

ALLENTOWN RESCUE MISSION



Serving the entire Lehigh Valley since 1900

From Tom's Desk:

What a blessing it is to be able to share stories like John's with you!

This incredible testimony of a life transformed is the reason this ministry exists. It is the goal that drives us – that keeps our doors open, offering a warm Christian welcome to each and every person who is hungry, homeless or in need of care and compassion.

But we can only do that because you share your blessings.

Your prayers. Your time. Your gifts. These are the blessings you bestow on those who are hungry and homeless. These are the blessings that change – and save – people's lives.

As Thanksgiving approaches, my staff and I will be sending up an extra prayer of thanks for your support and encouragement.

It truly is a blessing to have friends like you who help feed, shelter and care for "the least, the last and the lost."

With grateful thanks,

Tom Gibson, President
Board of Directors

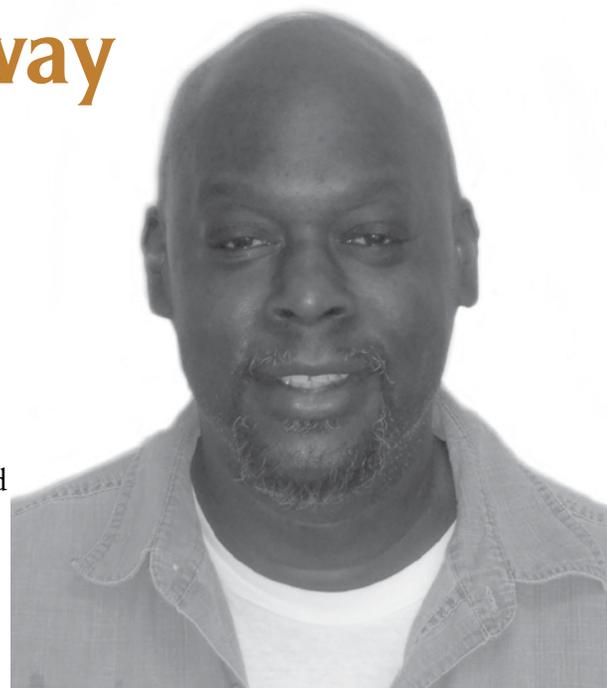
Finding his way back to God

When John began using drugs and drinking at 13, he couldn't have foreseen that it would lead to a decade of life on the streets, sleeping in the park, and living under bridges.

"At one time I was close to God," John says. "But through the drugs, I had lost myself. I went astray. I was so far away from Him, out in the world...I couldn't find my way back."

When John's sister suggested he come to the Allentown Rescue Mission, John wasn't expecting much. **"I basically thought it would be a meal and a bed. It turned out to be more** because of the Christian Living Program," John says. "Going through the program has brought me closer to God...I want to be as close as I possibly can."

In addition to chapel, Bible studies, and daily devotionals, the Mission's Christian Living Program has also provided John with life skills training, and assistance with his diabetes and foot neuropathy. "When I first came here...I was really sickly," he says. "The medication they give me from the clinic is really helping me walk better."



John graduated from the program and is now working with the Mission's Clean Team, picking up litter in Allentown, learning workplace skills and ethics, and gaining work experience which will make him more competitive in the job market.

John's long-term goal is to earn his GED, find a job, and move into his own place.

"Everything I have is from the Mission and I'm thankful for it," John says. "Without the Mission there would be no hope at the bottom. From the bottom is where people get lifted up."

National Hunger & Homelessness

AWARENESS WEEK

Did you know one out of seven Americans lives in poverty? You may not see them every day in Allentown and around the Lehigh Valley, but they are here, and the Allentown Rescue Mission is working hard to help them. November 17-23 is National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness week – a time set aside for every American to help fix the problems of hunger and homelessness. Your support is one of the best solutions. So make this your special time to volunteer, organize a food or clothing drive,



or make a special donation. Together, we can eliminate hunger and homelessness – one person at a time!

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A generous man will himself be blessed, for he shares his food with the poor. Proverbs 22:9

Thank you for providing:

- More than 33,600 meals
- Over 19,705 nights of shelter

Your gifts feed, shelter and care for hungry, homeless neighbors. Use the enclosed envelope to make a donation today, or give safely and securely on our website online at AllentownRescueMission.org.



Thanks for Giving
supplies & food drive to help homeless people



Plan now to be part of the Mission's 13th Annual **Thanks for Giving** November Food & Supplies Drive. Partnering with Wal-Mart, Giant Supermarkets, People First Credit Union, National Penn Bank, Rothrock Motors, Newstalk 790 WAEB-AM and B104-FM, WFMZ-TV, the Boy Scouts and churches throughout the Lehigh Valley, we hope to make this year's drive the biggest and best ever.

For a detailed needs list and drop off locations, visit our website at AllentownRescueMission.org. Then, on Friday, Nov. 22 from 4-7 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 23 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., look for our volunteers and a giant turkey at Giant Food Stores and Wal-Mart locations across the region.

All donations will be used locally to help people in need here at the Mission and around the Lehigh Valley. Thank you in advance for your support!

Recipe for Success

Thousands of Bobby Gunther Walsh's famous secret recipe meatballs were eagerly consumed by close to 800



Dinner to benefit the Allentown Rescue Mission.

guests at the 11th Annual Newstalk 790 WAEB Spaghetti



Our thanks to WAEB, Asbury United Methodist Church, Bobby Gunther Walsh and all those who made this annual event such a great success!

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!”

The Mission's New Creations Program helps men begin their transition back into the community by providing transitional housing, plus support and advice that helps them overcome drug and alcohol issues, challenges, and gain skills as they begin their journey to self-sufficiency.

All of the men currently in New Creations have completed our Christian Living Program, or a similar program in the community, and are now holding jobs.



Feed the need or fix the problem?

In the next couple of months, your mailbox will be filled with requests from all kinds of organizations asking you to “Feed hungry people at Thanksgiving.”

We think that's wonderful. But, why just at Thanksgiving? And why just food?

People who are hungry and homeless need more than a meal. They need shelter. Clothing. Job training. And most of all, they need **life-changing** programs that will not only address the causes of hunger

and homelessness, but work to overcome them!

Addiction, hunger and homelessness can be fatal. Your support provides the year-round, all-day-every-day food, shelter, Christian care and counseling that save lives. Your gifts bless those who are hungry, homeless and in need with the ability to transform their lives through our Gateway Center and programs like our Christian Living Program.

Your gift today to the Allentown Rescue Mission will do so much more than feed the need. You will help fix the problem. Thank you!



TIDINGS

Rescue, rehabilitation, and restoration for people in crisis.

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TIDINGS is funded by private donations, not government money.