

# The Wayside Center IN TOUCH

An update of programs for the homeless at the Wayside Center

## Pastor James Ford to Speak at Dinner on October 21

The Wayside Center is thrilled to have Pastor James Ford, Jr. at this year's Annual Friendship Dinner. His personal story of being rescued by God is both gripping and encouraging to anyone who doubts the transformation that God can accomplish in someone's life.

Pastor Ford has served the Lord at Christ Bible Church on the south side of Chicago for over 33 years. He and his wife have been married 45 years and have three sons. He graduated from Moody Bible Institute and Trinity Evangelical Divinity School.



Each day he can be heard on the Moody Broadcasting Network with his radio program, *Treasured Truth For Troubling Times*. He is a much sought after and effective speaker. Yearly, as the dinner is being planned, someone invariably asks, "Can we get Pastor Ford to come and speak again?"

He has become the favorite pastor and preacher for many people who love hearing the untarnished and straight-forward teaching of the Word of God. You will not want to miss this inspirational evening on Friday, October 21 in St. Charles.



**The Elgin Wayside Center**  
1732 Berkley Street  
Elgin, IL 60123-7030

Office: 847-695-4405, Phil Wood, Director

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Elgin Wayside Center is a division of Wayside Cross Ministries  
[WaysideCross.org](http://WaysideCross.org)

## FALL 2016

- **Annual Friendship Dinner**
- **2016 Friendship Dinner Details**
- **How The Lord Uses People as Instruments of His Will**
- **Volunteers Kathryn and Nancy Help Melissa**

## Mark Elfstrand, Master of Ceremonies



WYLL Radio personality and longtime friend of Wayside Cross Ministries, Mark Elfstrand, will once again M.C. the evening. For almost ten years Mark has made the Annual Friendship Dinner both more enjoyable and more meaningful.

There is not enough room to write about the contribution he has made to the cause of Christ and in particular, Christian broadcasting, during his illustrious career. We are honored that he has taken such a strong interest in the Lord's work among the homeless in the Fox Valley.

## Local Artist, Joe Cirafigi, Providing Music For Banquet



We are thrilled and feel fortunate to have upcoming and gifted artist, Joe Cirafigi, at this year's dinner. Joe describes himself as a Husband, Father, Singer/Songwriter and Worship Leader and as one who lives to make God known through music and His Word.

## Christ Community Church Hosting 2016 Dinner

The Wayside Center has been shining the Light of Jesus Christ for nearly 25 years to thousands of men, women, and children. With humble beginnings as a store front warming center in downtown Elgin, the Wayside Center has expanded to providing daytime intervention services six days a week to the homeless, poor, and under-resourced in both Fox Valley and DuPage County.

Much of the support for this ministry is derived from the Annual Friendship Dinner held each fall. Once again, Christ Community Church is graciously willing to host the event. After knocking on many doors, the facility was one of the few that could even accommodate the number of guests that wanted to attend.

There is still time to join us at our Friendship Dinner Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 PM. Doors open at 6:00 PM as we celebrate and hear first-hand accounts of how God is transforming lives.

To reserve a couple of seats for you and a friend or even a whole table of 10 for your small group or Sunday School class, please email [Dinner@WaysideCross.org](mailto:Dinner@WaysideCross.org) or call 847-695-4405 by October 15.

The theme this year is **Let Your Light Shine**.



37W100 Bolcum Rd.,  
St. Charles, IL 60175



**For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts,  
to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.**

2 Corinthians 4:6

# How The Lord Uses People as Instruments of His Will

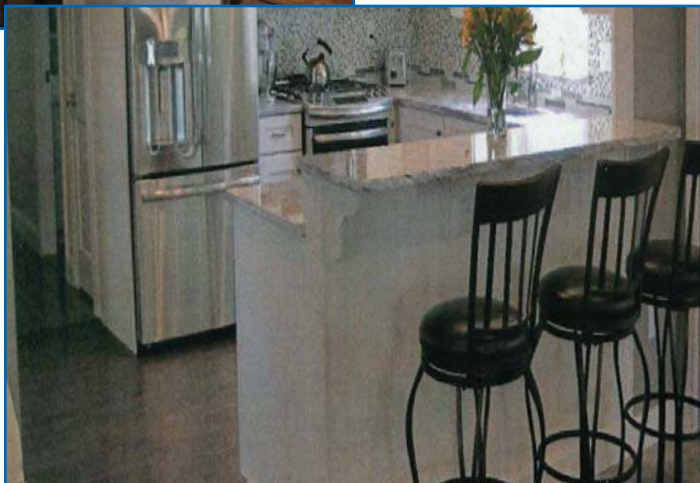
It is amazing that the Lord of all Creation would include us in His plans! It is also fun to watch and be part of!

In the midst of so many organizations losing funding and even closing or cutting back, we were able to recently make improvements on the Discipleship House in Elgin. Four men, all who are graduates of the Master's Touch program in Aurora, currently reside there. Each one is making huge strides in all areas of their lives.

Here is how the latest improvement happened:

- Dr. Sartor from Judson College assigned architectural students a final project of working with a not-for-profit in the area
- Three senior students, Jose, Arturo, and Jhony, assessed the needs of the house and created a new, open-floor design for the kitchen and main floor
- Volunteers raised nearly \$1000 at a summer cookout at the center in June
- Christ Community Church gave \$2,000 to further the program, which was quickly matched by another source
- Under the direction of Chris, a regular volunteer and local contractor, the men of the house pitched in to begin the transformation, utilizing donated materials
- While upgrades will continue and each phase is completed as donations come in, the house is already much more up-to-date, useful, and comfortable

We continue to stand amazed at the Lord's provision through so many generous and hard-working people.



**Steve, a recent guest at the Wayside Center in Elgin and a current resident at Master's Touch.**

**“Thank you!  
You saved my life . . . “**



## Volunteers Kathryn and Nancy Help Melissa Get Ready for Her New Apartment

*I became homeless in October, 2015. I had been laid off of work, lost my home, and most of my personal possessions. In addition, my addiction was alcohol. I was angry at the world, but mostly at myself. I began attending every Bible study available to me at Wayside. The staff and volunteers made sure I always had food, clothing, moral support, and plenty of shoulders to lean on. Most importantly, I received guidance and help introducing me to God. Since I walked into Wayside that October of 2015, I have been totally sober. I returned to work and with much support and encouragement, I got my life back on track. I am proud to say that I now have my own place. I have to say at my lowest point of life, I found God at Wayside Cross Ministries. I also have met so many beautiful people and have made many dear friends.*



**Melissa**



### Mission

To honor God by loving and serving the afflicted and powerless through sharing the Gospel of forgiveness and hope in Jesus Christ by empowering them to be disciples of Christ.



Donate online at [www.waysidecross.org](http://www.waysidecross.org)