

Mission News

What God is Doing Through You

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God will provide

Every day, I see firsthand the truly miraculous changes that take place in the lives of people like George, whose story I'm sharing with you today.

God has demonstrated His love by taking hold of His children who are suffering from deadly addictions, hunger or homelessness and He's given them the strength to turn their lives around!

He has also seen to our provision through your partnership and invaluable support that provides the food, clothing, shelter, care and counseling that makes these transformations possible.

That's why, in our prayers here at the Mission, we give thanks for God's grace and love, and thanks for you. Because your gifts really do make a difference in the lives of individuals and families who are without food and shelter

or friends and family to help them through difficult times. God Bless you for all you do!



Yours in gratitude,

D. Scott Bjork
President & CEO



“We’re going to be a family again!”

When most people say, they’ve “lost everything,” they’re talking about homes, cars, family and jobs. George’s problem was more serious – **he lost his eyesight!**

Just a few years ago, George was married and working in Atlanta. He had an air conditioning business that was “doing alright,” but both he and his wife were using drugs.

In 2007, George lost his eyesight. And his inability to see also meant an inability to work. So, he and his wife moved their family here to Memphis where she has relatives, and he applied for disability while the doctors tried to figure out what the problem was.

When the doctors couldn’t find fast answers, George became depressed and his drug use increased. And then his wife’s father became ill, so George’s family moved in to take care of him. But when he passed, George’s drug use increased again. “It was a 24 hour thing,” George says.

“Getting drugs, doing drugs, running the streets.”

Eventually the family, including their 13-year-old daughter, ended up living in their car and eating meals at the Mission. It was during meals that George began hearing about our Iron-on-Iron long-term recovery and discipleship program.

“I told my wife that we both had to get into programs somewhere.”

With their daughter being cared for by a sister, George’s wife returned to Atlanta and George came to the Mission.

With the support of our staff, George has realized how much God loves him – and has been able to recover from the loneliness and pain of his addiction.

“If it weren’t for the Mission, I’d still be out on the streets somewhere,” George says. “Instead, **we’re going to be a family again!** My wife finished her program and we got to celebrate our 17th anniversary together!”

Prayer and Praise

Leave a lasting legacy

While many individuals provide a lifetime of generous gifts for family, friends and organizations they care about, over half of U.S. adults do not have a will or other estate plan.

Without a will, your estate will be divided according to the state in which you live. And the result may be very different from what you had wished, especially if your desire was not only to care for those you leave behind, but to leave a lasting legacy for the causes close to your heart.

The Mission can help make sure your wishes are followed. For information on planned giving opportunities, please call Steve Carpenter at (901) 526-8403, ext. 2009.

If you have already included the Mission in your will, please call so we can say "thank you."

Free Estate Planning Seminar

If you'd like additional estate planning advice, you're invited to a free estate planning seminar, sponsored by Duncan Williams. It will be held Thursday, July 16 at 6:30 p.m. at Owen Brennan's (6150 Poplar Ave, Suite 150). Hors d'oeuvres will be served.



There will be no obligations, and the event is being provided at no expense to the Mission. Space is limited, so please call Cynthia Graham or Steve Carpenter at (901) 526-8403 to reserve your spot. See you there!

Praise the Lord for the many outreach events we were able to hold this past spring, including our thirteenth annual Inner City Outreach.

Praise God for continuing to meet the needs of the ministry through ministry partners like you!

Many more people come to the Mission for help during the hot summer months; please **Pray** for God's blessing on our ministry efforts as we care for those who will come through our doors.

During the summer, we get a lot of volunteers from all over the Mid-

South. **Pray** that God will bless them and their efforts during their time at the Mission.

Hot weather can be miserable and even dangerous for the homeless. **Pray** for the Lord's protection over them during this time of year.

Pray for the clients in our various recovery programs. Please **Pray** that the Lord will give them new hearts and new beginnings.

Pray for God's continued protection over our staff and volunteers.

Hallelujah!

Hundreds reached for Christ!

Thanks to the generosity of our donors and the helping hands of volunteers, thousands of lives were touched this Spring through the power of the Gospel! Hundreds of men, women and children were fed and cared for here at the Mission during the Easter season, including neighbors who attended our annual Easter Sunday service and dinner.



Hundreds of needy men, women and children were fed and ministered to each evening during the Mission's with Annual Inner City Outreach. Our thanks to church partners who helped us serve dinner to our guests and counseled men and women who wanted to receive Christ or who simply wanted to talk and pray with someone.

the Power of 1



How much of a difference can one gift make?

Here at Memphis Union Mission, the answer is plenty!

With more than 24,000 monthly meals to prepare and serve, 8,800 nights of shelter to provide and hundreds of hours of care and education to offer, your donations are always welcome, especially during the summer – when needs continue, but giving drops off.

Here's another example of the power of 1: One gift, your gift, will help end hunger, homelessness and addiction for

one person or more.

Every gift you give has the power to change a life. But it doesn't happen overnight.

Long-lasting, permanent change takes food, shelter, care and education to help God's children who are in need become self-sufficient...able to take care of themselves so they don't have to rely on us.

One gift – your gift – makes such a difference to this ministry and in the lives of the many men and women who come through our doors in need of help. God bless you!