



SPRINGFIELD
RESCUE
MISSION

You're Making **MORE** Christmas
Miracles Happen Here!

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EXPECTATIONS

Serving the Homeless in Jesus' Name Since 1892



Without hearts like yours, there could be no Christmas at the Rescue Mission this year!

“I thank God for everything I’ve received!”

See a Life Changed This Christmas! p. 2

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*“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” —Isaiah 9:6 NIV*

"I thank God for everything I've received!" —Mike

"I knew I was homeless . . . I came here, and you accepted me," Mike says, still nearly disbelieving of how God brought him through the Rescue Mission's doors to a warm and loving welcome from our family of friends like you.

But Mike's journey to hope and help this Christmas season was a long and discouraging road—and it's especially difficult to recount around the holidays . . .

"My wife and I were together for 12 and a half years," he says. "But she passed away two and a half years ago . . . and it devastated me so much that *I didn't know what to do.*"

Tragically, what Mike did was drink. "I wanted to forget as much as I could, but I could never get over it: there are always memories of her—and us together—that are going to come."

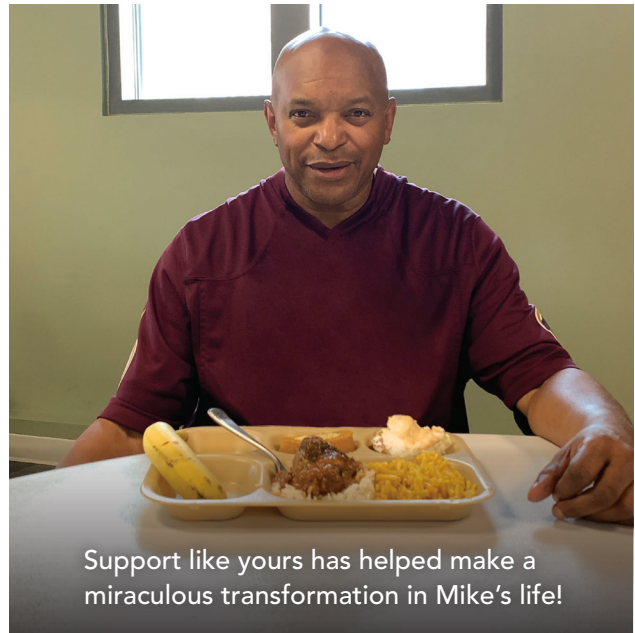
Yet, in his heart, Mike says, "I knew God would be the one to heal me from the trauma because this was trauma to me," he shakes his head sadly. "I'd never had someone I was close to die . . ."

"That's the reason why I came to the Rescue Mission."

And today, Mike is turning his life around—at Christmas! Along with the hot meals, safe shelter and fresh start through our Men's New

Life Rehabilitation/Transformation program, "what really did it is when I accepted Jesus Christ as my personal Savior, and that's when I started healing," he smiles. *"I thank God for everything I've received!"*

Thank you for helping make life-change like his possible—and because this is an extremely important Christmas for everyone in our community who has lost loved ones, jobs, homes and health, please share as you are blessed this special season!



Support like yours has helped make a miraculous transformation in Mike's life!

Give Christmas Meals & Hope!

Your neighbors in need, like Mike, are desperate for a hot meal, safe shelter, warm clothing for the winter months and hope for life-change—life transformation!—in Christ at Christmas. So, please pray for God to use your generosity for His glory this Christmas, then fill in & return your enclosed personal **CHRISTMAS MEAL CERTIFICATE** like the one below with your gift today. **Thank you, and please know how much you mean to these neighbors we're called to serve!**

CHRISTMAS MEAL CERTIFICATE

A Christmas Gift of Meals & Hope for Someone Who is Hungry.

To provide a Christmas meal and hope in Christ to those who need me now!

\$

Please fill out and return this personal **CHRISTMAS MEAL CERTIFICATE** with your generous gift as God leads. Thanks & blessings!

Mark Your Calendar

For Christmas at the Rescue Mission!



