OUR HOMELESS FRIENDS ARE THANKFUL FOR YOU!

Each Thanksgiving season feature a few quotes from our homeless friends. They are thankful to God and our wonderful donors for providing love, hope, and a path forward.

"I am thankful for my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, for the man I am becoming because of Him, for the Rescue Mission, the staff team, donors, and my fellow program members." ~ Derek

"I am grateful for the wonderful meals at the Rescue Mission, a roof over my head, being able to take a shower, and having a bed to sleep in. Thank you!" ~ Jaydon

"I am grateful to be off the streets, for a warm bed to sleep in, three meals a day, and help to stay clean and sober." ~ Shayden





SHARE LOVE THIS THANKSGIVING

As Thanksgiving approaches, the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake is once again preparing to serve a community banquet for the homeless — but we can't do it without you. This year, we are seeking to provide thousands of meals to our homeless friends and neighbors. But more than just food. Your support enables us to offer not just a meal, but the opportunity for spiritual renewal through the message of Jesus, and a chance at a new life.

Hot Meals & Dignity: Your generosity will help us serve over 30,000 meals this Thanksgiving season.

Spiritual Hope: Volunteers and staff will share the Gospel with banquet attendees, and we are praying for 100 professions of faith.

Ongoing Support: Our comprehensive programs offer banquet attendees life-changing opportunities for faith, employment, and recovery so they can leave the streets behind.

YEAR-END GIVING + OTHER WAYS TO HELP

Give: Every dollar you give goes directly to serving meals, providing shelter, and offering ongoing support. Your gift could provide a Thanksgiving meal for a struggling individual and a new beginning for their future.

Volunteer: Join with us and serve directly to those in need. Your presence will remind them they are not forgotten.

Donate Food or Supplies: We need everything from turkeys to side dishes to drinks. Your donations will help us make this event special.

Pray: We believe in the power of prayer. Please pray for the individuals we'll serve, and for the Gospel to reach hearts and change lives.

Year-end Distributions: If you need to make mandatory minimum distributions from a retirement account you can donate assets, including stocks or bonds, directly to the Mission.



RESCUER

NOVEMBER 2026

The Monthly Newsletter of the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake

RESCUE MISSION OF SALT LAKE

RescueSaltLake.org

For much of my life, I felt disconnected from my family. While I did not care for drugs and alcohol, growing up in Nephi, Utah, my family was very much into drugs and alcohol. I believed I needed to follow that same path to fit in, but I am thankful that God eventually led me to the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake.

I grew up getting in trouble and, along with some of my family members, spent years in prison. I was diagnosed with several mental health conditions and prescribed numerous medications designed to help. This most recent time I was incarcerated, I remember thinking, "This is not who I want to be." I cried out to God, asking Him to change me.

GOD ANSWERS MY PRAYER

It was about the time I was released from prison that my teenage daughter, who is now 18, contacted me. Years went by without us having a relationship, and I carried that loss with me. As someone who spent multiple years incarcerated, I had not been there for her, but she said she wanted to have a relationship with me.

I believe God sent her back into my life to show me there was still hope. He was answering my prayer for help and reminding me that I shouldn't give up. At the time, I was in Nebraska. After reconnecting with my daughter, I left and came back to Utah since she lived in Logan. My journey back to Utah brought me to the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake, since when I arrived from Nebraska, I really had nowhere else to go.



Daniel Mitchell has a good job, a renewed relationship with his daughter, and has been able to get off his mental health medication since finding a new life at the Rescue Mission.

I remember coming to the Mission to get something to eat. I saw the "Jesus Saves" sign, and I knew it was somewhere I could be safe. Then I learned about the New Life Program. It was a big commitment to join the 13-month program. But I knew that if I really wanted a new life, and reconnection with my daughter, I had to make changes. I couldn't keep doing the same things and expect a different result, so I committed to the program.

When I did, I realized this place was different. There is something about walking into the chapel at the Mission.

Please see "Daniel" on page 3.

GIVING PEOPLE REASON TO HOPE

As we celebrate Thanksgiving, we often take time to reflect on the things we are grateful for: our families, our homes, our jobs, and the people who make a difference in our lives. But what happens when someone has lost those things, or has gone so long without them that it is difficult to imagine having them again?



