



HANDS OF COMPASSION

A MINISTRY OF THE ROCHESTER CHURCH OF CHRIST



840 W. Center Street
Rochester, MN 55902



“Focus Your Eyes On The Power of Our God”

The House of Compassion is no doubt a wonderful ministry. No one would dispute, nor could dispute, the good that is done for so many over the course of time since the ministry has been in existence.

But if you look deeper than the obvious ministry that occurs every time Debra, Chris, Cindy, Phillip assist with all who seek the services of the House of Compassion, what you see are individuals/families who are fighting the battle of their lives.

By watching those who enter the doors of the House of Compassion, you witness true Biblical faith revealed before your eyes as weary, sick people continue the next chapter in their pursuit of health, trusting God each step of the way...a path that has no guarantee other than the promise that our God will never leave or forsake us.

When families come to the Mayo, at least families like us, they have determined they will do whatever God will provide in order to get well. When sick families unite in the house, it is often the first time they have been around other people who can understand what they are going through (including other family members who have tried to understand). There is a sort of therapy that happens on the front porch that can soothe the pain of the day, the fear in your heart, that cannot be described unless you have been one of the blessed recipients.

Friendships are made and hearts are united. This would have never happened had it not been for the House. It becomes the place where you so dread to come back (when medical procedures bring you here that you have so tried to avoid), but the minute you arrive, you feel like you have come home. You already know that here you will find comfort in others who are fighting as hard as you to resume a normal life again, although what you know deep down inside is that you will not know "normal," but rather the "new normal" that you will learn to appreciate.

For those of you who are the caregivers at the House, be careful not to be sucked into the daily grind of sickness and despair. **Focus your eyes on the power of our God** and how He brings souls together to get healing from doctors at the Mayo who are guided by God to help our physical bodies. But what happens right here before your eyes is the most encouragement and the best testimony to the Great Physician that you will ever witness. Caregivers, you work hard. Don't overlook your blessing to see the Hand of God work in the lives of so many in a place like the House of Compassion.

Thank you for all you do. Our lives have changed forever because of you.

Doug and Vickie Miles



**“We don’t meet people by accident.
They are meant to cross our paths for a reason”**

We never would have thought that a double-lung, heart and liver transplants would have played a big role in how Scott and I (Hiyas) would meet 15 years ago.

These major surgeries did not happen to us, did not take place at the same time but all took place at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. In all of these, the Hands of Compassion Ministry was there to support everyone involved. This is a story of more than a dozen people whose paths were intertwined by God, and connected by God’s church in Rochester and the HOC ministry.

At this time, more than 16 years ago, Scott and I did not realize the full picture God was painting with our lives. In 1997, Scott was living with Dean Patterson and his family. Dean offered to have Scott live with his family as a way to reach out to Scott and help him have some direction in life. Shortly after moving with the family, doctors found several blood clots and Dean went to Mayo Clinic to seek help.

In 1998, after going through double lung and heart transplants, Dean suffered complications and succumbed to brain cancer. After Dean passed away, Scott, encouraged by Stacy Sikes, HOC minister at that time, went to Bear Valley Biblical Institute in Denver to pursue a degree in Biblical Studies.

In 1999, thousands of miles across the Pacific, my niece Jeremaia was born. At 3 months, Jeremaia was diagnosed with biliary atresia – a condition where a baby is born without bile ducts. The only solution – a liver transplant. Problem is, at that time, there was no liver transplant program in the Philippines. Another problem – it would cost my family hundreds of thousands of dollars for my niece to have this major medical procedure done elsewhere.

“For I know the plans I have for you.” says the Lord. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.” Jeremiah 29:11

This verse became the battle cry of my family. We soon realized we needed God and only God’s help. God connected my family with a non-profit based in Chicago. The group’s work involved bringing sick babies from around the world to the Mayo Clinic for treatment. God provided everything – Mayo Clinic took Jeremaia’s case and told my family everything that is needed will be provided by the clinic for free. So in March of 2000, I with my mom, my sister Jesilu (Jeremaia’s mom) traveled to Minnesota. My role was to be the prospective living liver donor for Jeremaia. We both had the same blood type – no accident there. Certainly, only made possible by God. Back to Rochester, on March 30, 2000, a baby with a liver that perfectly matched Jeremaia’s needs had died. Because of that one loss of life, Jeremaia was able to live hers. We give all the credit and praise to God. Everything happens for a reason.

