

# New Horizons Ministries

A NEWSLETTER OF HOPE TO FRIENDS OF NEW HORIZONS MINISTRIES

MAY 2001



## Rescue Mission

By Sarah Murphy-Kangas,  
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A few weeks ago I had the incredible privilege of speaking to a group of inmates at Purdy Women's Prison. These women, gathering together on Saturday mornings for prayer and discussion, welcomed me warmly into their little group, and I left feeling overwhelmed by their closeness to Jesus, knowing that these were His precious ones. One woman in her late sixties prayed, "Thank you, God, for giving us our daily meals, and thank you that we can now come and feed on you. Thank you for the chance this prison gives us to be helpless." A chance to be helpless? What did she mean by this?

While reading Psalm 22 a few months ago, I began to notice David's impassioned and desperate cries to God—"Rescue me! Deliver me! Come quickly to save me!" These are pleas I am very unfamiliar with. My life is cushioned and structured in such a way as to explicitly *avoid* situations which might call for such exclamations. My husband and I live in a cozy apartment and never have to borrow anything from our neighbors, we generally opt to drive into work rather than ride our bikes, we try to stick closely to our budget, and we are naturally most attracted to people whose lives look like ours. The last thing we are looking for is "a chance to be helpless." My visit to Purdy and my work at New Horizons, though, suggest that we might be closest to God when we seek out this chance.



Illustration  
by Lee Carlson

It strikes me that the theme of our lives in God should be perpetual rescue, not perpetual safety. When we pray for the youth that we serve, of course we pray for their safety. I'm finding, though, that I want to be careful about wishing "normal" or "mainstream" lives for them. The relative comfort and safety of a mainstream life tend to insulate us from the radical comfort of God and the reality of our sheer dependence on Him. When we pray for God to rescue the youth, I'm beginning to realize that this is the prayer I should be praying for myself. The kids, in their dangerous and troubled lives, know things about God that I may never know. They know the tenderness of God toward the "outsider." They don't need to *learn*, like I do, that their lives are fragile. They are accustomed to asking for rescue, more sensitive to the relief of a meal or shower or a sweet moment with God. God, though He must surely ache for the trauma that has led them to NHM, finds in their helplessness a home.

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*The community that surrounds New Horizons is vast and wonderful. We appreciate all the hands that help make a difference in the lives of the youth we serve. These helping hands belong to preschoolers who go to Linda Bernard's daycare. They prepared a meal that was later served in the drop-in center.*



*(Rescue Mission continued from page one)*

The speaker for our NHM retreat last month talked about the ways in which different kinds of people encounter God. He talked about Saul's conversion on the road to Damascus, and said it was as dramatic as it was because Saul was privileged and upper class. He had many things to insulate him from his desperation. To the leper, however, Jesus had only to say a word, and the leper was healed. With marginalized people whose need for rescue is great, Jesus comes with almost unbearable tenderness, a tenderness that my safe life often precludes.

We don't want the youth to end up in prison, to be addicted to drugs, to survive by acts of prostitution, to go from one crisis to the next. We continually hope and pray that they find healing and wholeness, and we work to this end. As strange as it may sound, though, I envy them sometimes. I envy how natural it must be, like the Psalmist David, to cry, "God, rescue me! Come quickly to save me!" I envy the beautiful woman at Purdy who has the incredible vision to pray, "Thank you, God, for this chance to be helpless." And I pray for myself and those in our NHM community that we may serve these youth with great humility, that we may see them as soft clay into which the print of God is pressed. I pray that we may serve them, not because we know something they don't, but because we are crying out together for the presence and intervention of God.



Poverty, exploitation, war, street life, abuse and fatal diseases are just a few of the issues that put children/youth at risk.

Please put Saturday, June 2nd on your calendar and remember to pray for youth living on the streets of Seattle and children/youth at risk around the world.

*Pray for healing in hearts that are hurting.*  
*Pray for restoration in broken families.*  
*Pray for safety for those who are in danger.*  
*Pray for shelter for those sleeping on the streets.*  
*Pray for companionship for those that are lonely.*  
*Pray for love for those who feel unloved.*  
*Pray for dignity for those who feel shame.*  
*Pray for miracles for those who feel hopeless.*  
*Pray for freedom for those who are addicted.*  
*Pray for provision for those who have none.*  
*Pray that God's will will be done in their lives.*  
*Pray that they see God's hand and care in their lives.*  
*Pray that they will see Jesus in a real and personal way.*  
*Pray for wholeness and healing in all of their lives--*  
*emotional, spiritual and physical.*

If you would like more information on the World Wide Day of Prayer for Children at Risk, visit their website at [www.viva.org](http://www.viva.org).



