

HOLIDAY ISSUE 2024

THANK YOU FOR GIVING MIGUEL



GIFT THIS + Christmas!

Don't miss...

	Our Addiction Recovery Program Restores Lives
pg3	"I've learned to trust God's plan."
	Give a meal. Spark a miracle!

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A Message from OUR MISSION FAMILY



Get ready... the busiest time of the year is upon us! If your holiday season is anything like ours, your calendar is filling up quickly. But **before the year ends**, **please save a few moments for our neighbors who are homeless.**

We know you agree no one should live in a car... in a tent... or outside in the cold. Being homeless means living with constant fear and uncertainty. It's a terrible way to spend any day... much less Christmas Day. If there's anyone in need of a miracle, it's them.

You can make a Christmas miracle possible for a neighbor who is homeless by giving \$2.82 to provide a hot meal at the Market Street Mission. It may not seem like much – but each meal you provide can be someone's first step toward recovery and a new life. <u>Where</u> you see a meal, a hurting neighbor sees <u>a miracle</u>.

With your support, no neighbor in New Jersey has to be hungry or homeless this Christmas. People like Miguel (whose story is on page 3) can find the miracle of hot meals, safe shelter and Christ-centered care at our Morristown, Asbury Park and Newton Mission locations this holiday season... and all year round... thanks to you!

Praying for God's blessings on you this holiday season,

The Market Street Mission Family

YOU MAKE CHRISTMAS AT THE MISSION SPECIAL!

Christmas Morning: Thanks to the generosity of people like you, each resident in our Life Change Program receives a bag of gifts for Christmas – and gifts for their children, too! – letting them know they are loved and cared for.





Holiday Feast: Your gifts help provide a delicious Christmas meal for our residents, surrounded by a loving community – for many, the first holiday feast they've enjoyed in years.

The Miracle of Jesus: Worship, prayer, fellowship and a message of God's love – our guests gather in the chapel to celebrate the hope of Christmas together.

To donate gifts for our residents, visit **MarketStreet.org/needslist**. Thanks to you, our neighbors will feel loved and celebrated this Christmas – and be reminded of the true reason for the season!

OUR ADDICTION RECOVERY PROGRAM RESTORES LIVES

No one is broken beyond repair, and no life is unable to be restored.

Gregg's struggle with substance abuse led him down a winding path, and he ended up selling his car for drugs and sleeping on the steps of a church. "It was like a cycle, and I couldn't get out of it. I was stuck."

> Scan the QR code to watch Gregg's incredible testimony of transformation.





Locations in Morristown, Asbury Park, and Newton





When Miguel and his wife divorced, his drinking spiraled out of control. Social drinking was a normal part of life in his family growing up, but when his marriage fell apart and he was separated from his kids, alcohol became a real problem.

"I had to move out of our house, and I had nowhere to go." He moved back to his parents' house, but soon after, they left the country – and Miguel was left alone, managing his father's liquor store.

"The alcohol was free, so I was just drinking all day," he explains.

Miguel tried attending rehabs and short-term recovery programs, but he always fell back into drinking. When he ended up in the hospital, his sister recommended he try a long-term recovery program, so he called the Mission.

Miguel was excited to learn about our addiction recovery Life Change Program. He began the program at the Market Street Mission – Jersey Shore in Asbury Park, and then transferred to our Mission location in Morristown for work therapy and life-skills classes to finish the program.

By working with a counselor and attending Bible studies, Miguel began developing patience, deepening his peace and strengthening his relationship with God. "The Mission gave me a deeper relationship with Jesus. I'm thankful for that." **Miguel graduated from our program and became a Mission intern,** working at our Thrift Store and mentoring other men in our program. Then we hired him as a Thrift Store employee!

"I was hopeless before I came here, but now I see myself as someone who can use my skills to be successful in life."

This Christmas, Miguel is experiencing all the joy this season has to offer – because YOU believed in the power of a fresh start and the promise of God's unending love. "The stories of redemption and recovery around me reinforce my belief in the power of God's love and the Mission's work. Seeing individuals come into the program broken and struggling, and then watching them gradually rebuild their lives through faith and hard work is nothing short of miraculous."

> Scan to read the rest of Miguel's story.



NEW NAME. SAME MISSION.

BIG NEWS! Moving forward, our Jersey Shore Rescue Mission location in Asbury Park will be known as the Market Street Mission -Jersey Shore.

WHY? When the Market Street Mission in Morristown launched the Jersey Shore Rescue Mission (JSRM) in 2007, the board at Market Street wanted to localize this new Mission to make the most impact in the Shore community, and so gave it its own Jersey Shore brand identity. Despite its distinct name, JSRM has always been part of the Market Street family, using Market Street admin as well as core Market Street methods. Presenting as one unified Mission helps us better steward our donors' gifts. For the sake of familiarity and trust, our goal is to consistently identify all sites as part of the Market Street Mission family for the benefit of our overnight guests, clients and community relationships. For this reason, all our locations will share the Market Street Mission name and logo.

WHAT WILL CHANGE? Jersey Shore's services and care will remain exactly the same! Together, we will continue to provide meals, shelter, clothing and addiction recovery to our neighbors in need just as we always have. Our Asbury Park thrift store will continue to offer clothing, furniture and other essentials at low prices as well. Jersey Shore's new name and logo will better reflect our identity as a cohesive Market Street Mission.

WHAT ABOUT THE LIFEBOAT? The "lifeboat of hope" in the Jersey Shore Rescue Mission logo represents the physical, emotional and spiritual care offered to our neighbors in need. While we are updating our logo to be consistent with Market Street as a whole, the lifeboat will always be at the heart of what we do together!





Give a meal. Spark a miracle!



It's hard to find a reason to celebrate Christmas when you're homeless or hungry. YOU can give JOY and spark a miracle with a gift to lead someone to join our long-term recovery program and experience a new life! It all starts by providing a meal for \$2.82... because where

you see a meal, they see a miracle.





\$2.82 for 1 hot meal

CAN SPARK A MIRACLE

That leads to new life!

Please Send Your Christmas Gift Today!

Locations in Morristown, Asbury Park, and Newton