

update from the McCrackens in Portland

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We're bringing people together in Rockwood to ensure that no one is invisible and that everyone has access to food, freedom, and forgiveness.

*This is part of the **PREVENTION** side of our anti-trafficking efforts, dovetailing nicely with our community transformation mission. We envision Rockwood becoming a community where children are less vulnerable to being trafficked and adults do not want to traffick kids.*

Of course, true transformation will not happen without prayer. There are many ways to pray, and many other people praying in addition to us. We are praying in different ways in various contexts but this month we want to highlight our *Hot Tamale Prayer Outreach...*

Hot Tamale Prayer Outreach

At a somewhat notorious intersection in Oregon's poorest community (Rockwood), a group of believers from various area churches offer free tamales and something to drink to everyone who passes by. (Costs for this outreach are currently being provided by a sister church outside of Rockwood). Whether they accept the offer or not, they are also asked if they would like someone to pray for them.

The vast majority do.



They want prayer for a home. To get off the streets. Reconciled family relationships. Freedom from addictions. Someone just getting out of prison. A loved one with cancer. The need to walk closer with God.

Sometimes joy, sometimes tears, sometimes both. Always gratitude.

Sometimes we are able to offer a little something else...stuffed animals...clothing...umbrellas...body lotion and shampoo...but always prayer.

Sometimes a spiritual conversation follows the prayer (or precedes it). Sometimes an invitation to church. Sometimes an invitation to Celebrate Recovery. Sometimes all three things happen...but always prayer. And always gratitude.

Started a couple years ago as a monthly way to serve together for a Discipleship Huddle from our local church (As Is Church), it has become an inter-church, co-ed effort as we collaboratively pray in unity. When people ask why we are doing it, we tell them we want to remind our neighbors that God has not forgotten them and He wants them to know He is THERE and He does CARE.

PRAYER REQUESTS

* Provision and direction for William and Kyle as they have both just graduated from the Greek Bible College

* For the individuals in Rockwood we meet through the Hot Tamale Prayer Outreach

* Saturday, June 3rd, Vicki's parents move in with us. Pray for their emotional and

show up, for unity, for the Kingdom to come)

* Shalom Rockwood Gathering on June 26th. Usually 40-50 of Rockwood's Christian leaders attend. Pray for relationship-building and deepening of unity.

* Building of our support team

We are so VERY grateful to all of you who pray and/or financially invest in our life and ministry. We are a TEAM, and we are so thankful for your role(s) on our team! Special thanks to those who were able to recently give extra or increase their support. It helped take us out of the hole in our ITeams account and prevented us from taking a salary cut. We continue to trust God with our present and our future, but also want to be strong in wisdom as well as faith. Thanks for your continued prayers on our behalf, as well as any efforts to connect us with potential new members for our support team.

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** Family/Ministry Website (www.imccracken.net/)

** Team Ministry (www.iteams.us/work/where/usa-rockwood)

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