One of the most important things we can offer someone who is struggling with homelessness or addiction is hope. Hope that life can be different. Hope that the past does not have to determine the future. And hope that, with God's help, there are still dreams worth pursuing.

Daniel's story in this newsletter is a wonderful example. After years of incarceration and struggling with addiction, Daniel reached a point when he knew he needed to change. Through the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake, he began rebuilding his relationship with God and learning how to live differently. Today, he has a good job, is reconnecting with his daughter, has found a church community, and is preparing to move into transitional housing. He is making plans for the future and working toward having a home of his own.

These may sound like ordinary goals, but for someone who once believed his life would never change, they represent something extraordinary. They are reasons to keep working and be thankful for what God is doing.

At the Rescue Mission, we want to help people do more than get through another day. We want to help them recognize their God-given potential, establish meaningful goals, and take the steps necessary to build a better life. Through the New Life Program, Christ-centered guidance, employment opportunities, and a supportive community, people can begin to see a future beyond the misery and struggles of their past.

This Thanksgiving, I am especially grateful for friends like you who make this work possible. Your generosity helps provide the foundation people need to dream again and gives them the opportunity to build lives filled with faith, purpose, family, and hope.

Thank you for helping us restore lives in the name of Jesus Christ.

Thank you and may God bless you,

Chris D. Croswhite
Executive Director

HOW YOUR GIFT HELPS: OUR YTD STATS THROUGH SEPTEMBER

Professions of Faith	Meals	Family Food Boxes	Nights of Shelter	Clothing
353	226,368	1,528	57,116	55,706

Hygiene Items	Day Service	Jobs Obtained	Housing Obtained
60,714	27,627	58	45

The *Rescuer* newsletter is a monthly publication of the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake. • Newsletter Editor: Brady Snyder

DANIEL: CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

It feels calm. It feels like everyone is there for the same reason. The Mission is a safe place to heal, and the Bible studies and chapel services brought me closer to God. I began to understand that sobriety wasn't just about stopping drinking. It was about a new life.

Having work therapy responsibilities in the Mission's kitchen opened my eyes to the truth that God could use me to help others. I used to be selfish. I was all about myself and what I wanted. But working in the kitchen taught me to be humble and showed me ways I could bless people who were hungry and hurting.

FINDING MEANINGFUL WORK

This attitude change was important when I graduated to the employment phase of the New Life Program. When I entered the employment phase of the Mission, a fellow New Life Program member helped me get a job at a Maverik convenience store, where I work to this day. It is a good job with benefits, and I am saving money to buy an e-bike so that when I move into the Mission's transitional housing unit, the Freedom House, next month, I can make the short commute to my workplace. Maybe most significantly is that I love working and helping people who come into the store.

I have also learned how important communication is. I used to run from difficult situations. When I wasn't happy, I would start drinking because I was accustomed to disorganization and addiction. Another blessing is that I have been able to, with my doctor's support, stop taking all my mental health medications. Instead, I use other techniques, such as talk therapy, prayer, and Bible reading, to address my spiritual and emotional needs.

I'm learning to have joy and satisfaction in God-ordained areas of my life. I no longer run away from difficult situations; I can talk about them. I can communicate with people. That's a tool I've learned at the Rescue Mission that I will use for the rest of my life.

Through the Mission, I've also found friends and a community. Someone who volunteers in the Mission's kitchen told me he attended a local church and offered to pick me up and take me to church. That act of kindness led me to a Bible-believing church community where I have continued growing in my relationship with God.

LOOKING FORWARD WITH HOPE

Today, my relationship with my daughter is strong. She lives in Logan, Utah, and she texts me every day before I go to work. She once told me that if I was going to keep drinking, she couldn't be part of that life. Now she can see the changes in me. I want to be stable and eventually have a home where she can visit and I can be the father she needs.

As I get closer to graduating the New Life Program, I have mixed emotions. I'm excited about what comes next, but I'm also sad to leave. The people here have shown me what Jesus-centered love is. They listened, taught me biblical truth, and gave real-world answers to my problems when I was ready to hear them. That's what a true family does.

Thank you so much for supporting the Mission. Without your help, I would not have a relationship with God, my daughter, or a job. I would likely be back in prison or jail, or living on the streets. Your support has meant the world to me and my family. Thank you!

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