



**SPRINGFIELD
RESCUE
MISSION**

**New Beginnings & LIVING HOPE
This Easter Season!**

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EXPECTATIONS

Bringing Light and Hope to our Community by Sharing the Love of Christ



**“God has
a plan for
my life. . .”**

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Hunger to Hope—
with Your Help, pg. 2**

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Thanks to support like yours, we can rejoice this Easter and say together: *“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy, he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade.”* (1 Peter 1:3–4 NIV)



**“I give Him
the glory and
the praise . . .”**

Rob thought there was no way out of the downward spiral that cost him everything . . . until he found *LIVING HOPE* here with your help!

Rob's Journey from Hunger to Hope—with Your Help!

“I worked really hard my whole life,” Rob remembers. “And I thought I did really good until . . . I started drinking,” he says, remembering how far and how fast it brought him down.

“Everything was gone. My car, my job, my wife, my kids . . . *everything* was gone—I had nothing left.”

That's when Rob found himself lost, alone . . . and thinking of ending it all in a roadside motel. “I used the last of my money to pay for the room and alcohol. I wasn't planning on waking up the next day,” he admits.

But God had other plans for Rob, which led him from that motel bedside to Springfield Rescue Mission.

“This place had been mentioned to me, but I'd never been here,” Rob says. And with nowhere else he could go, he'll never forget the moment his Heavenly Father led him to *live* again: “I prayed, made a phone call and here I am.

“Certainly, the Rescue Mission helps folks get back on their feet after hitting rock bottom,” Rob says. “But the goal here is to build a Christ-centered relationship, to develop the Christian spirit.

“That's where my focus is: finding contentment and joy in whatever it is I'm doing. Like when I'm working in the kitchen here, cleaning dishes or cooking food, mopping the floors or taking out the trash, it doesn't matter *what* I'm doing, I'm doing it for His glory,” Rob shares.

Rob wants to thank YOU for your support. “When I see so many people just pouring their hearts out . . . simply through donations . . . they don't know whose life they're saving. That's a wonderful thing.”

You can help more neighbors like Rob from all across Greater Springfield this special season: those looking for a new life and *LIVING HOPE* in the Lord over an Easter meal you've provided—for just \$2.64!

THIS EASTER, ROB IS FINDING NEW LIFE IN THE LORD:

“I hadn't made God a part of my life. Now, He is.”

A Heart of Service

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: MARIE

Springfield Rescue Mission's ministry to the last, the least and the lost in our community wouldn't be possible without gifts and prayers like yours—and the countless hours generously volunteered by friends like Marie, who shares her heart for this ministry *in her own words* . . .

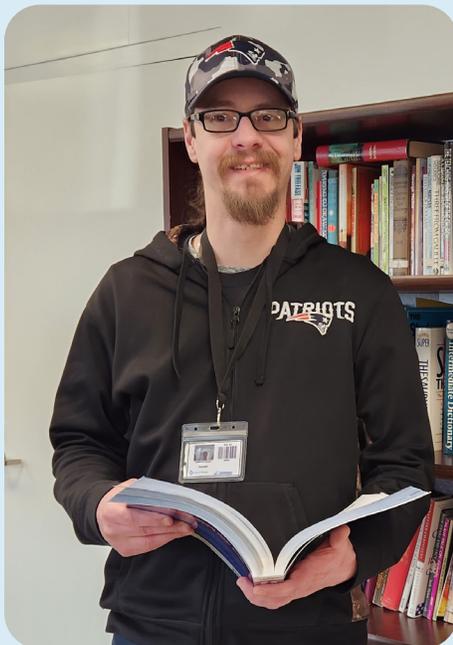
"It was in my church where I first saw the advertisement for the Springfield Rescue Mission on the back of the bulletin. So I just inquired, and now here I am!

"I still feel, after working with the Rescue Mission's Operation SONshine (mobile ministry), this is something everybody needs to do. Everybody needs to be out there . . . it takes so little to bring a smile to somebody's face—like

the hygiene bag I handed to a little girl today . . . her face just lit up. It's amazing when you give somebody a bottle of water on the street or a sandwich, and they're forever grateful!"

Like Marie, you can share your time and talent with others at the Rescue Mission. However you feel called to serve, please know you're doing more than just helping: you're sharing LIVING HOPE!

Interested in volunteering? Please contact Lenore Masciotra, Volunteer Program Coordinator, at (413) 732-0808 ext. 220 or by email at lmasciotra@springfieldrescuemission.org



Introducing Our New 'HiSET' Program!

Springfield Rescue Mission has been working for the past several months to bring HiSET (High School Equivalency Test) as an offering through our Learning Center. Dana began the process of preparing for the exams a few months ago and is now ready to take them. This program will give Dana and other participants the opportunity for better, more fulfilling and lucrative employment or a chance to pursue higher education after they complete our program.

"I just knew that God was good, that He wanted good things for me, and for that to happen, I had to seek and follow Him." —Dana

Springfield Rescue Mission would like to recognize a special gift in memory of Philip and Claire Thibodeau by their son, James.

A Personal Message from Kevin



Executive Director/CEO

Giving New Beginnings & LIVING HOPE This Easter!

My Friend,

I'm so excited to share that this is our first Easter back around the table at the Rescue Mission!

It's been a long time coming for so many of our neighbors in deepest need—and frankly, we've all been through so many challenges in this community.

But there's no time like Easter to remind us that this is a season of giving LIVING HOPE.

It's what God Himself gave us through the death of His beloved Son . . . and His blessed resurrection on that first Easter morning: *"In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a **living hope** through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead"* 1 Peter 1:3 (NIV).

And I feel blessed that you join me in sharing this truth with every man, woman and child at our door: That His love and sacrifice resonate to *this year, this Easter, this celebration of salvation!*

Life transformation through God's grace is the core of what this ministry has accomplished since 1892—because of a family of friends standing together to honor the Lord by serving our neighbors in need . . . as we are called, as we are privileged!

I encourage you to take a moment to find the special **EASTER MEAL TICKET** I've enclosed with your personal reply slip, and pray for God's leading to



share as generously as you can. **Then fill in the amount and return it with your gift today in the envelope provided.**

Every **\$2.64** you share right now puts an Easter meal in front of a hungry neighbor, and that can be the start for new beginnings and LIVING HOPE in the Lord this Easter—and for eternity!

Serving HIM,

Kevin Ramsdell
Executive Director/CEO

P.S. Thank you for being a faithful part of the life transformation happening this Easter Sunday, and every day at the Rescue Mission! And please return your **EASTER MEAL TICKET** with your gift to share as many Easter meals—and **living hope**—as possible!

Your gift may be Doubled by your employer!

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GIVE TODAY AT:
springfieldrescuemission.org/expectations

To leave a legacy by including the Rescue Mission in your Will, please contact Greg Clark at 413-732-0808, Ext. 219 or gclark@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 and does not sell, rent or exchange its mailing list.