

## GOD DID AWESOME THINGS LAST DECADE

*As we ended 2019, we wanted to thank you and God for a great decade!*

Here are just some of the things that your support and God's favor enabled us to accomplish.

- We began renting a transitional housing unit in 2007 as a sober home for men graduating the New Life Program, with an emphasis on serving veterans. In July 2011 the Lebegue-Timmerman Family generously donated "Freedom House" to the Rescue Mission to become a permanent part of our ministry.
- In 2012 we opened our Transitions Program to help the situationally homeless obtain employment, self-sufficiency, and housing.
- In 2013 we began teaching a Homeless Issues Seminar in public and private schools to prevent underage drinking, drug use, addiction, and future homelessness.
- In 2016, your generous support allowed us to open Hope House, another transitional housing unit, exclusively for formerly homeless women.


- This past year, in 2019, your support enabled the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake to purchase/merge and begin operating the Ogden Rescue Mission, which needed the administrative and program support the Rescue Mission could offer.
- In the past decade over 5,500 people accepted Christ or rededicated their lives to Him, while over 475 have obtained full-time employment and over 500 have obtained housing.

None of this life-transforming ministry would be possible without God's help and your support.

We look forward to what God has in store for the next decade. One thing we know is that hurting people on our streets will need your help. This past year also saw the closing of the public housing shelter downtown, leaving the Rescue Mission as the only downtown homeless shelter and a 400-bed reduction in available Salt Lake shelter beds.

More people than ever are depending on the Rescue Mission and your support will help them get off the streets. Please continue to support this great ministry in 2020 and beyond!

### JANUARY 2020 - CHAPEL AND KITCHEN SERVING SCHEDULE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Chapel: SMCC  Kitchen: SMCC	2 Chapel: RMSL  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	3 Chapel: Mt Oly Presbyterian  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	4 Chapel: Bible Baptist  Kitchen: So. Valley Comm. Church
5 Chapel: Gospel Grace  Kitchen: Gospel Grace	6 Chapel: First Baptist West Valley  Kitchen: First Baptist West Valley	7 Chapel: Calvary Chapel of Salt Lake  Kitchen: Intermt. Baptist Youth	8 Chapel: Northern Utah Mennonite  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	9 Chapel: Millcreek Baptist  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	10 Chapel: Hilltop United Methodist  Kitchen: Hilltop United Methodist	11 Chapel: Berean Bible  Kitchen: Calvary Chapel
12 Chapel: Abundant Life  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	13 Chapel: Discovery Christian Church  Kitchen: Discovery Christian Church	14 Chapel: Unity Baptist  Kitchen: Lifeline Community Church	15 Chapel: Missions Door  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	16 Chapel: New Begins. Christian Fellowship  Kitchen: Lifeline Community Church	17 Chapel: RMSL  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	18 Chapel: Southside Church of Christ  Kitchen: Southside Church of Christ
19 Chapel: Abundant Life  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	20 Chapel: Bennion Christian Center  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	21 Chapel: K2 - The Church  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	22 Chapel: First Methodist  Kitchen: Lifeline Community Church!	23 Chapel: Missions Door  Kitchen: Fresh Life Church	24 Chapel: Midvalley Bible  Kitchen: Mudita Yoga	25 Chapel: EV Free Church of Salt Lake  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*
26 Chapel: Grace Community Bible  Kitchen: Grace Community Bible	27 Chapel: Living Waters  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	28 Chapel: Canyons Church  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	29 Chapel: RMSL  Kitchen: Fresh Life Church	30 Chapel: RMSL  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	31 Chapel: Utah Partner. for Christ  Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	<b>Thank you for a great 2019!</b>

\*Email [DVaugns@RescueSaltLake.org](mailto:DVaugns@RescueSaltLake.org) to schedule your volunteer request.

# RESCUER

JANUARY  
2020

The Monthly Newsletter of the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake



[RescueSaltLake.org](http://RescueSaltLake.org)

## MICHAEL DANDIN: A father of three gets the help he needs

*It was two years ago that my children—then 10, 8, and 7 years old—told me they didn't like who I had become. They said, "we don't like you when you are drinking."*

A short time later, I walked into the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake and asked for help with my alcohol problem.

Since then, God has changed my life. I have been sober for two years and am working as an intern at the Rescue Mission. My kids, who now live in Tennessee with their mother, talk to me regularly over live video and, as I write this, am just days from flying out to visit them. While it's been hard to be away from my kids, they have a lot of family in Tennessee who take good care of them.

It's amazing to see how God has changed my life in the past two years.

While I was raised going to church and had heard all the Bible stories, I never really had a true relationship with God. I felt forced to go to church and didn't really take to heart what I was taught.

Without a real relationship with God, I often turned to alcohol when my life didn't go as I expected. When I was shot in the stomach in my early 20s, I started drinking heavily. When my mother died, I started drinking heavily. When my kids started getting in trouble at school and their mother had to quit her job to spend more time with them, the stress I felt as being the sole provider for our household caused me to start drinking heavily.

By the time my kids confronted me about drinking two years ago, I was binge drinking almost every day.

As I thought about it, I realized I had quit playing with my kids like I used to. I had quit doing things with them and instead



Michael Dandin has overcome addiction and several health issues and is now ready to be the sober father his kids wanted.

Please see "Michael" on page 3.

