucks coffee. Jesus knew their hearts and he refocused them on what is truly most important, and that is the true bread of Life.

Part of growing as a Christian is a mindset shift from viewing church as a place where 'I can get something' to 'what I can give.' As God's Word says, "It is better to give than to receive!" The time for this shift is now at Restored 2 Life!

Would you be willing to come along side our Restored 2 Life

congregation and serve a meal with us to those in the Pettigrew Heights neighborhood in Sioux Falls? This would be an outreach that would hopefully engage the unchurched, and get them plugged into a worshiping community of Christ Followers. The meals are served every Friday night at a local church facility. For more information, call Aaron Van't Hul at Center of Hope. Phone 605-334-9789

What Does the Center of Hope do? We...

- 1) distribute winter clothing & bikes-for-work at minimal prices.
- 2) we meet most guests in our Care Center.
- 3) We do many Pastoral visits.
- 4) we have Restored 2 Life church, which includes Sports Night for many young men.
- 5) we have weekly Bible Studies.
- 6) we do Faith Community nursing.
- 7) we offer Journey Camp for children.

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Work and Life Training Program

This new program started January 15 at Center of Hope. Students and teachers meet on Tuesday night for 16 weeks. The purpose of this program is to help people to improve their life and work situation.

It is the hope that each student would see the unique and wonderful gifts and talents God has given them and they will learn how to hone them. Please pray with us that each student will reach this goal and that their life will be open to all that Jesus has in store for them. Center of Hope is very grateful to many who are partnering with this class as teachers and mentors and we appreciate prayers for them as well.



Community Day Event at Yonkers

(donations given to Center of Hope) Feb. 28 & March 1

Center of Hope has a great opportunity to receive a donation and you have a chance to receive a coupon book with savings galore. Please consider purchasing a \$5 coupon book on line at <http://communitydayevent.com/orglookup.php>, before March 1. The \$5 used to purchase the coupons will go directly to Center of Hope. You will be able to enjoy shopping with this book that includes a \$10 gift certificate and up to \$500 worth of deals when you shop at Yonkers on Feb. 28 and March 1. You may shop at the Sioux Falls Store or shop on-line these two days and receive Free Shipping. Please go to Center of Hope's web page or to <http://communitydayevent.com/orglookup.php> At the state box enter , 'South Dakota' and at the city box enter, 'Sioux Falls' and click on Center of Hope. Thanks for your help and enjoy the savings.

Volunteers:

In 2013 there were almost 6000 hours of volunteer time at Center of Hope. Two of the volunteers that helped with those hours are Jan and Jeff Oltman. Jan spends most of her time at the front desk or in the back room working on clothing. However, her skills of data entry have been put to use for Holiday Clearing House and many other areas. Jesus is the light in her smile and His kindness shows through hers.



Jeff spends his time between the Bike to Work Ministry and at one of the computers where he helps with the newsletter and other data entry projects. His ability to talk to everyone and help out where ever possible is a bright spot in sharing the love of Jesus with the guest's here.

Thank you to Jan and Jeff and many other volunteers! God bless you all!



MEMORIAL GIFTS

In loving memory of:

Charles Halma John Halma Gayla Tiedemann Jerry Wickre

As always, we are happy to have you on our mailing list. Please let us know if you would like to be removed from our list or have your newsletter sent electronically.

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