

# Portrait of kindness

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SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Calvary Tabernacle Church in Delray Beach may not be the only faith-based ministry to work with the homeless, but it may be the first to have a portrait of Christ auctioned on eBay to help support it.

A cousin of **Francesco Alessandro Anciani**, an Italian artist, donated the painting to Christ Found All Creation Saved Inc. ministries to help raise money. The portrait can be seen on the ministries' Web site at cfacs.com.

The portrait, done in acrylics, measures 47 by 39 inches and hangs in the office of the Rev. **Charles Tolbert**, who runs the ministries on McNab Road in Fort Lauderdale. The ministry supports community outreach endeavors of other churches, including Calvary Tabernacle.

Initially offered for sale on eBay in December, the minimum asking bid for the painting is \$5,000. No one had made an offer by press time. Tolbert, who plans to renew the listing, said he's had about 100 hits to the Web site and an insurance company in Coral Springs expressed serious interest.

"Many people were interested in helping the homeless. If we get 1,000 people doing something on their own in the form of donations that's good too even if we don't sell the painting," Tolbert said. "I'm going to leave it on indefinitely, and believe there is a party who will understand the importance of the painting and what the funds will be used for."

Through Tolbert's ministry to an 86-year-old Russian woman with no family in Florida, he met **Giana Sperri**, a cousin of the artist. When Sperri heard of Tolbert's outreach to the homeless, Sperri donated the painting to help raise money for the ministry.

**Israel Rosado** is the pastor of Calvary Tabernacle of Delray Beach, an outreach fellowship of Calvary Chapel of Boca Raton. Rosado started the outreach to the homeless in Veterans Park in Delray Beach almost two years ago. The church conducts services at Temple Emeth, west of Delray Beach.

"That was one of the reasons why the church was formed. We would go fishing where other

## Sale of Jesus painting will raise money for church's homeless program.

these people and help get them off the street. So far, the formula is working. Nine men moved from the street into alternate housing, have found jobs and are productive. Chris, would not give his last name for fear of

jeopardizing his job, one of the ministry's success stories.

Suffering from an injury while he worked a construction job, he became himself unemployed for three years. During that time his alcoholism worsened and his marriage failed. Then he found refuge at first in homes, that gave way to the streets when he couldn't pay his bills, eventually wound up at Veterans Park, one of many places he slept during his year and a half on the streets.

With help from Calvary Tabernacle parishioners, Chris, 45, is now employed as a foreman on a landscape crew. He attends AA meetings regularly and goes to church.

"I'm doing great. I have my own place, a bar on my account, a very good car and a driver's license. I've had three raises within the last three months," he said.

**Richard Paske** and **Liken-Paske**, both 60, are members of Calvary Tabernacle. Liken-Paske is an adjunct professor of educational psychology at Florida Atlantic University, and teaches at Florida Metropolitan University in Pompano Beach and online. Dick Paske is a biomedical engineer and owner of Medical Gas Testing in Delray Beach.

They became involved in the outreach, called Father's House, in June. Their efforts include serving a home-cooked

meal every Tuesday night, delivering a Gospel-related Bible message, visiting with the men and women and listening to their stories and their needs. Their outreach includes giving rides, detox, setting up job interviews, helping with employment, housing and furnishings.

**Calvin Dobie**, 49, who spent 10 years on the streets of Fort Lauderdale, now works full time at a warehouse. He heard about the Paskes from others who were homeless.

"They put me up in their own home when I didn't have any place to go. They . . . gave me a spiritual awakening."



**FOR SALE:** This painting of Jesus was donated by a cousin of Italian artist Francesco Alessandro Anciani to Calvary Tabernacle Church and is being auctioned on eBay to help support the church's efforts to help the homeless. Photo/Gina Fontana

churches think there are no more fish," Rosado said.

"On Tuesday nights, we serve a full dinner in the park and share the Gospel with up to 15 men and women who are homeless. And on Sunday mornings we pick them up and bring them to church. We want to build a relationship with