Metro/State news

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Staff Photo by Donald Black

Pastor Paul Annopoulos shouldered a bag of potatoes during a food giveaway at Disciples Ministry Church in Minneapolis: "People ask me, 'When's it going to end?' I say, "I suppose when people stop being hungry."

When so many are needy, Pastor Paul's giving spirit can't be taken for granted

"Pull it up here a little further, honey." Paster Paul is saying to the old woman driving the battered car.

"OK, OK," he says, shouldering a 100-pound bag of potatoes and carrying them from the truck to her car.

On the way back to the truck for another bag of potatoes, the pastor encounters another old woman — an Asian woman who doesn't speak English — pointing to a big bag of spuds. She wants him to pile the bag on a frail cart she is pulling.

"No, no, honey," Pastor Paul says.
"These potatoes will break that fittle cart."

She frowns.

"Heavy," he says, "Too heavy, honey."

More frowns.

"Here," he says, setting a 50-pound bag of spuds on the cart instead of the 100-pound bag she had pointed



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The woman smiles. Pastor Paul smiles. They have bridged the language gap and reached perfect understanding.

Praise the Lord and pass the spuds.

Every once in a while it's good to check in with people such as Pastor Paul Arnopoulos, the fast-talking, hard-working, sleek-looking preacher

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