

WE NEED YOUR HELP FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON



Your support enabled us to serve over 1,500 meals to the hungry and hurting during our Thanksgiving Banquet and provide over 300 Thanksgiving Family Food Boxes to the working poor. A big thank you to Smith's Marketplace for donating 100 turkeys to help make this happen.

Now, we are turning to the Christmas season, and with the closure of the downtown public housing shelter, we are anticipating a packed house for the holidays. We will need your help to meet this huge need. Here are a few ways you can help:

First, you can give towards our Christmas Banquet. We will feed hundreds of men, women, and children and we need your help to make sure we don't have to turn any of our homeless friends away. Use the enclosed envelope, give online at RescueSaltLake.org, or call our Finance Office at 801.746.1006 to give via credit card over the phone. Remember, all gifts are tax-deductible.

Second, as you shop for Christmas, you can use Amazon Smile. Go to smile.amazon.com and log in to your amazon account. Once logged in, you can use the search bar at the lower right to find a charity. Type "Rescue Mission of Salt Lake" into the search window and choose "Rescue Mission of Salt Lake Inc." Amazon will donate half of a percent of your total purchases to the Rescue Mission. And if you forgot to start at smile.amazon.com and there are things already in your cart, just leave them there, log out, then log back in using the smile.amazon.com portal, choose the Rescue Mission and you will be set!

Third, as you shop for Holiday meals at Smith's Grocery, make sure to link your Rewards Card to the Rescue Mission. Just visit smithsfoodanddrug.com/inspire. From there, create a simple account with an email your Rewards Card number, and the Rescue Mission's NPO (Non-Profit Organization) number, which is DR760. Once you have created your account using the Mission's NPO DR760, then Smith's will donate .5% of your spending to the Rescue Mission. Thank you so much! We could not do what we do without your support and God's enabling power!

DECEMBER 2019 - CHAPEL AND KITCHEN SERVING SCHEDULE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Chapel: Gospel Grace  Kitchen: Gospel Grace	2 Chapel: First Baptist West Valley  Kitchen: First Baptist West Valley	3 Chapel: Calvary Chapel of Salt Lake  Kitchen: Intermt. Baptist Youth	4 Chapel: SMCC  Kitchen: SMCC	5 Chapel: RMSL  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	6 Chapel: Mt. Oly Presbyterian  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	7 Chapel: Bible Baptist  Kitchen: So. Valley Comm. Church
8 Chapel: Abundant Life  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	9 Chapel: Discovery Christian  Kitchen: Discovery Christian	10 Chapel: Unity Baptist  Kitchen: Lifeline Community Church	11 Chapel: Northern Utah Mennonite  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	12 Chapel: Millcreek Baptist  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	13 Chapel: Hilltop United Methodist  Kitchen: Hilltop United Methodist	14 Chapel: Berean Bible  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*
15 Chapel: Abundant Life  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	16 Chapel: Bennion Christian Center  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	17 Chapel: K2 - The Church  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	18 Chapel: RMSL  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	19 Chapel: New Begins. Christian Fellowship  Kitchen: Lifeline Community Church	20 Chapel: RMSL  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	21 Chapel: Southside Church of Christ  Kitchen: Southside Church of Christ
22 Chapel: Grace Community Bible  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	23 Chapel: Living Waters  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	24 Chapel: Canyons Church  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	25 Chapel: First Methodist  Kitchen: Lifeline Community Church	26 Chapel: Tooele Christ. Fellowship  Kitchen: Fresh Life Church	27 Chapel: Midvalley Bible  Kitchen: Mudita Yoga	28 Chapel: EV Free Church of Salt Lake  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*
29 Chapel: Lifeline Community Church  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	30 Chapel: RMSL  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	31 Chapel: RMSL  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	Thank you to Smith's Marketplace for supporting our Thanksgiving meal and Family Food Box outreach!			

\*Email DVaugns@RescueSaltLake.org to schedule your volunteer request.



RESCUER

DECEMBER 2019

The Monthly Newsletter of the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake



RescueSaltLake.org

JONATHAN ELLIOTT:  
After a decade on the streets, a new man

Before coming to the Rescue Mission last year, I had been homeless for almost 10 years. I was living on the streets, sleeping on friend's couches, in-and-out of jail, or camping down by the river. I was using meth and drinking. During some of that time, I even had my 2-year-old son living with me at the downtown homeless shelter.

A year later, God has changed my life. I want to share just some of the things He has done through the Rescue Mission's ministry and your support.

- God gave me a great job with a virtual office space firm. Our company leases and schedules office space for attorney's, doctors, and small companies. I am a client specialist, so I work with specific clients to handle their calendars, schedule appointments, and make sure they have the temporary and full-furnished office space they need, when they need it. It's a great job and I was even invited to the office Christmas party.
- God is helping me rebuild the relationship I cherish the most, the one I have with my son. God has allowed me to be a father again. I can give my son things, take him to the zoo, and go fishing with him. I see him regularly



Jonathan Elliott was homeless for most of his adult life. Now he has a good job and has reunited with his son.

now and look forward to investing time into his life and letting him know who the Lord is.