## The Father's Cry

By Scott Steinke,  
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*While I was sitting on a beach in Europe, by myself, I felt the weight of being a foreigner, isolated from others of my culture. Although I was able to speak the language and know their culture, I was still not one of them.*

*It was during this time that the issues of my past came rushing back, like a wave crashing on the beach. I was transported to a time when I had no voice, was not protected, and when I just wanted to be seen and loved for who I was.*

*I am keenly aware that the youth with whom I am in relationship desire this very thing. It was from this time on the beach that I wrote this song - a song of God's cry to us, His children.*

My child, my child, oh where have you gone?  
 I have sought you for oh so long.  
 I know your pain, hurt and shame.  
 I am present, I am near; come my child and you will hear.

Hear the story I will tell, of pain and shame  
 I suffered on that hill.  
 I suffered for you this you know,  
 come now my son and love you will know.  
 I am not afraid of your anger or fear.  
 I will wrestle with you just to have you near.

Love and acceptance, forgiveness and grace,  
 kindness and mercy flow from my face.  
 I am your Father, you are my son.  
 Your will I have given for now is to choose.  
 Although it seems unlikely, I will not abuse.

Peace, love, hope and joy is what I long to give.  
 My children, my child, come to me,  
 drink of the water I have to give.  
 Refresh yourself here in my presence.  
 Rest your head here on my breast.  
 Relax, let go, for I am in control!

Chorus:  
 Where will you go?  
 To whom will you run?  
 Where will you hide,  
 But by my side?



## Sharing the Blessing

By Jen Ross,

Office / Data entry Volunteer

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We at New Horizons have been blessed with the building at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Cedar that we occupy. We've been here for over three years and have begun to share our building with other groups to meet their various needs. This is a practical way to network and share information with these groups, but it also seems like a natural way to be thankful to God and to use this amazing blessing.

God calls us to share

this building. We realize that it is a gift from God - that it is, in fact, God's building. We must share it with the people God asks us to share it with. "...Freely you have received, freely give." Matthew 10:8. Here are some of the ways we share our space.

**Emmaus Road Church** uses our building on Sundays for their church service, and their pastor has an office here.

**Project Stars** is a University of Washington research project studying the effects of motivational interviews on drug use and abuse in homeless adolescents. They have been coming to our drop-in center to interview our youth for about a year and will continue this for another year until their study is done.



**Angeline's** is a day center for homeless women. They have only a small staff break area, so their food volunteers use our kitchen when they need it for larger things.

The **YMCA/Fremont Public Association** holds a weekly cooking class in our kitchen for youth in transitional housing.

The **Meals Partnership Coalition** is a collaboration of meal providers from around the city who lobby and share information and resources. They hold monthly meetings here.

The **City of Seattle** uses our training room to hold training sessions about homeless youth.

These trainings are provided at a reduced cost for direct service staff from other agencies around the city that otherwise couldn't afford the training.

The **Teleios Group** is a leadership group that meets here weekly on Wednesday mornings. Their goal is to help men reach maturity in their faith in Christ by building friendships with other men.

The **Footstool Foundation** is made up of ministries from around the city and the Northwest. They use our space for meetings to network and share information and resources. People donate to the foundation which then gives out financial grants and support to organizations around the city.

**Youth groups** and **Urban Plunge groups** have stayed here when they are in town working with our ministry or others.



## Dates To Remember

Community Worship    Every 4th Thursday, 7-8:30pm  
April 26, May 24, June 28

Volunteer Training    May 12, 16 & 19

Walk-a-Thon            June 16th

## GIVING OPTIONS

We now have available for your use  
**On-Line Giving, Credit Card Giving**  
and **Direct Contribution Giving** (ACH Debit)

Contact  
Mick Prandi, Development Director at  
206-374-0866 ext. 115  
mickp@nhmin.org



Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Seattle, WA  
Permit No. 2710



NEW HORIZONS MINISTRIES

four



## 11th Annual Walk-A-Thon

*(free BBQ after the Walk)*

Mark Your Calendars for  
Saturday, June 16, 2001  
at Seward Park

**Walk, Eat, Have Fun**

Pre-register by June 1st

??? Contact Susie at  
206-374-0866 ext. 108

### WISH LIST

Call 374-0866 to help.

**Larger size jeans** for men and women. Contact Abra, ext. 130.

**Pentium 2** (or higher) **computer** for client computer room. Contact Bob, ext. 106.

**Sets of wrenches, conduit bender, sockets, ratchets and steel locker** for paint storage. Contact Dave, ext. 136.

**New** (or used in good condition) **aprons, hot pads, backpacks and kitchen towels**. contact Abra, ext. 130.

**New: bath towels, washcloths, spray deoderant, brushes, combs, shoelaces, lice shampoo kits, hairbands/scrunchies and toothbrushes**. Contact Abra, ext. 130.

**Video recorder**. Contact Bob, ext. 106.

**Standing candle sticks** (about 3-4 ft. high) for the chapel. Contact Lee, ext. 104.