Market Street Mission NESSEIJEF Changing Lives Since 1889

HOLIDAY ISSUE 2022





"At the Mission I immediately FELT LOVE."

Growing up, Will struggled with anxiety and low self-esteem. But living in an alcoholic household where drinking was normalized early on, he discovered alcohol could help him manage his pain.

"I had my first drink when I was 12 or 13 years old, and then anytime I had access to alcohol after that I was drinking," he said.

What started as a coping mechanism soon became an addiction that consumed Will's life, leaving him with more pain and hopelessness than before. In 2020, Will hit rock bottom: his mother passed away, his girlfriend left and took their son, and he lost everything in a house fire.

"I was homeless and broken," he said. "I was in and out of jail and couldn't stop using. I was dealing with despair and misery, and I didn't see any way out of it."

Not knowing how to handle his pain, Will reached out to a pastor friend who directed him to a different recovery program. After three months, Will relapsed and had to choose: go back to the streets, or try again to pursue his recovery. He decided to give the Mission's Life Change Program a try.

"When I first got to the Mission, I immediately felt love," he said. "I didn't have to worry about where I was going to sleep, what I was going to eat, the clothes on my back – it was all provided for me. I felt at home."

Counseling helped him address the deep-rooted issues he grew up ignoring. And the mentors he found at the thrift store and in Christian Doctrine class provided guidance as he came to know the Lord.

"I realized it's not just about stopping drugs," he said. "It's about taking care of my internal strife. It's a God-sized hole, as they say in AA, and only God can fill it."

Now, thanks to your prayers and support, Will graduated our program and serves as an intern at the Mission. He loves helping others and telling people what God has done for him, because he knows God wants to give them that same hope and healing, too.

Will is excited to celebrate the restored hope he has been given this Christmas – and wants YOU to know just how grateful he is.

"Since coming to the Mission, I'm filled with joy and peace of mind," he said. "I have a close relationship with God and sober Christian men I can fellowship with. Seeing men grow in their sobriety and spirituality is the greatest gift I could receive."

Read the full story on our website.



A Message from DAVE SCOTT

The **JOY** that Comes from Christ

Don't you just love the words of John 1:14? "The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."

As we rejoice over the birth of our Savior, it's such a blessing to know God fills our hearts with joy everlasting – today and every day. His faithfulness sustains us through every circumstance and His grace offers renewal in our lives... as well as in the lives of those we serve.

While we do provide Christmas gifts to the guests in our care, what's most important is that they know about Jesus' sacrifice and the gift of salvation that is freely given to us all.

Thanks to your friendship, we're able to share the "good tidings of great joy for all people" during the holidays and throughout the year. Your fervent prayers and ongoing support help restore lives – and wrap local neighbors in God's loving embrace.

Just like Will, whose story we've shared on page 3, God still works miracles in the lives of people all around us.

This Christmas, I hope your heart overflows with peace, joy and love

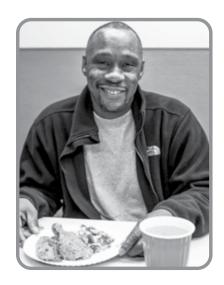
as your blessings abound.



G. David Scott CEO/Executive Director

SHARE A CHRISTMAS MEAL...

You can help make this
Christmas a time of celebration
for our neighbors who are
hungry and homeless. With so
many obstacles to overcome
during this season of hardship,
they need a helping hand and to
experience God's love!









\$22.50 for 1 night of safe shelter



Please Send Your Christmas Gift Today!

Give Before the Year Ends!

\$29,283 GOAL

Many of our neighbors are dealing with inflation, soaring gas prices and other hardships that make daily life a struggle. They need a helping hand before they lose their hope completely. Your yearend gift will give them a chance to transform their lives.



Your tax-deductible donation before December 31 will <u>help meet our</u> \$29,283 goal so even more people can get *help* now... and find *hope* for the new year!

- Add your special year-end gift to the reply card and send it today.
- Give online at MarketStreet.org.

Transforming Lives in Sussex County



Since our 14-bed Sussex County hospitality room opened in the summer of 2021, the Lord has been doing amazing things in the community.

Dozens of hungry and homeless men have come through the doors in search of safe shelter, warm showers and nutritious meals. They have experienced amazing fellowship through group Bible studies and recovery meetings, and God's healing through one-on-one pastoral counseling.

Some of the men have continued their journey in our Life Change Program, which supports them as they rebuild their lives for a more hopeful future through Christ's love.

Learn more about how you can support this facility and the life-changing work taking place at **MarketStreet.org/Sussex.**

Thank you for your gifts and prayers to help men in Sussex County rebuild their lives.



Great Bargains

Our Thrift Store offers hidden treasures and great bargains!

Thousands of square feet of new and used furniture, clothing, housewares, appliances, sporting goods, office furniture and more – all at bargain prices.

Best of all, by donating and shopping at our Thrift Store, you're helping to support our Mission programs and services that help change lives!

For more information, please call (973) 538-0427.

Location: 25 George Street, Morristown, New Jersey **Store Hours:** Monday - Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. **Donation Drop-off:** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday - Saturday,

9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

HAVE YOU HEARD?

Over the summer, we started a major renovation project at our Jersey Shore Rescue Mission location in Asbury Park! The team is making great progress renovating the plumbing, adding new bathrooms for our community guests, updating the Welcome Room and adding a new electrical service and HVAC throughout the building.

We want our guests to feel safe and welcomed as soon as they enter the Mission. Along with care for their physical needs, we want to give our clients



a sense of dignity and value – and offering well-maintained facilities that are both functional and comfortable is one way we can demonstrate care to each individual we serve!