HAPPY THANKSGIVING! OUR NEW LIFE PROGRAM MEMBERS SHARE THEIR THANKS TO GOD, OUR DONORS, AND THE MISSION



"I am grateful for this home, this program, and the women in it. This has been the light at the end of my tunnel that I have been praying for. I love how alive I feel, it's been a long time." ~ Consuelo



"I want to thank God for my salvation. I must also include that The Rescue Mission has changed my life. I now have employment, a loving family and I'm praising God all the way." ~ **John**



"The Rescue Mission saved my life. I am forever grateful to God, since He guided me here. I am able to wake up knowing I am safe, I know I will not go hungry, and I have a bed to sleep in." ~ Charo



"Beyond freedom from alcohol addiction, I have a new perspective with God as my foundation. I appreciate our exceptional counselors. They are among the most caring people I've known." ~ **Neil**



"I am improving the health of my mind, body and soul. I have recently accepted Jesus, and am happier than ever. I would like to express my gratitude to all that have made this possible." ~ Marie



"Prior to joining the New Life Program, I had no direction. Because of what I learned, I have a new identity in Christ—one that amazes me. I am eternally grateful for my new life." ~ **Kyle**



"I am thankful for a changed heart and a renewed mind. A safe place to be that is full of laughter, and love. Your gifts keep me safe, fill my belly, and warm my heart." ~ **Jennie**



"God has shown me a new way to live. He saved me and is always there for me. I'm especially grateful for my Rescue Mission counselor Chris Beane. He is a big reason for my success." ~ **Tyler**

NOVEMBER 2017 - CHAPEL AND KITCHEN SERVING SCHEDULE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 South Mountain Community Church - Chapel and Kitchen	2 Salt Lake Christian Center	3 Mt Olympus Presbyterian	4 Bible Baptist
				Kitchen: Korean Presbyterian Church		Kitchen: South Valley Community
5 Gospel Grace	6 First Baptist of West Valley - Chapel and Kitchen	7 Calvary Chapel of Salt Lake	8 Northern Utah Mennonite	9 Millcreek Baptist	10 Hilltop United Methodist Church	11 Berean Bible
		Kitchen: Intermountain Baptist Youth	Kitchen: Southeast Youth Group			
12 Calvary Chapel Salt Lake - Chapel and Kitchen	13 Intermountain Baptist	14 Unity Baptist	15 Capital Church	16 RMSL	17 Risen Life	18 Southside Church of Christ - Chapel and Kitchen
				Kitchen: Capital Church		
19 Alpine Church	20 Bennion Christian Center	21 K2 - The Church	22 First Methodist	23 Tooele Christian Fellowship	24 Midvalley Bible	25 Evangelical Free Church of Salt Lake
26 Grace Community Bible	27 Living Waters Christian Fellowship	28 Canyons Church	29 First Presbyterian Church of Salt Lake	30 Calvary Mountainview - American Fork		
		Kitchen: First Baptist Tooele				B



NOVEMBER 2017

RescueSaltLake.org

The Monthly Newsletter of the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake

MIKE WHITESELL: A Young Man Learns the Value of Work

I came to the Rescue Mission over a year ago after pouring my heart out to a police officer. He was giving me a ticket for drug possession. I told him how meth had made me into a different person. This wasn't me, I said.

Later, when I was recounting what I told the officer to my sister, she suggested I get help at the Rescue Mission. I had known about the Mission's addiction recovery program for a while but had convinced myself it wasn't for me. While I had been couch surfing or in jail for most of my adult life, I had never been on the streets. I had always told myself I was not meant to be at the Mission. It was too much.

But, it turns out, the Mission is where God wanted me the whole time.

Since coming to the Mission I am a new person. I used to believe I was worthless, that no matter how hard I tried, I would fail. But I have come to realize that God created me, believes in me, and wants what's best for me. I have come to see myself as God sees me.

Still, it is hard not to slip back into self-pitying, defeating attitudes. I need regular reminders and checks to make sure I am still believing the truth each day. Without constant reminders of God's perspective I will fall back into self-doubt and use drugs to cope.

My relationship with God has made me into a hard worker. For my entire life (I am 24 now) I never really had a job. My father wasn't present much to teach me a good work ethic and my mother was on welfare. I never learned the value of work.



Mike "Buddy" Whitesell serves the Rescue Mission by securing many critical donations as the Mission's main delivery and pickup driver.

In the New Life Program, part of the transformation process involves work therapy. We have Mission responsibilities to help serve our homeless friends—laundry, cooking, cleaning, guest check-in, delivery and pick-up—there is a lot that needs to get done to run what amounts to a hotel, restaurant, church, addiction recovery program and homeless service center.

I have enjoyed working and am currently serving in an internship as assistant house manager and driver at the Rescue Mission. For the first time in my life I realize that God

please see "Mike" on Page 3



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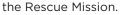
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MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Everyone can make a difference in someone else's life.

This point has been driven home to me during my time at





I recently had the opportunity to make a difference in the life of a woman who had been sleeping at the Salt Lake bus station for a week. She had taken a cross-state bus trip and somewhere along the line the bus company lost her luggage or someone had stolen it. She had been waiting at the station, hoping her luggage might show up.

The woman, who lived in Ogden and needed to get home, did not have the wherewithal to deal with her situation

and walked over to my office for help. It made me feel good to know that someone had told her the Rescue Mission could help people in need.

