

URM TODAY

Holiday 2020

Changing the Future of the Homeless... One Life at a Time

NEWSLETTER FROM THE UNION RESCUE MISSION

Thank you for bringing
GREAT JOY
to hurting people

You changed Joel's life



Trust, Seek, Depend.
— JOIN US FOR THE JOURNEY —

Don't miss...

2 Celebrating rebirth
this Christmas

3 "God is everything
to me now."

4 Share your Blessings

"I've been born again. God is everything to me now."

Joel grew up in a happy home with dreams of a wonderful life. But when he was 16, he started drinking recreationally just to fit in. He never imagined that, one day, alcohol would take over his life and consume his dreams. "By my mid-20s, I was drinking constantly, every day," he says.

For 30 years, he battled his addiction, costing him jobs and leaving him homeless, sleeping on the streets, scrounging for food. It took a heavy toll on his body and, finally, he wound up in the hospital, where they referred him to our Emergency Overnight Shelter.

"The Mission gave me a place to sleep and food to eat, and they talked to me about going into the program," Joel says. **"I knew there was more to life than how I'd been living.** I figured it was the best thing I could do to change my life."

He entered our New Beginnings life-change program, where Bible studies and chapel services led him to surrender his life to the Lord. "I've been born-again and my relationship with God keeps getting stronger," he says.

Our Christian counselors and life skills classes have helped Joel address the root causes of his addiction and develop healthy coping skills to navigate whatever life sends his way. **"They gave me tools to function in society without drinking. I've been sober two years now and I'm doing great,"** he says.

Joel completed the program, found a job and now lives in our Eagles Wing Transitional Housing. He's looking forward to getting his own place, continuing to walk with the Lord and living the kind of wonderful life he dreamed of as a boy. "I have my life back," he says.

This year, Joel will be celebrating Christmas as a new creation, filled with the great joy of God's love. "The Mission helped me find a relationship with God and it changed my life."





"God is everything to me now."



Celebrating rebirth this *Christmas*

As we celebrate the Christmas season and the miracle of Jesus' birth in a lowly manger, we must keep in mind the ending... That He gave His life on the cross so you and I could be reborn as children of God.

You know that the guests of the Union Rescue Mission have had a tough time before they come through our doors. Poverty, addiction, homelessness, hunger, violence... you name it. ***But what's so incredible is not their past stories, but how their lives are completely transformed thanks to you.***

You believe that change is possible. More than that, your generous support gives these men the very services and support they need to be restored and reborn through our life-changing programs and job training. You give them the most incredible gift there is this Christmas: the chance to find peace, purpose and a new life filled with God's blessings.

As you celebrate this joyous season with loved ones, I hope you'll remember your neighbors who still need healing. After this difficult year, my prayer is that God will move in mighty ways in hearts and communities across the country. May you be filled with peace and love, and continue to share His love with others.



Doug

Doug Nolte
Chief Executive
Officer

It Starts With You... You make transformation possible!

This has been a hard year for everyone, especially for your neighbors in Wichita who lost jobs or experienced unexpected difficulties during the pandemic. But they have hope thanks to YOU!

Your compassionate support provides:

- Safe shelter and clean clothing
- Life skills classes and job training in our life-changing programs
- The message of God's life-changing love



Just \$2.15 provides a meal and care for one man... and could be the first step toward lasting transformation.

Please Send Your Gift Today!



\$2.15
for 1 hot meal



\$10.13
for 1 night of
safe shelter

**CAN GIVE
SOMEONE**



**A new life healed
by God's LOVE**

READ JOEL'S STORY TO LEARN MORE!

YOUR GIFT TODAY... = GOES TWICE AS FAR!

DEADLINE TO GIVE: DEC 31

Great news! **Any gift you make will be matched through the \$70,000 challenge grant** from a generous friend of the ministry to become \$140,000 to provide food, shelter, job training and healing through our life-changing programs! *This is truly a double blessing.*

Your year-end gift will provide **twice the hope** for your neighbors who are struggling to get back on their feet after the pandemic!

- ✉ Add your special year-end gift to the reply card and send it today.
- 💻 Give online anytime at urmwichita.org.

**THANK YOU
for blessing
others through
this year-end
challenge!**

Share your Blessings this Christmas

FILL THE TABLES



Donate these foods for the thousands of meals we'll serve throughout the holiday season. Please deliver them to **2800 N. Hillside in Wichita**, by Christmas.

turkeys & hams * boxes of stuffing * bags of potatoes * canned fruits and vegetables
coffee, creamer & sugar



Give 2X the *Hope* on GIVING TUESDAY

Tuesday, December 1

Giving Tuesday is the perfect time to give back... and a generous **\$3,000 Matching Challenge** makes this day even more powerful! During this special day of giving, your dollars will double to provide 2X the basic essentials and life-transforming guidance for your hurting neighbors.

This is the perfect time to join together to help men in your local community – especially those who are still trying to rebuild their lives after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Why Wait? Celebrate GIVING TUESDAY Now.

Thanks to the recently passed CARES Act, your gift today could qualify for a greater tax deduction. Please check with your tax adviser for more information.



GIVE GIFT CARDS



Gift cards allow us to purchase holiday gifts and year-round necessities for our guests. Simply mail or deliver them to **2800 N. Hillside in Wichita**.

Walmart * Dillons * VISA * mastercard

MEET URGENT NEEDS



These items are a vital part of the Mission's everyday operations and the comfort of our guests. Please drop off your donations at **2800 N. Hillside in Wichita**, by Christmas.

garbage bags * paper towels & toilet paper * facial tissue
disinfectant wipes * toiletries * cough drops
over-the-counter cold medicine

THANK YOU FOR HELPING!

Doug, please use my Christmas gift to bless my struggling neighbors who have had such a challenging year:

- ☐ \$21.50 to feed & care for 10 people
- ☐ \$51.60 to feed & care for 24 people
- ☐ \$75.25 to feed & care for 35 people
- ☐ \$88.15 to feed & care for 41 people
- ☐ \$_____ to help as much as possible

Plus, my Challenge gift to provide double the help: \$_____

This really helps!

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY / STATE / ZIP _____

☐ CHECK ENCLOSED ☐ BILL MY CREDIT CARD

☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ DISCOVER ☐ AMERICAN EXPRESS

CREDIT CARD # _____

EXP. DATE _____

MOBILE PHONE # _____

EMAIL _____

Donate now! ☎ (316) 687-4673

🌐 urmwichita.org

Union Rescue Mission
2800 N. Hillside
Wichita, KS 67219-4702

