



# Roseburg Rescue Mission

Men's Shelter • Samaritan Inn • Thrift Stores

*A Beacon of Hope for the Homeless*

*APRIL 2021*

752 SE Pine St • PO Box 1937 • Roseburg, OR 97470 • (541) 673-3004 • [www.roseburgrescuemission.org](http://www.roseburgrescuemission.org)

## A New Life

*Easter is a time of celebrating new life and breaking the chains of bondage. For many this will be their first Easter being homeless. There will be memories of childhood Easter baskets, candy, egg hunts, even going to church one of the few times a year. Then there is the reality of today, whether by circumstances or poor choices. Yet there is hope to overcome the darkness of hunger, homelessness, addiction, fear, abuse, separation. This is a season for restoration.*

### *"He Has Risen" Matthew 28:6*

*The resurrected life of Christ on Easter morning can be ours too. What better connection than to a new life out of homelessness!*

*The Mission provides an environment that encourages a rebirth of possibilities. There is forgiveness of the past and a brighter future ahead. We rejoice with a special Easter Dinner and gift bags. Here is an invitation to meals, clothing, shelter, recovery, and the power of God's Word to heal our broken hearts and souls.*

*Will you be a part of this blessing for the homeless of our community?*

## Happy Easter



## Thomas' New Life

At eighteen-years-old, Thomas is living in two worlds: one of adulthood at the Mission, one of youth as a junior at Roseburg High School. He is pictured above in our Men's Shelter dayroom doing his homework. The school provided the laptop and is working on getting him a Wi-Fi hotspot for internet access. He attends in person classes two days a week and remote Zoom classes the other three. When the school campus opened up again in February, Thomas had not taken classes since Spring Break last year for lack of a laptop. As it is, he is two years behind his peers, having repeated those grades because of attention-deficit (hyperactivity) disorder (ADHD). He was prescribed medication to increase his ability to focus and to control behavior. He said, "It made me really tired and walk around like a zombie. I stopped taking them when I was 16-years-old, and have felt great ever since."

That said, it actually was a behavioral problem in his three generation home that caused him trouble. There was a family scuffle just days after his eighteenth birthday. He spent four days in jail for adults, waiting for a court date, then was released to the custody of a different relative. A week of incompatibility later, he had a new home at the Mission. Thomas said, "Its been really quiet. I've made friends here. I like it, its safe here, its like a home, people here are like family to me."

### **"Its like a home, people are like family to me."**

We continually have students at our Samaritan Inn, that are minors with their mothers. It is commonplace to have men and women students here attending Umpqua Community College. It is unusual to have an adult finishing high school here. As long as Thomas is actively pursuing his diploma, and has no other place to live, he is welcome to stay here to achieve that worthy goal. We provide him with school supplies, a bag lunch, an allowance for chores, and repaired his bicycle. Then he volunteered to return to his medication to concentrate on school.

Thomas was raised in a Christian home, attending a local church regularly. He said, "I think Chapel is great. I need God in my life, because God is great for my life, so I can stay out of trouble, be healthy, be nice to people around me. I am a Christian because when I die, I want to go to Heaven, instead of where the devil is. I have never tried drugs or alcohol. I say no to it. I ask myself, 'What would Jesus do?'" Thomas has a new life here, making a transition from youth to adulthood and strengthening his faith.



## Meeting The Transportation Need

The bicycle on the repair stand, in the photo above, belongs to Thomas from the front page story. In reviewing his needs for success, he told us about the condition of his bike. We had him take it to the Mission Bike Shop that was manned and equipped to meet his need. Thomas' bicycle was not rideable, having damaged parts that had to be replaced. Repairs were done using salvaged parts from donated bicycles that were beyond repair. Now he has restored freedom to ride to school, stores, appointments, or just go cycling along our community's bike paths. He can set his own schedule. And until he graduates from high school, this will be his main mode of transportation.

Also in the photo above is another man named Thomas. He is our program bicycle repairman. Restoring old bikes to working condition is enjoyable to him. There is a sense of accomplishment. And in the case of the younger Thomas' bike, doing an unusual no charge repair gave him real satisfaction in helping a young man get his life together. As he worked on another person's bike, he was repairing his own life. This Thomas became homeless through an unexpected divorce. He is saving money to buy tires for his car, then look for employment and housing. In the meantime, he rides a bicycle that he repaired for himself. Indeed, his position requires that he test ride every bike before sale.

## As he worked on another person's bike, he was repairing his own life.

Another man, Allen, was in our program doing maintenance and repairing bicycles. He liked working with his hands to stay busy as a part of his recovery plan. He learned to work with tools and put things in working order again. It gave him the confidence to enroll in UCC's automotive program, where he is doing well. Allen had a fender bender auto accident a few years ago, did not notify the DMV, and could not pay the fee. Without a driver's license, he has been an active cyclist since. He has purchased bikes and even parts from our shop to do his own repairs.

Jeff was a roughneck on offshore drilling rigs and in oil fields until he was injured. Then he worked in a local retail store as a cashier until his retirement. He now rents a room in our Transitional Housing Program, and still works a side job. When the repair on his broken-down car was going to be too expensive, he sold it and bought a bicycle from our Bike Shop. It's a more economical means of moving about and is a part of Jeff's physical therapy and exercise routine.

Women's and children's bikes are sold here, also used for work and school. We keep a working supply of children's bicycles, tricycles, and wagons at Samaritan Inn to use in their paved play yard. Still, the most basic purpose of our Mission Bike Shop is meeting the transportation need.

Lynn Antis, Executive Director



### Easter menu

Turkeys	Hams
Stuffing	Potatoes
Yams	Gravy Mix
Pies	Rolls
Pineapple Glaze	
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.

### Easter bags

Socks	Razors
Toothbrush	Toothpaste
Deodorant	Body Wash
Shampoo-Small	
Shaving Cream	
Brushes	Combs
Hand Sanitizer Gel	
Wrapped Easter Candy	

### Easter eggs

Eggs have to be from a recognized grocery store. Producers must have an egg handlers license. Eggs cannot be boiled in a non-commercial kitchen.

### job opening

Christian Ministry  
Operations Manager  
Position is for a man to manage staff, programs, & facilities.  
He will provide a weekly chapel message.  
Full-time, salary & medical.  
Send resume to:  
rsbmission@aol.com