



Roseburg Rescue Mission

Men's Shelter • Samaritan Inn • Thrift Stores

A Beacon of Hope for the Homeless

DECEMBER 2019

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A Home For Christmas

Being out in the cold is part of the Christmas experience, if you are hunting for the right tree or hanging outdoor lights. Family is generally with you or just indoors.

But living in the cold and being alone can cause a person to lose hope and give up. People struggling with homelessness often long to reconnect with family.

Many need emotional healing to make that call home. Some have no one to call. The Mission is their home for Christmas, a place to be warm, well fed, and surrounded with companionship. Together, we can ease the burden, help with addictions, and break the self-defeating cycle. A new life can begin here among new friends, a dedicated staff, and a caring community. And the Message is, "A Savior has been born to you" Luke 2:11, to restore our broken lives.

This is also the end of a great year of healing for so many people, and for making facility improvements. Because we do not receive government money, private giving supports this ministry.

Lynn Antis, Executive Director

**Merry Christmas
Happy New Year**

Evangelizing The Unreached

Our homeless shelter is called a "mission," because we are domestic missionaries sent into our own country, indeed community, to evangelize a largely unreached people group. We have a determined purpose to bring Good News to a subculture group, our homeless neighbors. This role has been traditionally described as bringing "soup, soap, and salvation to the last, least, and lost." Individuals that might otherwise be uncomfortable in a church, or absent from it, can be in the Mission's environment of people in similar circumstances.

Following the example of the first American mission started in 1872, daily we open our doors for whosoever will abide may enter and partake in Mission services and/or the Kingdom of God. Its that uncomplicated. In chapel, there is singing, preaching, sharing a testimony, praying. Most presentations are done by volunteers, with some done by Mission staff and church pastors. Participation is up to the individual. Professing Christians have no special privileges here, not in joining our New Life Program, Transitional Housing Programming, or any other services offered.

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The percentage of unchurched people in our country is growing in connection to social ills. This parachurch organization is on the front line of the social gospel seeking to restrain poverty by reforming individuals according to Christian principles. Its a matter of having the opportunity to hear the Truth, then responding to it. "And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?" Romans 10:14.

The event that hooked me on a ministry to the homeless was seeing men's eyes light up when doing a Bible Study with them. You can be a part of this evangelistic outreach to the homeless of our community by supporting your Mission.

Straightening Out A Tailspin

On a fateful night in his freshman year of high school, Jeff stayed home to catch up on homework, while his identical twin brother went partying with friends. When they went too fast down a winding road, the driver lost control, flipping the convertible on its top. His brother died, disfigured beyond recognition. Jeff said, "It was like a part of me died that day." Surviving family was father, mother and Jeff. He felt guilty for not being with his brother or in his place. It would have been more bearable. His father blamed his mother for letting their son go out. His mother blamed herself. Jeff became pitted between parents in a marriage that then included physical abuse. He looked for something to fill the void of a life set in a tailspin.



Jeff, wife Deb, son Adam

He was bent on ways of blocking out the memory of his loss, even punishing himself. His father was the opposite, being a decorated marine, then a second career police officer. A rebel and a disciplinarian were in the same family and home. Jeff tried to do the right things. He graduated from high school, then worked as a welder. But, he said, "I did not know how to deal with reality, or guilt, or my mother being abused." His lifestyle, centered around drugs, caused him to spend years in prison. While there, his violent behavior got him months in isolation. His mother died when he was locked up, and he was denied the ability to attend her funeral. When it was time for his release, he was afraid of all the technological advancements, what to do for a living, where to live. His father had retired and was declining in health. Father and son agreed to be a family again. Even though Jeff used his prison cooking skills to work in a restaurant, living with his father was like another prison, like doing penance for a past sin.

It was like doing penance for a past sin.

There was a codependency, needing each other, yet never letting go of their shared pain. When Jeff's father died, came the parting blow of an unhealed family, all his father's estate went to a past girlfriend. Jeff was left with a token inheritance and homeless. He was now the lone survivor and rejected at that. Down he went.

Jeff needed to know his loving, forgiving, saving Father in Heaven. He needed to understand truth, identity, purpose, and to hear and believe that he has no guilt, no reason to blame himself, or continue in self-punishment. He is loved and saved. When he heard the Good News that his Creator wanted to also be his Savior, he accepted the invitation. The pain of the past was released, and a new person now lived.

He stabilized in our New Life Program, going to classes in Bible Study, addiction recovery, and life skills.

Jeff's life was transformed while at the Mission, a place for straightening out a tailspin. He stabilized in our New Life Program, going to classes in Bible Study, addiction recovery, and life skills. He worked here as a Program cook then a supervisor. He said that he had the opportunity to go back and look at his life and appreciate there is a better way of doing things and knowing God. He said, "I got clean and sober here. I am alive to enjoy my wife and son." Jeff is now making plans to move into a place with his new family.



Lynn Antis, Executive Director

Christmas Menu

Turkeys Potatoes
Stuffing Gravy Mix
Yams Rolls
Pies Cool Whip
Fruit Cocktail
Cranberry Sauce
Mixed Vegetables

Homemade pies and cookies can not have milk products in them. Pumpkin pies, cream pies, cream cheese have to be made in a commercially licensed kitchen.

Christmas Gifts

New Hats
New Socks
New Gloves
Deodorant
Body Wash
Shampoo-Small
Disposable Razors
Shaving Cream
Nail Clippers
Toothbrushes
Toothpaste-Small
Hairbrushes
Combs
Candy Canes
Cough Drops
Beard Scissors
Hand Sanitizer Gel
Shoe Gift Certificates-Kids
New Dolls
New Toys
Child Pajamas
Shower Flip Flops
Strollers
Diaper Bags
Fruit Snack Packs

Please Do Not Wrap Packages.

