



# HANDS OF COMPASSION

A MINISTRY OF THE ROCHESTER CHURCH OF CHRIST



840 W. Center Street  
Rochester, MN 55902



## Unless The Lord Builds The House



**Psalm 127:1a says, "Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain."**

**Psalm 127:2b says, "For He gives to His beloved even in his sleep."**

The Hands of Compassion has been built by God through the many thousands of people who have come through here for more than 30 years. The best forms of ministry happen as guests share their stories between one another and pray together in the house. God has made so many things happen here and we know that the house below can only happen if He is at the center of our ministry.



Please continue to pray for the ministry here in Rochester. Pray also for our efforts to raise funds to build a new house in order to better take care of our guests. We believe God is truly at work here in Rochester through the ministry of the Hands of Compassion. Without God working through the people coming through our doors, the laborers will be laboring in vain. (Psalm 127:1) However, "All things are possible with God." (Matthew 19:26)



# Names and the Character of God

What's in a name? In our society, names are chosen for a variety of different reasons. As parents, we may want to name our children after a special member of our family, or we may simply like the sound of a name as it rolls off of the tongue. Maybe we want our child to have a name that is different from everyone else and so we make up a special name for our child. In the Bible, however, names often carried with them special meanings. For instance, Jacob was born with his hand grasping Esau's heel. (Genesis 25:26) As a result, he was given the name Jacob, which means "he grasped the heel." Ironically, it had a double meaning of deceiver. Jacob managed to trick his brother out of the firstborn inheritance, as well as trick his father into giving Jacob the blessing instead of Esau.

We see something very similar when we look at the names of God. The names of God reflect different attributes of the character of God. These names teach us a great deal, about who God is and how he deals with humanity.

Here are some examples of the names of God:

## Jehovah Raphe— "Jehovah Heals"

"He said, 'if you listen carefully to the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in his eyes, if you pay attention to his commands and keep all his decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for **I AM the LORD, who heals you (Jehovah Raphe)**'" Exodus 15:26 (NIV). God is the ultimate source of healing and a bringer of hope to those who call on his name.



## Jehovah Shalom—"The God of Peace"

So Gideon built an altar to the LORD there and called it "**The LORD Is Peace. (Jehovah Shalom)**" Judges 6:24 (NIV)

Even when people do not find physical healing, they can find healing in their spirit as their trust is put in God. One of the best places to see this is at funerals of people who have died with the hope of salvation. The funeral becomes as much of a celebration as a mourning over their death.



## Jehovah Jireh—"The God Who Provides"

"So Abraham called that place **The LORD will provide (Jehovah Jireh)**. And to this day it is said, On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided. Genesis 22:14.

These are just a few of the names that show how amazing God truly is. God's word is full of his many names, because we can never truly understand the mind and character of God. These descriptions found in the Scriptures, however, illustrate how God reaches out to humanity, especially in the love and character of Jesus Christ.

The board for the Hands of Compassion ministry has decided that when we are able to build a new house it will be dedicated to

our creator. One of the ways we plan to do this is to give each room a theme that is centered around a different name of God. When guests walk into these rooms for the first time, we want them to be reminded of "the God who provides," "The God of peace," "the God who heals," and other names that can bring peace to the guests who come to the Hands of Compassion houses.



# Memorials and Honorariums January 16—May 17

## Memorials

### **Linda Busbee**

Gary & Jamie Jordan

### **Glenda Dye**

Raymond Dye

### **Elwood A. Fauske**

Michael & Diane McEndree

### **Yvonne Johnston**

Lois E. Stevenson

### **William Gerdts**

Marilyn Gerdts

### **Larry C. Johnson**

Albert & Dale Ogren

### **Shirley Pajari Larson**

Al & Dale Ogren

### **Kay Meyer**

William & Donna Knadel

### **Elizabeth Nunn**

Roger G. Nunn

### **Ruby Elizabeth Weishaar**

James Weishaar

### **Susan Lewis Thompson**

Ray & JoAnne Embry

### **Toni Vaughn**

Roy & Thelma Kirkpatrick

### **Boots Young**

Richard & Shirley Hames

James & Debra White

### **Jerry Willis**

The Keith L. Arterburn Trust

## Honorariums

### **Mr. & Mrs. Brett Byrum & Keaton**

Charles & Laura Elmore

## Honoring Those We Love

Do you have someone who has made a significant impact on your life? Would you like to honor them by giving them something that will last? One of the ways in which you could honor a loved one is by giving a special gift to the new house project. By doing so you can dedicate a room in the house to somebody important to you. If you would be interested in doing this for our new building project, please contact us at [hocministry@gmail.com](mailto:hocministry@gmail.com). You may also call the chaplain, Phillip Quelle, at 402-637-6900 for more information. If you do not have the funds to do so right now, please let us know as there are options available if you need help.



## Funds Collected for New, Integrated, More Accessible HOC

We are underway, but to protect the HOC ministry, we will not start construction until all funds are raised.

**\$1,900,000**

**\$349,730.44**

## Donate to Help Build and Enable the Hands of Compassion Ministry!

- 1) Donate directly by sending a check marked for the New HOC.
- 2) Go online to [www.hocrochester.com](http://www.hocrochester.com) and donate electronically.

## Ambassadors for HOC

We routinely meet people at church who wish they knew that the Hands of Compassion ministry was available to them before coming to Mayo. To help with awareness, we have set up a promotional video on the website and Facebook page. We are asking that people who love HOC share that video with as many people as they can so that others can benefit from our ministry.

Web: [www.hocrochester.com/promotional-materials](http://www.hocrochester.com/promotional-materials)

Facebook page: House of Compassion, Rochester MN.

# Where Is The Hope?

**“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11**

Where is our hope? For many who come through the Mayo Clinic, hope is far away. Some have already been through so much with doctors from their home towns, and they are hoping that an answer might be at the Mayo Clinic. Some people find physical hope when they are here. Others go away disappointed with the news they receive. Still others are terrified with the illness they suffer. When people come into our lives who are experiencing that fear, we have the opportunity at the Hands of Compassion to offer hope. That hope does not come from the doctors at Mayo or the tests or the treatments that people receive. The hope comes through faith in *Jesus Christ*.

In my three years at the House of Compassion, I have been in the room with three people on the day they died. I have also seen many more people receive news that was terrifying for them. Faith in God does not necessarily bring physical healing, but it does provide healing in other ways. I have seen people spend the last moments of their life with prayer on their lips. I have seen people receive news that their life is short, and go to the Scriptures to find their comfort. The God of all comfort is where true hope lies.

**2 Corinthians 1:3-5 “Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of Compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.”**

## Contact Information for Donations and Reservations

**Email:** [hocministry@gmail.com](mailto:hocministry@gmail.com)

**Address:** 840 W. Center Street

Rochester, MN 55902

**Phone:** 507-289-6025 (Chris, Cindy, Debra) Housing

402-637-6900 (Phillip Quelle) Chaplain

**Website:** [www.hocrochester.com](http://www.hocrochester.com)

