

Christmas 2021 • Volume 35, Issue 5 • springfieldrescuemission.org

EXPECTATIONS

Serving the Homeless in Jesus' Name Since 1892



Life-Transformation

STARTS WITH A MEAL THIS CHRISTMAS!



"I know now that I have a purpose in life, and that is to serve the Lord and tell others about His good news. I know now that I'm on the right path, and my family and I are finally happy!"



"I realized how good God is. I learned so much about Him and about my faith. I needed that to happen to me. Springfield Rescue Mission is really changing lives, and when you change one, that life can change so many others!"

The impact you've made in the lives of those coming to our door for a meal, help and *hope* simply can't be counted—especially at Christmas!

That's because this time of year is especially hard for those who've lost jobs, family, health and the roof over their heads, leaving them alone, hurting and homeless at the holidays.

More than that, the **life transformation** your support makes possible through our Men's New Life Rehabilitation program reaches far beyond meeting immediate physical needs . . . it helps provide "hope and a future," (Jer. 29:11) in Christ to hundreds of Rescue Mission graduates.

Stories like theirs are the kind of lifetransforming difference your support makes possible at the Rescue Mission, and that's a miracle in each life you touch with help and hope on Christmas Day—and every day!





"Do we forgive ourselves? Does God forgive us? That's exactly what I needed to hear, right when I needed to hear it. That was like a huge message of comfort and, "Yes, this is where I'm supposed to be."



"People come because winter is cold. They want to get a warm bed, to get breakfast, dinner and a shower. They told me about Jesus, and my life has started over. Everything in the program is about God—because people here gave me love."

Transforming Lives with Christmas Meals & Holiday Hope!

Each meal provided by a heart like yours costs just \$2.32—and that's just the start to real *life transformation* at the Rescue Mission right now! So, please return the enclosed **CHRISTMAS MEAL & HOPE CERTIFICATE** or the one below with your best gift to share Christmas meals and holiday *hope!*



Mark Your Calendar!

CHRISTMAS BANQUET

Thursday, December 23
Regular breakfast served
from 7 a.m. to 7:30 a.m.

Christmas meal served from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Meal Deliveries: 11:00 a.m.

Regular breakfast on Dec. 24th, 7 a.m. to 7:30 a.m.

You can share the love of Christ at Christmas with men, women and children in need from our community. And since *life* transformation starts with a meal, there's no better time to join us to serve Christmas meals or deliver them to our elderly and disabled neighbors in the community for Christmas! Go to springfieldrescuemission.org/volunteer to sign up today.

COLDEST DAY 5K 2022

Saturday, February 5 at 10:00 a.m., snow or shine!

SAVE THE DATE!

Make your plans to join other members of the Rescue Mission's family of friends for the 2022 "Coldest Day 5K" walk/run/fellowship to raise awareness and support for our community's homeless!

For up-to-date information, see springfieldrescuemission.org as we get closer to the event. See you there!

Christmas Is All About the Gifts...

The Holiday Meals, Help & Hope **YOU** Provide!

Your gifts this special season help make possible . . .



SERVING BREAKFAST AND LUNCH—As the cold weather settles in to stay, our door is open daily to those who are hungry for a hot breakfast or lunch—both are served with a listening ear and caring heart for neighbors in need!





OPERATION SONSHINE—Operation SONshine is part of our community outreach to homeless and low-income men, women and families. SRM's Operation SONshine van travels to inner-city neighborhoods three days a week to distribute thousands of meals and hygiene items each year.



THE GIVE AWAY CENTER—Nothing warms up a home or the life of a struggling family than clothes, shoes, coats, gently used household items and staple grocery items. The Give Away Center is open by appointment to anyone in need—every donation received reaches our neighbors who need us most this Christmas and beyond!

A Personal Message from Kevin



My Friend,

As I sit down to write this Christmas note to you, let me first tell you how grateful I am to have you as an important part of my family of friends at the Rescue Mission this holiday season!

You mean so much to me as a friend and partner, and I hope you see within these pages how much you mean to those we're serving together!

"Together" is the heart of everything being accomplished here for those in deepest need in our community no man, woman or child is ever unwelcome at our door—or at our table . . .

That's because you and I both know that true life transformation starts with a meal this Christmas, and that's our calling: not just to save lives from the street, but to help transform them!

Yet, the miracle of transformation can only happen here—and around Greater Springfield—through every gift and prayer you share to make that possible.

And to make *more* miracles happen in Christ's name at Christmas, I encourage you to look for your **CHRISTMAS MEAL & HOPE CERTIFICATE** I've enclosed for you—or clip the one on pg. 2—to fill out and return with your heartfelt gift to share Christmas meals and holiday *hope!*

You'll be so glad you did—and so will every life you help this Christmas as Christ transforms their hearts!

Because life transformation starts with a meal, and that's a miracle YOU can make happen here.

Thank you and may God's blessings be with you and yours this Christmas. Thank you in advance for sharing with our neighbors in need who are looking for a meal, help and holiday hope, now and in the new year!

From the bottom of my heart,

Kevin Ramsdell Executive Director/CEO



P.S. Thanks again for helping reach our neighbors this Christmas. We couldn't do it without you—and we honestly wouldn't want to because there's nothing like having family beside you at the holidays. Please also remember to fill out and send your CHRISTMAS MEAL & HOPE CERTIFICATE and heartfelt gift to help provide life transformation through a meal this Christmas!

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Executive Director/

CEO

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Give today at: springfieldrescuemission.org/expectations

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.



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The Springfield Rescue Mission is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization, and does not rely on government funding.

