



Northside Lutheran Ministries

The Family of Hope

Most of us think of this mission down on 26th street and North Ave as Northsie Lutheran Ministries. That is the name it was given shortly after the building was remodeled from the North Avenue Smoke Shop to The WELS Ministry Center. But that name did not attract people. When worship services were begun in 2001 its name was changed to Northside Lutheran Ministries. People came for food and clothing and participated in Bible studies and worship services. It became popular with many people in the community. Sometimes the food and clothing were not available. But people came anyway to hear the message of salvation through Jesus Christ and the promise of eternal life because of his death and resurrection. It gave them something that they had not been able to find in any of the other local churches. It gave them hope. They knew they were sinful and deserved eternal death. In fact when asked what would happen to them when they died they said they would go to hell because of their sins. Because of this hopelessness they did what they could to survive and enjoy life even if it hurt others. But when they became convinced that Jesus had taken away their sins, they were loved and forgiven, and would inherit eternal life they found hope for the future. Their lives changed because they had the hope and comfort of God's love and blessing. Out in the suburbs the ministry is called Northside Lutheran Ministries. But they feel better using the name **Family of Hope**.

Being a member of **The Family of Hope** is important to those people some 20 years after they started coming to the ministry.

Several of them gave testimony to this hope recently as they responded to a survey someone came up with.

One of them responded with these words. “Northside Lutheran Ministries helps me with issues I’m going through in life. I’m blessed to enjoy this ministry. Deaconess Leila Watson helps me to be faithful on my journey. It helps me when I’m going through my struggles in life.”

Another person responded, “This ministry has been serving me for over 20 years teaching me about the love of Jesus Christ. It has been a blessing for my soul.”

The members of **The Family of Hope** do what they can to help support the ministry and their family of believers. But they praise God for the support that all of you have given to this ministry over the past two decades. They could never hope to support their church on their own because of their poverty. Thank you also for the food and clothing donations that many of you have given. God bless you all.

Your prayers and support are appreciated. Donations can be sent to

Northside Lutheran Ministries
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The physical address is:

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