Connect  
with us

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DAILY MERCY CONQUERS A LIFETIME OF SIN

*“The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.” Lamentations 3:22-23 (ESV).*



It’s a wonderful truth that God’s love and mercy is new every morning. I don’t know about you, but I find myself messing up each day. I am short with a friend, get upset when someone cuts me off in traffic, or allow stress to become too prevalent. It’s incredible to know that, for those of us who put our faith and trust in Jesus, we can wake

up in the morning knowing that we are embraced by God’s mercy. At this time of year, when we tend to pledge to a whole year of promised change in our lives, it’s comforting to know that God wants us to take it one day at a time. Instead of a bunch of New Year’s resolutions and big plans, God tells His people to simply wake up each morning and relax. His mercy and grace are fresh and new for that day. In fact, this is built into the rhythm of life God has given us. The Bible teaches that the day begins at sundown, not sunup. So, the first thing God gives us is rest to face the day. Communicating the daily mercy of God is one of our key teaching points at the Rescue Mission. Many of our homeless friends who we serve, along with the members of our New Life Recovery Program, are weighted down by years of shame. They feel shame because they can’t stop using drugs or alcohol. They want to stop but they can’t,

so they feel worthless. Others know they have mental illnesses that cause other people to think they are strange, which causes even more shame. Because of their addictions and illnesses, our homeless friends have often abandoned friends and family, including sometimes their own children. In other cases, they have stolen from or taken advantage of their loved ones. All their sins and missteps cause a lifetime of shame to build in their hearts. This shame keeps them stuck in the self-misery that fuels addiction, homelessness, and hopelessness. So, the truth that God has entirely new mercy at the start of every day is important for our homeless friends to know. His mercy is so big, one day’s worth of it is greater than a lifetime of human sin. A homeless person does not need a one-year plan full of various resolutions to get off the streets. They just need mercy for one day to take that one needed step towards change. That mercy can erase their shame. Daily mercy can be enough for them to ask the Mission for help to get off the streets, and into housing, employment, and sobriety. As you ponder grand plans for 2020, please don’t forget that God has mercy for you to get through the day you are living now. And please join me in praying that the reality of God’s daily mercy would find a place in the hearts of our homeless friends. Happy New Year,

Chris D. Croswhite  
Executive Director

Our Stats  
how your gift helps

These are not just numbers, they are lives impacted!

	November 2019	YTD 2019
Professions of Faith	21	341
Meals	28,986	197,950
Family Food Boxes	459	1,749
Nights of Shelter	6,354	54,026
Clothing	7,655	52,471
Day Service/Hygiene	2,351	18,661
Jobs Obtained	3	47
Housing Obtained	2	43

MICHAEL: CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

would tell them I would play with them later, but when later came, I would fall asleep or feel too lazy from all my alcohol consumption to engage with them. After my children confronted me, I decided I needed help. I was out of work and we didn’t have any money, so I knew I couldn’t afford to pay for a treatment program. I started asking around and eventually people told me about the Rescue Mission. I came to the Rescue Mission in December of 2017 and now, two years later, am ready to graduate from the New Life Program. It’s been a long road, but one that has taught me many lessons.

The most important lesson I learned was that God doesn’t forget you. If you allow God to come into your life, He will put you on the right path. Even if at times it seems like everything is turning for the worse, it is really just something that God wants you to go through for a time, but in the end He will work it out. I realize now that anything bad that happens in this world is overcome by the fact that, through faith in Jesus, God will welcome His faithful into Heaven one day.

I learn more about God each week as I attend my home church, Calvary Chapel of Salt Lake. When I was a child, I felt forced to attend church and I developed a grudge against church. Now, I look forward to going to church each week as I learn and fellowship with the people at Calvary.

In addition to instilling faith in Jesus into me, the New Life Program helped by giving me needed responsibilities. As part of the program, I was given a work therapy job, which allowed me to help the homeless individuals who sought help at the Mission. Today, I am working as an intern at the Mission, in charge of the pantry and kitchen.

Another great thing that the Mission did for me was get

me a plane ticket to go see my children in Tennessee for the New Year’s Holiday. They do not know I am coming, so it will be a big surprise. I can’t wait to see them again. Maybe the biggest help the Mission provided for me, was support for my many medical issues. I have always had health ailments, including diabetes. But the Mission was able to set me up with the right doctors and clinics to help diagnose some of my other medical issues and get the treatment I needed.

Today, even though I am 41, I feel like I am 25. I feel so much better and the medications I take for my health

issues are working. When I graduate next month, I plan to move out with my brother until I can save up enough money to afford an apartment of my own. I cannot thank the Rescue Mission enough. Without the Mission’s

support I would’ve continued to drink and grow into a progressively worse alcoholic. Today, my children and their mother are proud of me and welcomed me for the New Year’s holiday.

I thank all the Mission’s supporters who help create a place for people like me who cannot afford to go anywhere else for help. I thank you and my children thank you. Please pray for me as I transition from the New Life Program and back into “normal” society. Pray that I would continue to be plugged into Calvary Chapel and that God would continue to keep me sober. God bless you and happy New Year!

**Editor’s Note:** We were able to adjust our typical one-year recovery program to 24 months to meet Michael’s needs while he received medical treatment. This could only happen because of your private support. Without this flexibility, many organizations would’ve removed Michael from their program to secure per individual or bed rotation funding.

*“Today, even though I am 41, I feel like I am 25 . . . and the medications I take for my health issues are working.”*

Thank you for a great Christmas!

We served 1,200 meals and gave away thousands of items of clothing at our Christmas Banquet. We also blessed people with the Gospel message, free haircuts, Christmas gifts, free haircuts, and much more. Thank you to everyone who donated, prayed, and volunteered to make this event happen!