- God has given me many opportunities to serve with my home church, Fresh Life Church. I was welcomed into Fresh Life Church and they made me feel like family. They have allowed me to play guitar and sing at some worship events and I lead a bible study at a downtown

Please see "Jim" on page 3

Connect  
with us

Web: RescueSaltLake.org  
Social: facebook.com/rescuemissionofsaltlake - Twitter/@rescuesaltlake  
Email: info@RescueSaltLake.org  
Phone: Main - 801.355.1302/Donor Relations - 801.746.1006  
Mail: PO Box 1227 Salt Lake City Utah 84110-1227  
Physical Address: 463 S. 400 West, Salt Lake City, UT 84101



JESUS AND HOMELESSNESS

Joseph and Mary were in a tough spot. You could say that they were “situationally” homeless. That’s the same tough spot many of our homeless friends who seek food and shelter at the Ogden



Rescue Mission find themselves in. Like Joseph and Mary, the people we serve at the Ogden Rescue Mission are tired, hungry, and need a warm place to stay. One homeless man who stayed at our shelter comes to mind. He was on a very fixed income and sharing rent with some roommates when their landlord decided he wanted to sell the house. They were on a month-to-month lease and this man could not find an affordable place to live before he was evicted. He lived in his car for a while but ultimately came to the Rescue Mission and asked for a place to stay until he could find a new house or apartment to rent. Because of your support we can help “situationally” homeless people in our community, like this man. In a way, your support enables us to be like the people in Bethlehem who helped Joseph and Mary find a place to stay, when the inn was full. It’s interesting that Jesus, once he was born and grew into a man, also spent a lot of time being “situationally” homeless. He would travel often from his home country in Northern Israel to the southern part, in Judea. While he sometimes could stay with friends, Jesus and his disciples spent many nights under the stars, living in situational homelessness. After experiencing homelessness many times, Jesus

encouraged people to remember the poor. He noted that, “Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.” (Matthew 25:40). So, anything done to the poorest of the poor, it is like it has been done to Jesus Himself. During this time when we are celebrating Jesus’ birth, the Ogden Rescue Mission is engaged in helping the “the least of these.” We will be helping our homeless friends find shelter, have warm clothes, and discover a pathway off the streets. I encourage you to join our efforts. You can donate hats, winter gloves, coats, and winter shoes. You can support one of our low-income families through Christmas gifts. You can give towards our upcoming Christmas Banquet. We need your help to provide for the countless Josephs, Marys, and babies who will come through our door this December and beyond. They will be cold, tired, and hungry and we will give them warmth, rest, food, and a loving message of faith in Jesus as the key pathway out of homelessness. It’s interesting to think that, while Jesus was born as a “situationally” homeless person, He ended up creating an everlasting home for everyone who puts their faith and trust in Him.

God bless you,  
  
Chris D. Croswhite  
Executive Director

Our Stats  
how your gift helps

	October 2019	YTD 2019
Professions of Faith	64	320
Meals	24,702	168,964
Family Food Boxes	182	1,290
Nights of Shelter	4,475	29,170
Clothing	7,333	47,469
Day Service/Hygiene	2,185	16,310
Jobs Obtained	7	44
Housing Obtained	4	41

JONATHAN: CONTINUED FROM

- coffee shop with some other guys who attend there.
- God allowed me to get on solid financial footing. I have paid off \$700 in fines so I could get my driver’s license back and a judge who is overseeing some misdemeanor cases I have has said he will waive \$1,000 in fines that I owe, once I graduate from the New Life Program at the Rescue Mission. With my driver’s license back, I am saving money for a car.
  - God is giving me the opportunity to give back. My church is running a “Merry Market” this month by helping families who need assistance with Christmas toys and gifts. I have enough money saved where I can give to this outreach. I’m excited because it’s really one of the first times I can give money to help other people.
  - God has provided a place for me to live when I graduate from the New Life Program this month. When I complete the New Life Program on December 22, there is a spot available at the Freedom House, the Rescue Mission’s transitional housing unit. I can live at Freedom House at a reduced rent, while still having accountability and support.

The thing I am most thankful to God for, is His answer to my prayer when I was homeless. God answered my prayer by leading me to the Rescue Mission where I could get help. I’ve needed this kind of help my whole life. My childhood was filled with pain and both my parents were alcoholics. I’m 30-years-old now and, before spending this past year at the Rescue Mission, I had been on the streets for nearly a decade. I lost my ID, birth certificate, and social security card so I could never get a job.

*“The thing I am most thankful to God for, is His answer to my prayer when I was homeless. God answered my prayer by leading me to the Rescue Mission where I could get help.”*

Even with those documents, my consistent drug and alcohol abuse made me unemployable. I would panhandle and go into dumpsters to look for food or items I could recycle for money. A few years after my son was born in 2012, I had to take him from his mother, because she was also a drug addict. My son and I lived at the downtown homeless shelter for a while, until I asked his mother’s parents to take care of him. I told them I could not take care of my son until I reached the point where I could take care of myself. They have been so good to take care of him for the past five years.

In November 2018 I was camping in West Jordan, near the river. The police had come asked me to leave a few times, but I just stayed. The third time they came, they arrested me for trespassing and possession of a small amount of drugs. In jail I prayed that God would help me. When I was released it was around Thanksgiving time and I went back to my river camp for a few nights. It was cold and I decided I would go to a friend’s house and ask if I could sleep there. I boarded a TRAX train and it seemed like God changed my mind. I had stayed at the Rescue Mission before and I felt God telling me to go there. I stayed on the TRAX train all the way to downtown and walked to the Mission and asked for help. They gave me a place on the New Life Program and day-by-day my life started to change.

I want to thank all the supporters of the Rescue Mission for helping me. Without your giving, there would not be a place for people like me to learn about the true God, and have our lives changed by Him. I thank God for all the Mission’s supporters who help create the one place that could truly help me. I also want to thank Fresh Life Church for making me feel like family.

We had a great Thanksgiving

From hot meals to haircuts to warm clothes, we were able to bless hundreds of our homeless friends and low-income families because of your generous donations to our Thanksgiving Banquet outreach!

