

Third Quarter
2021



Newsletter

*A Christian
Community*

KINSHIP COMPASSION HOPE

Successes and Achievements

Food Service

In spring, Sarah, our cook/food service manager, took an extended maternity leave with an indefinite return date. In response to our need, Rick S. stepped forward and agreed to take on the responsibility as food service manager and lead cook, with additional support from Kenny and Kelsey – all residents at Forward House.

Rick, with assistance from Kenny and Kelsey (as his work schedule allows), has transitioned to take charge of the kitchen and dining hall, inventory management, menu planning, and preparing tasty and nutritious meals for the residents.

These men share that this new responsibility has had a noticeable therapeutic effect and increased their well-being; it has given them a boost of confidence and is expanding their culinary skills. Cooking favorite dishes and trying new things has been welcomed by the guys!



We're all very proud of these guys and appreciate the quality of food being served every day!

Community

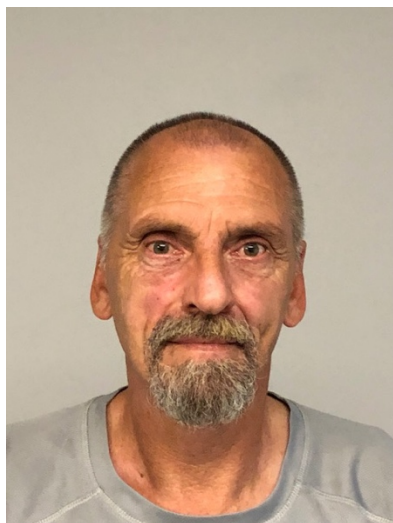
We continue to partner with the Chalmers Neighborhood Renewal Centre. Some of our residents, including Mark and Kevin, participated in CNRC's fall bulky waste removal project, picking up old furniture and household items to keep the neighborhood tidy and attractive. We are glad to be an active part of community life in Elmwood/Chalmers and look forward to more of these opportunities!

Covid/Pandemic

Our ministry has been blessed that none of our residents or staff have been infected with Covid. With due diligence and the Lord's protection, we have found our way through this pandemic. Complying with all provincial/federal protocols, everybody is excited to finally be able to visit friends and family and to enjoy some of the freedoms that we have all missed so much. Thank you for your prayers. The Lord has been faithful and we continue to seek His protection and guidance.

Meet and hear from one of our residents

Meet Henry



Henry came to Forward House over 8 years ago, following an addiction recovery program through AFM. He became addicted to alcohol at an early age and after almost 30 years of alcoholism he was no longer able to work and lost his job of 24 years. Needing a place to begin turning his life around, he applied for admission to FH and was accepted as a resident. He was interested in FH because of its Christian focus and commitment to helping people with addictions, mental health issues, and marginalized individuals. Within 6 months, Henry was appointed to a staff position, and said FH gave him back his life and improved family relationships. Over the last couple of years he has experienced a much more relaxed and respectful atmosphere at FH, a leadership committed to really helping the residents and to their Christian values in their programs.

He has taken on increased responsibility at FH and likes that other residents are becoming more participative in helping themselves and each other in realizing the therapeutic value of work in some capacity at the ministry. Looking to the future, he'd like to see more focus on helping with mental health issues, social anxiety, and addiction recovery. We are blessed and grateful to have Henry as a member of our staff, and we, as well as the other residents, seek his advice and input regularly.

Repairs and Maintenance

A special thank you to Bill and Dan Ehlers from Above All Roofing. Previously, they replaced the roof on the Watt Street building, the cost of which was paid by Raymond Dueck, one of our longtime supporters. This summer the other two buildings were reroofed (we're looking for donors to assist in covering the cost of this). No more leaking problems! We are thankful for the ways in which God works through our supporters and businesses like Above All! Amen!

Programs & Activities

Money Management Course

During the summer we partnered with SEED (Supporting Employment and Economic Development) Winnipeg to provide and run a money management course for our residents. During this ten-week course, our residents learned about money management choices, setting goals, budgeting, managing debts, as well as saving and investing. The information was so very valuable!

Our instructor, Roberta, did a wonderful job to make the virtual learning group fun and easy going. This course has equipped our residents to make better financial/money management decisions going forward!