Together we contacted her employer, who was wondering why she had not returned to work. I helped her explain the situation to her employer, who said she could keep her job. We also contacted the place where she was living and they also said she was welcome back.

The Mission helped her travel up to Ogden so she could get back to work and her housing. It is incredible to think that in just one hour, we were able to help a woman who had lived on the streets for a week end homelessness in her life. The alternative could have been a downward spiral and a tragic story.

While not all situations can be addressed as easily, this story serves as an example of how everybody can help somebody. Unfortunately most people walk a long way down the road of destruction before they hit bottom

and ask for help. And thus require more help before a difference is made.

This past month The Rescue Mission, working with Megaplex Theaters, was able to host a "Red Carpet" showing of the movie Same Kind of Different as Me, based on the best-selling book of the same name.

The movie details how Dallas resident Ron Hall and a homeless man named Denver Moore made a difference in each other's lives. Ron, who wrote Same Kind of Different as Me, also spoke at our New Life Banquet on Nov. 4, inspiring all of us to help other people.

Denver, as a wise, homeless person who never went to school has inspired millions by his "make a difference" truisms, such as: "God is in the recycling business, turning trash into treasures" and "Nobody can help everybody, but everybody can help somebody."

As many of us celebrate Thanksgiving with family and friends this month and then quickly turn our attention to Christmas we often recall why we are thankful. I want to share how thankful I am of you, people who pray for, volunteer and support the Rescue Mission. As a privately funded organization we would not exist without you. Thank you for all you do through the Rescue Mission!

I also want to encourage you to continue to make a difference in people's lives by prayerfully asking how you can help somebody. God can use even "little" things, like helping someone contact their employer and gain bus fare, to change lives. Thank you so much for your continued support of our ministry, which God uses each day to make a difference in the lives of so many.

God bless you,

Chris D. Croswhite Executive Director

Our Stats how your gift helps

September 2017 YTD 2017 **Professions of Faith** 348 8,907 112,823 Family Food Boxes 1.521** Nights of Shelter 4,019 40,002 4.465 49.037 Clothing Day Service/Hygiene 7,700 **Housing Obtained**

These are not just numbers, they are lives impacted!

MIKE: Continued from Page 1

created people for work and that work is something that was missing in my life.

As assistant house manager and driver I work with many community partners, like grocery stores and others, to pick up

"That was the moment I taught my brain that getting high would solve my problems."

weekly donations of food, clothing and more. I also work with our homeless guests to support them with the services they need. And, I help the men on our New Life Program when they are struggling with sobriety and the pains of life.

I am grateful for this work God has given me and hope I can move from my current internship into a full-time position at the Rescue Mission. I want to help people and, given my experience, feel I have a lot to offer.

Before coming to the Rescue Mission, my life experience was not good.

Since I was 11 years old I have been in and out of juvenile custody. My father took my sisters and I to Texas when I was three, against my mother's will. When I was 13 my sister's boyfriend introduced my sisters and my mother to drugs. I was a pretty depressed kid. I was bullied in school, had a learning disability and didn't have a lot going for me.

When I saw my sisters and my mom become happy after they smoked marijuana, I thought, "Wow, I would love to be happy. I want to be happy like they are."

So I started smoking marijuana. That was the moment I taught my brain that getting high would solve my problems. Of course, getting high only solves your problems for a while. Ultimately, it leads to greater depression and isolation.

I had always been somewhat of a people person. I liked people and friends. But once I graduated to using meth I became a different person. I was suspicious of people. I stole from people and was scared they would find out. I didn't want to be around anyone. I isolated myself, even as I stayed awake for days on end, using meth. I became a loner, breaking into cars to get money for drugs.

Since I have become sober at the Rescue Mission I enjoy people again. I have cleared up most of my legal issues. I still have some outstanding legal issues and traffic tickets that I need to clear up. I am seeing the judge again on Dec. 5, but the judge has been good to me so far. When he found out I could have an internship at the Rescue Mission if I could get my driver's license back, he paved the way for me to get my license. He told me, "I want to be part of your recovery."

All the good things that have happened to me are a blessing from God. I have a great church family at Gospel Grace Church

and love living here at the Rescue Mission, where I have constant support from the staff and other members of the New Life Program.

My relationships with my family are getting better. I maintain good relationships with my mom and sisters and have been able to forgive my dad and have at least some connection with him. It was hard with my dad because he wasn't really there for us, and I felt he was abusive towards my mother and sisters.

God has also helped me come to terms with my relationship with my daughter. She was two when I entered the New Life Program. Part of me thought that I could get sober, get my life together and then be a father to her. However, during the time I have been in the program she was adopted. Now it seems unlikely that she will ever know me or that I will know her. But, I have come to trust that it is in God's hands. If God wants her to know that I am her biological father one day and wants us to have a relationship, He will make it happen. I am at peace with the fact that God is her true father and will take care of her.

"All the good things that have happened to me are a blessing from God."

If you remember, please pray for me. Pray that I will continue to do well in my internship and that God would open the door for me to move to full-time employment. Pray also that God would keep me sober and that I would be happy for whatever He has in store for my life. I want to be where God wants me to be. Thank you for supporting the Mission, which helps people like me every day.

It's not too late to give toward our Thanksgiving Banquet. Please donate today if you are able. We are still trying to gather the food and supplies we need, not only for our great Thanksgiving feast, but also for our Christmas Banquet for the homeless, which is just around the corner. Use the enclosed envelope, give online or call us @ 801.746.1006.

