Fall 2023

A Publication of the Evansville Rescue Mission, Camp Reveal, and YCC



## **Anticipating This New Season with Thanksgiving**



### A Message from TRACY L. GORMAN

It's hard to believe we're here again: over halfway through another year. Here at your Evansville Rescue Mission, preparations for our busy fall season are already underway.

Outside, the weather is starting to cool. But inside our doors, it's still warm and inviting as **we get ready for the many guests who will come to us during the months leading up to Thanksgiving.** It's one of my favorite times of the year, and it's possible thanks to the generosity of friends like you.

As I think about this time of the year, I'm reminded of the words of Ecclesiastes 3:1: "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens."

Each time someone comes to your Mission for help, their season changes. They leave a time of pain and struggle that they may not have anticipated and certainly didn't desire – and they **choose** a season of support and recovery. I truly believe this is God's hand at work through your partnership in this life-giving ministry.

Now, as we prepare to serve an estimated 58,750 meals in the coming months, I ask you to pray for every individual who finds a seat at our tables. Pray that if the time is right for a new season in their life, God will make it known and see it through.

Thank you. I'm thankful for you now, and always.

Tracy I. Gorman President/CEO





"Because of medical issues, I ended up homeless. I had nowhere to go. The Mission is giving me the chance to start over."

"After my wife took her own life, I was determined to drink myself to death. I thank God I came to the Mission. I have a reason to live again."



At your Mission, hopes and dreams are born – because thanks to the support of friends like you, guests in our discipleship program can believe that a brighter future is possible.

To find out more about how you're helping transform lives and fulfill dreams, visit

### EvansvilleRescueMission.org.

Thank you for believing that everyone deserves the opportunity to build a better, more fulfilling life!



This Thanksgiving, countless guests will gather at our tables. Many are alone... longing to overcome homelessness and poverty... wishing they could reunite with their families for the holidays.

**For just \$2.93, YOU can provide a meal** to nourish their bodies and lift their spirits. Your gift surrounds hurting people with loving care that leads to a better life through:









Safe, welcoming shelter

Warm clothing, coats, & shoes

Christ-centered programming

God's lifechanging love

Please help our neighbors in need this holiday season! Send your 2023 Thanksgiving Campaign gift today using the enclosed reply card and envelope OR online at EvansvilleRescueMission.org.





## I surrendered my life to God.



"I learned so much about Jesus and what He wants for my life."





was born and raised in Evansville, and I had a good childhood. In fact, I think my dad was the best dad you could ever have. He was a great man. But when my parents divorced when I was 15, I took it pretty hard. Worse, I no longer got the guidance I needed.

I started getting high to mask my pain. Then I got involved with a girl and we had a son. But when we split up, she took him from me. I felt so ashamed, my drug use grew out of control, and I started going to jail and prison.

When I wasn't in jail, I was often homeless. I used to come to the Evansville Rescue Mission to eat and sleep sometimes. But I had no interest in staying or changing my life.

That all changed when I got out of prison last year. I looked at all my friends and nothing had changed. They were as lost as I was. They were all spinning in circles, going nowhere. I had to make a decision. Go back to my old life or change. I decided to surrender my life to God and came here to the Mission on November 3.

I immediately felt welcomed, and I knew the people here genuinely cared. The structure was exactly what I needed to get my life back on track. I immediately connected with Pastor Nate and I learned so much about Jesus and what He wants for my life. I really believe that God sent Pastor Nate here just for me.

What I've learned here has made me want to give back and serve others. I especially want to get back in touch with my son and invest in him, the way my own dad did when I was young.

Thank you for supporting the Evansville Rescue Mission and for changing my life.

# Find a Bargain Bless a Life!

When you make a donation or shop at our Thrift Store, you're blessing others in so many ways!

Our neighbors in need find well-priced necessities. Our program guests receive on-the-job training. And Thrift Store proceeds support our ministry that saves and transforms lives.

Shop or drop off your donations at 1107 Washington Square, 9 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturdays.

For more information, contact us at (812) 421-3800 or info@ermstaff.org.

**Learn more online!** 

**EvansvilleRescueMission.org/store** 



## **VISIT US ONLINE**

The holidays are just around the corner. This is the busiest time of the year at your Mission and we have many events planned. We would love to have you join us as a volunteer or guest anytime



throughout the year, but especially during the holidays.

Our website is a great way to learn about everything we have planned, sign up to volunteer, donate, or learn about our many programs.

#### Here are some other reasons to visit us online:

- Our website is open for business 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.
- It's a great way to stay up-to-date on current events and urgent needs and read stories of changed lives.
- Donating online is fast and easy through our secure website and your donation goes to work *immediately* to help people recover.

For all of this and more, please visit our website today at

### EvansvilleRescueMission.org.







### Move Your Feet... So Others Can Eat!

You're invited to join us for our **12th Annual Drumstick Dash** on November 11. Whether you plan to run or walk, all race proceeds will help provide Thanksgiving food boxes and bags for our struggling neighbors at our annual Gobbler Gathering!

If you're interested in walking, running, volunteering, or even sponsoring this event, please visit **EvansvilleRescueMission.org.**