



SPRINGFIELD
RESCUE
MISSION

Give HOPE this Easter

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EXPECTATIONS

Serving the Homeless in Jesus' Name Since 1892

**Restoring
HOPE
this Easter
with your help!**

INSIDE

***"God bless you. I
would do anything for
you if I could!"***

**See how you
transformed Eric's life
this Easter. page 2**

**Don't miss Ron's Easter
message! page 4**

"Be renewed in the spirit—put on the new self!" —Ephesians 4:23–24 ESV

"God bless you. I would do anything for you if I could," Eric says, grateful that you care!

For many seniors on small, fixed incomes, their homes are all they have left in the world. That's the way it was for Eric, a local man whose last refuge was his house . . . *until the fire* . . .

"My home caught fire," he says, glancing away as he remembers how terrible it felt to see so much of his life disappear in the flame's smoke, "water damage and everything else," Eric sighs.

But the Rescue Mission is a refuge for all who God leads through our doors, and it was no different for him. "I had no blankets, pillows, shoes or pants!" he laughs dryly, still disbelieving.

"I had *nothing* because of that fire—but you gave me a chance. You gave me a *lot*!" he smiles.

That's because this ministry we share to those in harm's way starts with meeting physical needs—and that opens the door to HOPE.

"This is like my second family now, really," Eric says. "I come here every morning to get my blessing, to mingle with the people down here,

the homeless, to see how I can help," he nods.

"The Rescue Mission is here to feed anyone, to care, because a lot of people out there don't have someone to help them live their life, and **this place is here to give as much as it can.**"

And since this ministry receives no government support, that means everything that happens here is thanks to hearts like yours—compassion that starts with welcoming neighbors in need with **each \$2.32 Easter meal you make possible . . .**

So please make a life-transforming impact in lives like Eric's by rushing your special Easter Meal Ticket along with your generous gift this Easter—in Jesus' name! Thanks and blessings.



2020 COLDEST DAY 5K: "LIFE-CHANGING!"

Making our community aware of those most in need—and how to help!—was the goal of friends & neighbors who came together to raise spirits and funds to change lives in 2020!

No matter how frigid it gets on the morning of the Rescue Mission's annual 5K run/walk/fellowship event, the **Coldest Day 5K** goes forward—and this year's event was an exceptional outing! As temps reached around 34°, more than 280 neighbors

came together with Mission staff and volunteers to raise awareness for those living homeless on the streets of our city. And you'll be glad to hear the \$32,731 raised is already hard at work providing shelter, meals and **HOPE!**



2020 COLDEST DAY 5K KEY MINISTRY PARTNERS! A heartfelt thanks to all our community sponsors and supporters for this year's life-changing event, including Grower Direct Farms, Ondrick Natural Earth, Rovithis Realty, Bates Fullman Insurance Agency, Inc., Bob's Discount Furniture Charitable Foundation, Country Bank, David George Carlson – Attorney at Law, FlightFitFun, Hot Table, People's United Bank, Wolf & Company, P.C. and our family of friends like you! **Thank you for generously serving our neighbors in need.**

Mark your Calendar!

SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 2020

Easter Celebration

1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Breakfast: 7:00 a.m.

Meal Delivery: 11:00 a.m.

Dinner: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

- Hundreds of neighbors in need will find a place at our table at this year's Easter Celebration!
- Hearts will open as we say the blessing together as "family," and share the Easter story!
- Volunteers, staff and members of the community like you will have the opportunity to sit and share thoughts, words, testimonies and the opportunities available to each life in our care!



This year's Easter Celebration will welcome men, women and children from all across our community for a delicious, nutritious meal—with all the trimmings!—and to share Christ's HOPE.

EASTER NEEDS: DINNER & MEAL DELIVERY

- | | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gift cards for food needs | <input type="checkbox"/> Frozen vegetables | <input type="checkbox"/> Milk |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hams | <input type="checkbox"/> Dinner rolls | <input type="checkbox"/> Salt/Pepper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sausage | <input type="checkbox"/> Butter | <input type="checkbox"/> Sugar |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bacon | <input type="checkbox"/> Eggs | <input type="checkbox"/> Seasonings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potatoes | <input type="checkbox"/> Pancake mix | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carrots | <input type="checkbox"/> Syrup | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Green beans | <input type="checkbox"/> Juice | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rice | <input type="checkbox"/> Oatmeal | |

Donations of filled Easter baskets for children are also needed!



Food for Easter meals and other essentials are needed by Easter Saturday, April 11. For how you can help, call 413-732-0808 or email info@springfieldrescuemission.org. Thank you!



NOW UNTIL EASTER!

NOW THROUGH MARCH 31, 2020

Operation HOPE TOTE

- Rescue Mission family members like you generously fill bags with new hygiene items and underclothes . . .
- Then drop them off at our Mill Street location to help change the lives of those in our care one Hope Tote at a time!

TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2020

2020 Rescue Mission Graduation

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Pioneer Valley Christian Academy
965 Plumtree Road, Springfield, MA

- There's nothing more moving than seeing the lives transformed through our landmark 12-month rehabilitation program.
- And this year's graduation event will move hearts like yours as lives saved and change share their road from darkness to light!



*All are welcome, so make plans to join us with friends & family.
See you there!*



Ronald Willoughby
Executive Director/CEO

Give HOPE This Easter!

Every lifesaving meal you provide for just **\$2.32** this season of renewal, rebirth and restoration is the first step toward HOPE! So please fill in and send your Easter Meal Ticket with your generous gift, as you've been blessed, to help transform lives this Easter!



My Friend,

There's no time like Easter for feeling hopeful—it is the very point and purpose of celebration of Christ's sacrifice—and our Salvation in Him that first Easter Morning!

But our redemption is even more joyful because we are called to join Him in sharing His HOPE here at the Rescue Mission to those in need—and who need to know Him.

And we are never alone as we serve those who suffer and struggle: The Lord knows the hopes of the helpless and comforts them through hearts and hands like yours and mine!

That's why I feel it's a privilege to answer the cries of our neighbors in need, showing comfort to those devastated by abuse, addiction, violence, circumstance and disaster—first with a meal, safe shelter, warm clothes and real care . . .

But we don't stop there: the hope we offer in Jesus' name doesn't end with good food or clean sheets—it just starts

there and leads through Christ-centered programs to new life!

That's the HOPE you give this Easter and every day of the year through your gifts and prayers.

But know that as winter comes to an end, and we look ahead to the promise of spring, hundreds more broken lives are headed here for meals, for help, for hope . . .

So I encourage you to celebrate Easter with this family of friends you're a part of at the Rescue Mission in your prayers and through your offerings. That's why I've enclosed a special **Easter Meal Ticket** for you to return with your generous gift today.

Because the next lost soul who comes through our doors desperately searching for something lifesaving, life-changing, can find HOPE this Easter—with your help!

Thanking God for you,

Ronald Willoughby



**SPRINGFIELD
RESCUE
MISSION**

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WEB: www.springfieldrescuemission.org

Give today at
springfieldrescuemission.org/donate

Connect with us at
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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