“God has put you where you are for a purpose.” Esther 4: 13-14

In April of the same year, God crossed Scott and my paths. Little did we know about God’s most significant purpose of our being in Rochester. We both thought we are helping others deal challenges that they faced with transplant surgeries. The last thing on our minds was marriage. We both just wanted to serve God in any capacity. We were also both thankful to God for giving us purpose in Rochester. Long story short – we met one Sunday at the Rochester church of Christ. Stacy Sikes made sure we met, introduced us to each other. But it was not until a year later, when Scott was done with his biblical studies and started working as a youth minister in the church, that we became friends.

In 2002, Scott asked me to marry him – as he put it “work together for God’s glory.” And so, in June 2003, in front of our friends and family, we got married in Manila, Philippines. Since then, God has blessed us with a wonderful baby girl, Mariarose Imogen Keziah Quelle. Although born with Down Syndrome she shows us everyday that God knows the desire of our hearts. There is not a day that goes by that we don’t see the blessings that He has provided for us, through her. We are better Christians today because of her continual blessing in our lives.

Hiyas Quelle

Scott, Hiyas, and Mariarose Quelle

Scott Quelle Is a current board member for the Hands of Compassion Ministry



Jeremaia Today



Honoring Your Loved One With Your Gift of Compassion

Honorarium and Memorial Donations to the Hands of Compassion: February—June 2016

Honorarium

John Gay

Melissa Tomlinson

Memorials

Richard Boens

Gladys Willis

Margaret Burgess

Gladys Willis

Liberty School

St. Cloud Church of Christ

Joan Atkinson

Peggy McCarthy

Richard and Winnie Williams

Michael Suhr

Donald and Terri Suhr

Evelyn Suhr

Andover Christian Church

Larry and Diana Kinney

Christine Leininger

Alan and Leah James

Todd and Mary Ebersviller

Karyl and Trudi Kennedy

Mike and Diane McEndree

Bill and Lina Barnacle

Linda Busbee

Mike and Carla Baker

Alf and Wanda Langston

Marilyn Ogier

Jaqueline Schnedler

Paul and Cathy Stephenson

Rusty Wheels Old Engine Club

Wesley and Loretta Smith

Ozark Mountain Regional Public Water Authority

Mary Carlton

Bill Carlton

Luci Chambers

Marge, Nancy, Robert, Dan, and Cindy Hazel

Jimmy Terry Durham

Martha Durham

Justin Durham

Martha Durham

Boyce Durham

Martha Durham

Laura Dean Fraley

Melissa Tomlinson

Roanne Foley

Arthur and Lucille Parkinson

Gayle T. Byers

Herbert Graham

Ann Sanders

Kate Howard

Robert and Elizabeth Howard

Patricia Pike King

Sonny and Shirley Bryant

Joseph Robert Larson

Al & Dale Ogren

Laura Lyn Koyich

Margaret Anderson

Linda Leiter

Joan Berry and Family

Douglas Edward Ovens

Sonny & Shirley Bryant

Olan Therman Pike

Sonny and Shirley Bryant

Erbie Pollard

Ron and Linda Sandefer

Dr. James H. Ringer, M.D.

Virginia Ringer

Jessica Sikes

William and Mary Shireman

Helen Sneddon

Sonny and Shirley Bryant

Lyle T. Stinchfield

Lois Stevenson

James Teague

Ron and Linda Sandefer

Toni Rolinson Vaughan

Roy and Thelma Kirkpatrick

Ronald "Chip" Vorek

Nolan & Oralene Killebrew

Lames B. Organ

Clinton Lioness Club

Karen Watson

William and Mary Shireman

Jami Willingham

Lincoln Park Church of Christ

Calvin Wilson

Wanda Wilson

Thank You For All You Do!!



John Hindman



Mica Byrum

The House of Compassion is what it is today because of the gifts and the volunteer time given by the many people who have come through here. Pictured here is John Hindman painting the curb and Mica Byrum doing some gardening while they were here for treatments. Also pictured is the former chaplain's office in the basement of the original house. Alayna Finnan of American Heritage Girls remodeled the room for a service project to earn her Stars and Stripes award. She converted it into a brand new bedroom. Thank you to all who give of your time at the House of Compassion.



Before Remodel



Alayna Finnan



After Remodel

If you wish to receive an emailed copy of the newsletter rather than a paper copy, just email us at hocministry@gmail.com.

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