

HYDRATION IN THE SUMMERTIME OF COVID

There is so much grabbing our attention right now. But as we look to July and August, we want to put in a reminder about the heat. It's blazing out there, these are the hottest months of the year and as much focus as coronavirus gets in our collective minds, the hot sun beating down on an unprotected and thirsty homeless person may be just as dangerous. In fact, we believe it will be harder than ever for our homeless friends to access to drinkable water this summer, because of many of the precautions businesses and others are taking.

Even here at the Mission, where we typically would have a 20-gallon spigot cooler of ice water for our homeless friends, we have had to forgo community watering options in order to keep people safe. Instead we are handing out individual bottles of water.

All this means we need your help with Operation Hydration more than ever. Here's how you can help:


- **Give:** use the enclosed envelope, donate online at RescueSaltLake.org, or contribute securely over the phone by calling 801-746-1006.

- **Donate:** We need disposable (single serve) water bottles, sunscreen, lip balm, and shade-giving hats. Drop off any of these items at our downtown Salt Lake headquarters at 463 S. 400 West.

Please consider how you can help today. Remember, more lives are lost to heat each year than cold. In this crazy summer of 2020, we need your support to make sure we don't lose any lives to dehydration and sunstroke.



JULY 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: Compassion Call	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*	Happy Independence Day!

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

RESCUER

JULY 2020

The Monthly Newsletter of the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake



RescueSaltLake.org

KEN BAILEY: A man who lost it all finds God at the Mission

For most of my adult life, I had a successful career in the financial services industry, working 17 years at a large credit card company, helping our members understand their rewards, services, and get credit adjustments. My wife and I had six children together, three boys and three girls. We might have seemed like a typical Utah family.

But when my wife left me (an event that was preceded by the passing of my parents) my once normal life as a husband and father devolved into depression, addiction and homelessness. I lost my job, my family, my home, and eventually ended up living on the streets of downtown Salt Lake City.

I had been homeless for about a month when I drank so much that I landed in the hospital for four days. I was deeply depressed at what my life had become. I had even tried to take my own life a short time earlier.

Now, as the hospital was set to release me, I still had nowhere to go. Two of my daughters picked me up and dropped me off at the Rescue Mission, where they thought I might find help. I had never heard of the Mission but after spending a night there, I asked if I could join the New Life Recovery Program. It was a request that changed my life.

While I was nervous about living at a homeless shelter, I came to realize it was a miracle that my daughters had dropped me off at the Mission's door that night. I now see there is a reason God led me here. I have been so blessed by the staff, volunteers, and supporters of the Mission who have helped me.

The biggest thing that God helped me overcome, at least initially, was my fear of other people. When I came to the Mission, I feared all people generally and couldn't trust anyone. Through talking with my counselor and going to Bible studies, God began to heal my heart to be able to interact with people again.



Ken Bailey was homeless and had so much anxiety and depression that he couldn't talk to people. Now God has changed his life.

Please see "Ken" on page 3.

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with us

Web: RescueSaltLake.org

Social: [facebook.com/rescuemissionofsaltlake](https://www.facebook.com/rescuemissionofsaltlake) - [Twitter/@rescuemissionofsaltlake](https://twitter.com/rescuemissionofsaltlake)

Email: info@RescueSaltLake.org

Phone: Main - 801.355.1302/Donor Relations - 801.746.1006

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REDEMPTION AND RECONCILIATION

I have had conversations recently that run the gamut of people thinking Utah has already reached a state of equity and reconciliation, with others thinking inequity is as bad as it has ever been. And as I consider the



continued calls for change in our community and around the world, my thoughts often turn to Jesus and the Rescue Mission.

The homeless people we serve, after all, probably face more inequity in our society than most. I often have conversations with people who say things such as, "I love the work you are doing with the homeless,

I just would never want a homeless ministry in my neighborhood." Imagine replacing the word "homeless" in that quote with another people group.

Inequity abounds in the world because of human selfishness and sin. That's why we need God to be the great reconciler and redeemer of us all. It's often ironic how God works in that role.

All, our sins and mistakes, whether against individuals, businesses, or greater society are all ultimately against God. His role as redeemer is ironic, because God is the one who is sinned against, yet He is also the one providing redemption and reconciliation. It's ironic that, while God wants us to treat other people with equity, He graciously desires to treat us with inequity in order to save us. If God dealt equitably with us, we would experience the consequences of our own sinful behavior, with the just result being destroyed relationships with God, ourselves, and others.

But instead God had his own Son, Jesus, who never did anything wrong, to take the punishment

everyone else deserved (the ultimate inequity). Jesus' death has the power to redeem those who put their faith and trust in Him. With redemption comes reconciliation, not just to God, but reconciliation with our community, family, and even our own selves.

