

## Northwoods Share Dinner October 1, 2024

Location at the Rock Mission Center 1019 E. wall street Eagle River, WI

Gods Gathering Place will again sponsor, host and serve.

### Outreach Giving

We are donating cans of hearty soup to the homeless shelter in Eagle River and rolls of toilet paper to the Land O' Lakes Food Pantry each month. These items are greatly appreciated by the people they serve. If each of us brings just one can of soup, and one roll of toilet paper each month – we will have an abundant supply for them!

Please place them in the tubs in the Fellowship Room – thanks!

Remember: Matthew 25:40: “...Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”

## Local Churches Unite to Bring Hope to Victims of Fire

Press Release May 24,2021



In the early morning hours of February 20, 2021 fire swept through the home of the Nalani Nettenour family in Eagle River, destroying it completely. The three adult children, awakened from sleep by the smell of smoke and the roaring of the flames, managed to escape with their lives. Unfortunately, most of the family's pets and almost all of their possessions were lost in the blaze. The pajama clad siblings clung together in horror as they watched the only home they had ever known burn to the ground.

Their mother was away from home that night caretaking another individual. As Nalani describes it "Being awakened by a phone call to the crisis by my daughter, that our house was on fire, was one of the most terrifying experiences of my life."

The Nettenour family is well known throughout the Eagle River area and word of the disaster spread quickly throughout the community with many wondering how they could help in a meaningful way. When need met opportunity, three local churches immediately sprang into action, all uniting to bring vital hope to the victims of the fire.

It all began when the Chairman of God's Gathering Place, a non-denominational Bible Church in Conover, learned that the buyers of a home in the area did not want the houseful of furniture that the sellers were leaving behind. The Nettenour family was contacted and they were thrilled with the offer of free furnishings to replace what was lost. Needing strong backs and willing hearts to remove the furniture from the home, a call was placed to the Youth Pastor of St. Germain Evangelical Free Church asking for help. Volunteers were immediately available, however, it was obvious that the group would need to find a place to store everything until the family was ready for it. Another phone call was made and St. Peter's the Fisherman Catholic Church Annex came forward enthusiastically and offered to store the furniture for the family for a period of time. Within 24 hours the furniture was collected, moved, and stored to await further developments.

Shortly thereafter, based on goodwill offerings from God's Gathering Place, a forty-foot Container was purchased for the family for long-term storage, with the container company even willing to expedite delivery when they learned of the family's plight. It wasn't long before the container was delivered to the Nettenour property. It will be used to store all of the donated furniture, plus some other possessions that survived the fire, until a new dwelling can be built.

In the words of Nelani Nettenour "...Never give up hope! Though things may look dark and bleak at times, there is nothing that is beyond God's power to make better."

With a world that often seems to be moving towards isolation and despair, it is heartwarming to see three separate church denominations all join together, quickly and enthusiastically, to help a family in need, thereby transforming tragedy into hope.

### Preparing Meals for Northwoods Share

We will again host, serve, and provide brownies for the Northwoods Share Dinner October. Sign ups to help will be available at church in September



## Caroling to Shut Ins