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23

Christmas at the Rescue Mission

Breakfast: 7:00 a.m.

Meal Deliveries: 11:00 a.m.

Dinners Provided: 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Christmas is one of the most joyful occasions each year at the Rescue Mission! Those directly in our care and *hundreds* more families and individuals join our Rescue Mission family in the spirit of the season for delicious Christmas meals—with all the trimmings!—and a warm, wonderful, welcoming time as we share the love and hope of Christ at Christmas. There will be nothing quite so inspiring as seeing those who have experienced terrible hardship this pandemic year receive a meal and hear an encouraging word of God's greatest Christmas gift—*His precious Son, our salvation!*

To share your time and talent personally this Christmas—and/or with your church, club, or group!—please join us as a volunteer by visiting springfieldrescuemission.org/volunteer for information, or call 413-732-0808 today. You can also visit our website to find out how to help provide food donations for our Christmas celebrations!

Your Gifts & Prayers

Helping Make
Miracles Happen at
Christmas and All
Year Long!



Hot, Healthy Meals for the Hungry!

With more people going hungry this year as a result of the pandemic, the wholesome meals provided free of charge for our hungry neighbors are the first step to real life-change—with your help!

Safe, Warm Winter Shelter for the Homeless!

Bracing for winter's bitter cold, we remain committed to CDC-compliant safety guidelines for those God places in our care—as many as 50 lives each night at our Emergency Shelter, *thanks to support like yours!*

Men's New Life Program

Christ-centered counseling that applies Biblical truths to their lives have the proven power to create positive, independent futures for all those in our 12-month rehabilitation program—*putting your compassion into action personally and for our community!*

Operation SONshine

Hundreds of your neighbors are on our streets every day, so we bring meals, care and hope to them through our mobile outreach—*moving forward with your help!*

Give Away Center

Those struggling to make ends meet can find safe, sturdy household items, staple food items and essential clothing available in their time of greatest need, *thanks to you!*

Men's Transitional Living

New Life program graduates reestablishing themselves are blessed with safe and secure transitional housing to help them get back on their feet—and *each of them is so thankful for YOU!*





You're Making MORE Christmas Miracles Happen Here!

A Ministry Message from Executive Director/CEO, Kevin Ramsdell

Did you miss the October Newsletter?

Our Executive Director, Ron Willoughby, has retired and passed the baton to Kevin Ramsdell. Read more at: springfieldrescuemission.org/director

Dear Friend,

We teach that the true joy of Christmas lies in the giving, not the receiving.

And even though there's nothing so wonderful as getting a Christmas present from our family under the tree, little ones soon realize how marvelous it is to be the gift giver . . .

To first anticipate, then see joyful eyes light up in gratitude at something they have chosen to give gladly and with a full heart—at Christmas!

That's precisely the kind of joy we are dedicated to bring to those who come to the Rescue Mission.

And as I join you this year in serving the hungry, hurting and homeless at this historical ministry, I see so many coming to us with *nothing* and *no one* to call their own during this Christmas of the pandemic . . .

Yet, I'm happy to report to you that I am also seeing tremendous joy and gratitude in the faces of those we serve for what a family of friends like you has provided!

And though we don't receive a dime of direct government funds, between

now and Christmas Day, we'll serve tens of thousands of wholesome holiday meals, *hundreds* of nights of safe shelter . . . *and endless hope for transformation in Christ's name!*

But this year, above all the others in recent memory, Christmas compassion will be crucial in the lives and hearts of those who need us most from all across our community . . .

So, I thank you for your support and encourage you to prayerfully consider a generous Christmas gift today to make more Christmas miracles happen at the Rescue Mission—now and in the New Year ahead!

May God bless you for it this Christmas, and may you and yours enjoy every joy of the season!

Christmas Blessings,

Kevin Ramsdell, Executive Director/CEO

P.S. Thank you for making miracles happen in so many lives through your partnership with the Rescue Mission!

And please return the enclosed Christmas Meal Certificate with your heartfelt gift now to provide more miracles through meals, help and hope in Christ this Christmas!

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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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