

Changing Lives Since 1889 E A S T E R I S S U E 2 0 1 7

# FROM DESPERATION JHOPE

Benny was abandoned as a child and grew up feeling worthless. He spent his days trying to numb his pain with drugs... then started wishing he were dead.

## **Don't miss**

 pg2 Sharing Hope Starts Here
pg3 "I thought I was broken beyond repair."

pg4 Easter for Everyone!

THROUGH YOUR SUPPORT, you share new hope with people like Benny.







Get your running shoes ready and join us for the **3rd Annual Market Street Mission 5K** on July 4.

For more information, visit **marketstreet.org** and click on "News/Events." To register, click on the 5K logo.

### TEE UP!

6th Annual Golf Tournament



Enjoy a day on the links while raising money to support our vital programs.

This year's event will be held Monday, June 12 at the Brooklake Country Club in Florham Park.

For more information, or to register, go to **friendsofmsm.com.** 

# SHARING HOPE STARTS HERE

# What does it look like to share hope?

Compared to a plate of nourishing food or a warm blanket, it's often hard to visualize how hope changes lives.

But for the homeless and hurting men and women you're helping through your gifts, hope is transforming their lives in very tangible ways.

Take Benny, who's featured in this issue – at his lowest point, he turned to us. He didn't know if a new life was even possible.

Meals, shelter and care changed Benny's life from the inside out. Experiencing God's love showed him that a new life is possible. He began believing in a better future – and began living that life every day.

When you see Benny today, you see hope... made real in his life <u>through your generosity</u>. Just as Christ shared hope with you and me through His glorious resurrection on Easter, you share His hope with others through your prayers, your acts of service and your generous financial support of this ministry.

Thank you for sharing with our community's homeless – and for making the Market Street Mission a refuge of encouragement and hope for those in need.



G. David Scott Executive Director

THIS IS DON.

You'd never guess that he once believed all hope for his life was gone... until he came to the Mission.

There are so many like Don – in need of new hope for a new life.

You can share new hope this Easter by sharing meals, shelter and God's love with homeless and hungry people. A meal is just \$2.82!

□ Share online at marketstreet.org.
Share now using the enclosed reply card + envelope.

Thank you for sharing new hope with hurting people in Northern New Jersey.

# "I thought I was BROKEN BEYOND REPAIR."

B enny was born into a cold and violent home.

"My mother had an alcohol addiction and was very abusive, physically and emotionally. My father was in prison, but she told me he was dead," he says. "She abandoned me when I was three."

Benny grew up in a detention facility and the homes of various relatives. "**I**  cocaine by the age of 15. Though he eventually started a family and cofounded a successful business, his drug addiction destroyed everything. He lost his stake in the business, began stealing to buy drugs, and left his family. **"I tried to commit suicide many times**," he says.

Then Benny went to prison and it was there, alone in his cell, feeling

Upon his release from prison, Benny entered our Life Change Program and, through our Bible studies, chapel, and life-skills classes, has grown strong in the Lord. He hopes to enter our Leadership Training Program, attend Bible College, and become a pastor. "I want to live the rest of my life for Him," Benny says.

## "My life was a vicious cycle of shame and guilt and hurt and sadness."

know how it is to feel like no one loves you, to feel like you're rotten and there's something wrong with you," he says.

When he was only 12, Benny began numbing those feelings with marijuana, and escalated to empty and lonely, wanting to die, that his life changed forever. "I cried out to something I didn't know and God grabbed ahold of me. Though I didn't know who He was, I knew I needed Him," he says. "I

wanted more of Him."

He credits the Mission with changing the course of his life. "If it weren't for the Mission, I'd be in prison or dead," he says. "I thought I was broken beyond repair, but love heals, and there's a lot of love here. It changes people's lives." 04/16

EASTER CELEBRATION Dinner, 4:30-5:00 p.m. Chapel Service, 6 p.m.

# EASTER FOR EVERYONE!

While you're out shopping for your family's Easter meal, will you consider picking up a few extra items for the Mission so we can serve those hungry people who'll be sitting at our table Easter Sunday?

Just look at our needs this Easter season:

13,333 meals for men, women & children

And there's no way we can serve them without your help.

### Easter Shopping List

- Ham
- Canned vegetables
- Lettuce/tossed salad mix
- Potatoes
- Dinner rolls
- Butter
- Brown sugar
- Lemonade mix
- Easter candy
- Pasta
- Canned tuna
- Fruit (canned or frozen)
- Beans
- Cheese
- Canned juices
- Shelf-safe milk
- Converted rice
- Mayonnaise
- Salad dressing



Drop off donations before April 14 at the Mission, 9 Market Street in Morristown, 7 days a week. For more information, call Debbie at **(973) 998-2871**.

#### Don't have time to shop?

DONATE NOW! 📞 (973) 538-4819 💷 marketstreet.org







VISIT US ONLINE to learn more about our outreach, read stories of hope & securely donate anytime.