People don't often think they have a relationship with their own self. Yet, how a person thinks, feels and believes about themselves influences how they treat others. Ken, who shares his story in this month's Rescuer, notes that when God helped take away the negative feelings Ken had towards his own life and self, it freed him to show God's love to other people.

Like God did with Ken, He can redeem homeless men and women and free them from those things that have bound and controlled them. For the men and women on our recovery program this redemption happens when they realize that God's inequity towards us is loving and gracious. By thankfully accepting God's gracious gift of Jesus, they are freed to treat others with love and equity.

The love and equity born out of God's redemption and reconciliation are what we all need in our relationships with other people.

Please join us in praying for and offering the message of God's inequity (salvation) to our homeless friends and all other people in our community. In my 15-years' experience at the Rescue Mission of trying to help people overcome the worst of sins and addictions, I have not seen real change happen without God's enabling redemption and reconciliation.

God bless you,

Chris D. Croswhite
Executive Director

These are not just numbers, they are lives impacted!

Our Stats

how your gift helps

	May 2020	YTD 2020
Professions of Faith	2	280
Meals	9,831	40,371
Family Food Boxes	86	598
Nights of Shelter	2,999	25,421
Clothing	1,681	12,779
Day Service/Hygiene	4,041	37,887
Jobs Obtained	1	13
Housing Obtained	0	9

KEN: CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

During this time, I had a work therapy job helping to run the Mission's kitchen. I found I could make people smile just by helping them have a meal to eat. When I served people and they thanked me, their appreciation helped me to open up and begin to have relationships again. Since I have been able to talk to people again, I have learned just how many people and families that come to the Mission have no food at all. To see the smiles when I can send a family off with a box of food has helped me as much as it helped the family.

Later in my recovery, my work therapy job switched to the Mission's front desk. Each night I was able to tell some of the homeless men who sought shelter about our Recovery Program. I shared how the program had impacted me and helped me to stay sober.

One vivid memory I have is distributing flyers for the Mission's Thanksgiving and Christmas banquets. I remember my distribution group went to the downtown liquor store to post a flyer. It felt good to be able to go into the store, post the flyer and not be tempted to buy alcohol. It was empowering to walk out without a bottle in hand.

My recovery has not been without struggles. I felt like everything was going great. I was enjoying my home church Calvary Chapel and making progress on many personal-heart issues in my counseling. But then coronavirus hit and my church had to stop having in-person services for a while. I felt disconnected. About the same time, we all had to move out of the Mission to the old Marv Jensen Recreation Center in South Jordan after the March earthquake damaged the Mission's building.

I ended up graduating from Phase 2 of the New Life Program at the rec center.

Now, we are back at the Mission and Calvary Chapel is having in-person services again. It's good to be able to look forward to seeing friends there again and I have even started attending the Wednesday night Bible study.

I am now in the job phase of the New Life Program and will hopefully be pursuing a nurse training program to get my CNA license. I have enjoyed how my Mission work therapy experience has allowed me to help people who are in difficult situations. I believe that nursing will provide me with similar fulfillment by allowing me to help people and their families get through tough times as best as they can.

"It was empowering to walk out without a bottle in hand."

As I stay sober and continue to heal, I believe God will restore my relationships with my six children. Of course, my No. 1 goal is to keep a strong relationship with God and connection to my church. God and

His people are the encouragement and empowerment I need.

Ultimately, I want to get back into my own house or apartment and enjoy sober life outside of the Mission. I know I still have a long way to go, but I am so grateful for the help I have received from the Mission's supporters and staff who have helped carry me to this point. Your support has meant so much to me and has truly allowed God to change my life.

WELCOME BACK!

Help Us Fill the Calendar!

We're back and, if you feel comfortable, would love to welcome you back too.

As you can see in this month's Rescuer, we've started publishing our Chapel Provider and Kitchen Service calendar again. We are happy to have churches come down to the Mission and conduct evening chapel services and serve dinner to our homeless friends once more. Nightly chapel services are a crucial part of our ministry and we have known many homeless friends who have come to faith in Jesus by attending one of our church-led services.

If you check out our Facebook page, you can see a video about the many precautions we are taking to ensure a safe environment. We do temperature checks and a copious amount of cleaning, hand sanitizing, and social distancing. If you have questions about chapel services or if you have not received our "Chapel Provider COVID Protocols" communication, please email Pastor Chris at: Chris@RescueSaltLake.org

So, put on a mask and join us. Contact our volunteer coordinator Danielle Vaughns at dvaughns@RescueSaltLake.org.