



**SPRINGFIELD  
RESCUE  
MISSION**

*Saving & Changing Lives  
with Your Support!*

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# EXPECTATIONS

Serving the Homeless in Jesus' Name Since 1892

***“It’s such a blessing  
that you give!” —Rich***

**See his story of a transformed life on page 2**

## **INSIDE:**

- Special Note From Ron
- Volunteer Spotlight: Giving Glory
- Your Neighbors Need You!

*Your support makes Springfield Rescue Mission’s 127 years of service a special blessing to our community, helping save & change lives in Christ’s name. Thank you!*

# "It's such a blessing that you give!" —Rich

You may recall Rich's story of homelessness and heartache in last Christmas's *Expectations* when he shared, "I was never with my family. I was always on the street—" where he almost lost his life.

Yet the Lord found him there, and brought him safely here, like so many others with nowhere else to go and no one to count on but neighbors like you.

**"Without you, there'd be nothing for us to come to," Rich says gratefully.**

It is your generosity that helps make sure men like Rich, who come through our doors in darkness, find the light of transformation in Jesus Christ—and the spiritual foundation that lasts for a lifetime.

**Today, Rich is a proud graduate of our New Life Rehabilitation Program—and that's exactly what he's experiencing in the faith: a brand-new life . . .**

"Everything has gone full circle for me," he says. "I've gone through the program, which I can say was a blessing. Now here at the Men's Emergency Shelter, I'm head chef!"

Rich not only puts wholesome food on the table for the hungry, he also shares his path to real life change—a wonderful illustration of Christ's



Rich says, "Thank you for all you provide with a lot of love. It's such a blessing that you give!"

command in John 21:17, where Peter replies, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."

Beyond his commitment to his new family of friends at the Rescue Mission, you'll also be glad to hear Rich has been reunited with his own family, including his excited grandchildren!

"I have an apartment where they can come. I get to celebrate their birthdays, New Year's, Christmas! They are a blessing. I'm so grateful to have them in my life again."

**And Rich's transformation from broken to blessed is all thanks to this community of caring friends you're so much a part of through your gifts and prayers.**

## Your Neighbors Need YOU!

As the summer's heat winds down, our most vulnerable neighbors are no safer. *In fact as the temperatures drop, more neighbors from your community will look to you for meals, help and hope!*

That's why your faithfulness means so much right now as we anticipate the busy weeks ahead at the Rescue Mission.

Through your gifts and prayers, we'll be ready to meet the need with good food, critical care and the message of new life that's possible in Jesus Christ!

**So to make an immediate impact, send your best gift now as God leads, with the enclosed reply in the envelope provided. And thanks for helping save and change the lives of your neighbors who need YOU!**



# Mark Your Calendar!

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

### Springfield Rescue Mission Open House

1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

*It's Open House & YOU are welcome!*

**NEW DATE!**

Come visit and let us show you how your partnership allows us to minister to your homeless neighbors, helping put them on the path to becoming whole, healed, productive members of the community! *Light refreshments will be served.*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3

### Pastor Appreciation Luncheon

11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

OCTOBER 1 – 31

### Undie Sunday/Undie Monday

During October, make Sundays at church and Mondays at work your days to collect NEW underwear, socks and t-shirts for our men, women and children in need; then bring all of your generous donations to 10 Mill Street by November 15!

For more information about any of these events, or to volunteer, please call the Rescue Mission at 413-732-0808, or sign up online at [springfieldrescuemission.org/volunteer](http://springfieldrescuemission.org/volunteer).



## SAVE THE DATES!

Thanksgiving Banquet  
November 23

Christmas Banquet  
December 22

Volunteers are needed for both festive events, so now's the time to sign up for one—or both—to see lives changed and people served in Jesus' name at the holidays! Make your plans now.

For more information about attending any or all of these events & to volunteer your time and talent, call 413-732-0808 or sign up online at [springfieldrescuemission.org/volunteer](http://springfieldrescuemission.org/volunteer).



# Giving Glory

**You can join Glory to change lives one day at a time!**

Glory's eyes sparkle when she talks about her decision to volunteer at the Rescue Mission. "I was first of all looking for some way to give back to the community," she says. But choosing to help feed hundreds of hungry neighbors from our busy kitchen means more than simple service: "You tend to forget how blessed you are," she says. "When I work here, I remember that no matter how difficult my situation is, I have a roof over my head, food on my table, clean clothes and someone to go home to. Some of these people have lost everything!"

"So when you talk to them, they look forward to seeing you, and that is a great feeling. I can't fix everybody's problems, but if I can make someone smile, then I accomplished something good. Now the Rescue Mission is a need for me. It keeps me grounded!"

**To join Glory in sharing your time and talent at the Rescue Mission, sign up online at [springfieldrescuemission.org/volunteer](http://springfieldrescuemission.org/volunteer) or call 413-732-0808.**

*See you soon!*



# YOU are the one Saving and Changing Lives!



**Ronald Willoughby**  
Executive Director/CEO

“Blessed is he who is kind to the needy . . .”  
—Proverbs 14:21

“For He satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.”  
—Psalm 107:9 NIV



My Friend,

As the summer winds down, I want to express my gratitude for your support for this vital ministry to your neighbors in need during these hot days for so many across western Massachusetts.

Of course, all our efforts are possible because of this family of friends you’re such an important part of, who help make it all possible at the Rescue Mission.

**Yet as we head into fall, even more people’s lives will be on the line in our community—men, women and children with no one else to count on but you, and nowhere else to go but here.**

Your gifts and prayers are the foundation for all the meals we’ll serve during the holiday season ahead . . . the doors held open for emergency shelter . . . the lights on in our Give Away Center for struggling families . . .

and the promise of “hope and a future” (Jeremiah 29:11) for the broken men in our landmark New Life Rehabilitation Program.

Neighbors like Rich, whose New Life graduation picture is on the cover of this issue of *Expectations*, and whose story I hope you’ve taken a moment to read. Without the compassion in action he experienced here and learned from, he could still be living on a park bench, waiting for winter with nothing but the clothes on his back and no hope in his heart.

**Because of care like yours, hundreds like him are safe, fed, loved and have graduated to a profound hope in Jesus Christ—hope and a purpose they sustain for life!**

Thanking God for you,

*Ronald Willoughby*



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Or email us at:  
[info@springfieldrescuemission.org](mailto:info@springfieldrescuemission.org)

## MISSION STATEMENT

The goal of the Springfield Rescue Mission since 1892 is to meet the physical and spiritual needs of the hungry, homeless, addicted and poor by introducing them to Christ and helping them apply the Word of God to every area of their lives.

The Springfield Rescue Mission is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization.



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You can donate your used cell phone, ink and laser cartridges to the Rescue Mission!