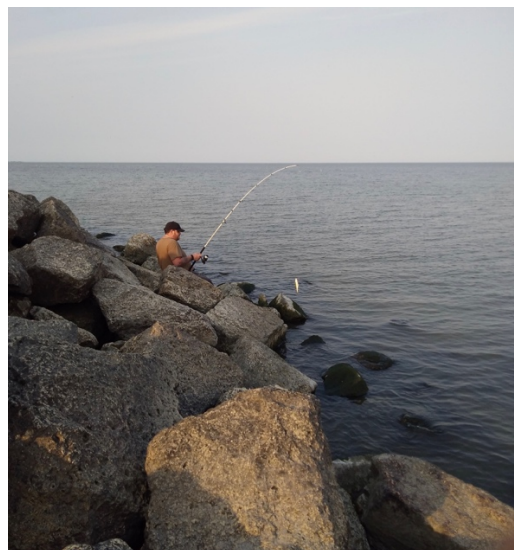
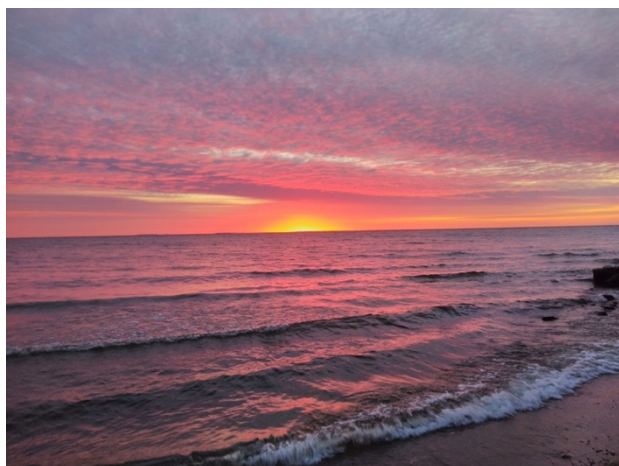
Overcomers Outreach

We are very happy that after a long period of Covid restrictions, Ken Sundelin from Overcomers Outreach Canada has returned to Forward House. Overcomers is a Christ-centered 12-step recovery program available to hurting people in ministries and churches of all denominations. Every Monday Ken walks with our men in their recovery, encouraging them to grow in their relationship with Jesus and to find purpose, hope and healing from addictions. He does it with love and dignity and the men value his passion for helping others.

Camping

From John and Kelsey –

“We are very grateful to have been able to enjoy camping outings this summer while living at Forward House. The beaches in the Whiteshell Provincial Campground were a good way to spend some of the summer and a nice relief from the restrictions of Covid. While camping at Falcon Lake, we enjoyed swimming, mountain biking, and good times talking while sitting by the campfire. Winnipeg Beach Campground was a lot of fun, and also a good time to relax. We were happy to know there was warm weather on the horizon, as well as pleasantly surprised to see there was a car/motorcycle show nearby during our stay. Even though the weather was a very nice 28 degrees, the water was very cold yet enjoyable, and it was nice to see so many people were also on the beach at this time of year. We hope to do this again next summer.”



The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands. Psalm 19:1

Thanksgiving

As our residents and staff celebrated Thanksgiving, enjoying the traditional turkey dinner with all the trimmings, it was a time to give thanks to the Lord for blessing this ministry, for keeping us all safe and healthy through this pandemic, and for ensuring we have what we need to continue to operate this worthwhile ministry. We have much to be thankful for.

We pray that each of you will give thanks for the Lord's many blessings.

Your Help Matters

Volunteers Needed

Forward House is always in need of volunteers in many areas. If you have a few extra hours in your week and would like to discuss ways in which you could volunteer at Forward House, we'd love to discuss opportunities with you.

Some Urgent/Specific Needs

- Repair of walk-in freezer (estimated at \$10,000)
- Repair and upgrade of many washroom facilities and fixtures (estimated at \$15,000)
- Upgrade/refurbish individual resident rooms, furniture, mattresses (estimated at \$1,500 per room)

Your Prayers and Financial Support are Greatly Appreciated!

Forward House needs your help, as we help those in need.

Financial gifts can be made online through *Canada Helps*, accessible through this link: <https://forwardhouse.ca/how-you-can-help/donate/>; you can also mail your cheque or gift cards to: Forward House, 407 Chalmers Avenue, Winnipeg MB R2L 0G3.

Thank You and may God bless you one and all!!