



The Samaritan

June, 2020



Jeff Noyed, Director

Unprecedented Numbers & Urban Gardening

A special thanks to each and everyone of you for your prayers and partnerships during this Pandemic! By God's grace Jericho Road has been open throughout the Pandemic. Indeed our numbers have never been greater in serving the community with food.

In March, 2020 we served 1,397 households with 59,000 pounds of food. In April we served 2,469 households with 109,433 pounds of food. That's over 1,000 more households and 50,000 more pounds of food!

Special volunteers have emerged due to their temporary job losses. They have helped us not only survive the challenge but actually thrive. One young girl was a "big helper" as she diligently helped her "furloughed" father bag potatoes to distribute. Children were also "big helpers" as Jericho Road, under Laurie McRostie's leadership, started its 8th year of providing quality urban gardening opportunities which we call Gardens of Praise.



**Laurie McRostie
Gardens of Praise**

Gardens of Praise – On the Way

Spring still arrived, the flowers bloomed, the rain has fallen.

It has been a very strange time for us and people all over the world. Covid-19 has affected us in so many ways and yet life goes on with hope.

Gardens are still a wonderful way that we can grow our food, be outside, interact with nature and, even with social distancing, see fellow gardeners. It is very exciting that Gardens of Praise is off to an excellent start. All 26 plots are being worked and we started clean up and prep in late April and early May. Even the kids have gotten more involved this year. We are praying for a rich gardening season and a full harvest. Enjoy our pictures.





Pastor John Bohnsack
Development Director

Planting Gospel Seeds

Laurie's Gardens of Praise report reminded me of the story about Grampa Fred, who invited his 4 year old Grandson, Jack, to help him plant his garden. Grampa Fred would prepare the soil, opening a seam in the dirt, to drop in the seeds. He would then provide the tiny seeds for Jack's delicate little fingers to carefully drop into place. In the process, Jack asked what would grow from the seeds he was planting. The first seeds were for radishes and next were seeds for carrots. In both cases Jack said that he hated radishes and voiced his absolute disgust for carrots. Finally, Grampa Fred asked Jack what he would like to plant. Jack responded by saying he would like to plant **DONUT SEEDS**, because he liked eating donuts.



At first Grampa Fred was stumped, but after a few minutes of reflection, he excused himself to go into the house. Minutes later he returned with a handful of cheerios, saying he found

what he thought might be donut seeds. Jack cheerfully planted them in the holes dug by Grampa Fred. Weeks went by. Finally, the carrot and radish, shoots peeked through the soil and grew. But, no tender blades emerged from the soil where the "donut seeds" had been planted. Jack demanded an answer. After some thought Grampa Fred finally came up with the answer that

sometimes the "donut seeds" grew donuts and sometimes they grew donut holes!

Now, please don't misunderstand me. I am not for a moment affirming the deceit involved in this account. Rather, I am trying to make the point that what you plant is what you get back. If what you plant is bogus, with no spark of life in it, that is what the yield will be. By contrast, at JRM, what we try to plant, in a variety of ways is the seed of the Gospel.

Isaiah 55: 10 (RSV) says, "**so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and prosper in the thing for which I sent it.**"

Through JRM you are not only being a **GOOD SAMARITAN**, you are also planting the great, good seeds of the **GOSPEL**, which contain not only a dynamic spark of life, but also the potential of eternal life for those who receive it. Our thanks to you for your partnership, helping to plant Gospel seeds in the midst of the pandemic storm!

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OF ADDRESS, PHONE AND/OR E-MAIL.

If someone you know is interested in receiving the E-newsletter (same content as the printed mailing), have them send their name and email address to Jericho Road Ministries at the below address or email us at Jeff@jerichoroad.us

Checks can be made to Jericho Road Ministries

or go to the website to give online at: Website: www.jerichoroad.us Tax deductible



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FROM CRISIS TO CHRIST-CENTERED
HOPE AND RESTORATION