

WELCOME TO

The Compassionate Way

we're so glad you're here!

God's Summons

There is a beautiful song called *The Summons*. As I reflected on the first two years of The Compassionate Way, I found the words of this song fitting. Here are some of the lyrics:

Vs. 1 Will you come and follow me
If I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
And never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown?
Will you let my name be known
Will you let my life be grown in you
And you in me?



A little over two years ago, I felt the summons of God upon my life to serve in a new way. I answered the call not knowing exactly where I would be going. Nevertheless, there was a strong sense of mission – to let the love of God be shown to everyone I encountered. I embarked on a great adventure of putting love into action – compassion.

Throughout the song there is a common thread, following God means one will never be the same. What I have learned and experienced over the past two years has radically transformed me. I will truly never be the same. Some of the lessons I have learned have left an indelible mark on my life. These lessons have made me so much more aware of those who are marginalized in our society. I know some of the names and faces of those who are all too often placed in derogatory categories such as: homeless, addict, mentally ill, poverty-stricken and the list goes on and on. I am grateful that I have had the privilege of accompanying so many incredible individuals. They have extended to me invaluable life lessons. I thank God for this rare and beautiful opportunity called The Compassionate Way!



Ministry Sustainability

FOSTERING GROWTH FOR THE FUTURE

A group of leaders from the Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys has begun to meet to discern a sustainability plan for this ministry. The plan being developed will cover both the ministry model and the financial aspects of it. Long range we need to be forward-thinking to ensure that the needs of the ministry are covered.

Ultimately, this ministry belongs to God. Therefore, we invite you to join us by covering this process in prayer. We desire to do nothing but the will of God!



Speaker Available

Our missionary leader, Candace Adams, is available to speak to organizations about the ministry. If you know of a group who would like to learn more about this ministry. Please contact her at 320-905-5453 or revadams@hotmail.com.

Thank You to Our Ministry Partners

As we mark another year of this ministry, we want to thank the many agencies that have opened their doors to The Compassionate Way. We are grateful for the opportunities we have had to extend God's compassion to all ages. We celebrate God's incredible love for all people!

1.**Agape Manor** is a women's recovery house located in Little Falls. This safe space offers individuals a place to transition after receiving treatment. Agape Manor is part of Lighthouse Beginnings, which operates in Baxter.

2.**Amos House** is a men's recovery place located in Little Falls. It too is part of Lighthouse Beginnings, which operates in Baxter.

3.**Breath of Life** provides an encouraging, caring, Christian atmosphere for dependent adults in a safe environment. As a day service provider, they offer caregivers respite.

4.**Crow Wing County Jail** houses both sentenced and pretrial adult male and female offenders. The Compassionate Way ministers to women in the facility.

5.**Good News Recovery House** is a women's facility in Backus. This is a Christian facility, which doesn't receive any state or government funding.

6.**Good Samaritan Society – Bethany and Woodland** offer a range of services for senior adults including independent living, assisted living, and skilled care.

7.**Minnesota Adult & Teen Challenge** offers substance abuse treatment for both men and women. The Compassionate Way ministers to the women on a weekly basis.

8.**My Neighbor to Love Coalition** is a non-profit organization with a mission to end homelessness and extreme poverty in the Brainerd Lakes area by providing affordable housing in a safe village environment, matching individual needs to solution-based resources, and by providing opportunities for increased self-sufficiency while maintaining a sense of community, responsibility, and belonging.

9.**Open Arms** is a community resource center for adults who are experiencing homelessness in Brainerd and Baxter. Individuals receive one-on-one support and are in a safe environment as they work to rebuild their lives.

10. **Stoneybrook Mobile Home Park** – The Compassionate Way offers activities for children in the park to come together to learn about God's compassion.