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SAVING LIVES / RESTORING HOPE / IMPACTING COMMUNITY

A Newsletter of Tri-City Union Gospel Mission - Fall 2022







# "Finally, I'm in a safe place where I'M REALIZING MY TRUE PURPOSE."

inda never could've imagined living in her car, especially not with a young child in tow. She'd worked hard – heavy labor and long shifts – and she was missing out on her daughter's formative moments. After her daughter's father passed away, Linda's depression took over and her self-esteem spiraled. In crisis mode, she lost her job and housing.

As Linda struggled with her deteriorating circumstances, a family member called child protective services on her. This was a wakeup call, and she knew she needed to find real help, for her own sake as well as her daughter's.

"When problems overwhelmed me, I lost touch with the Lord. Prayer became foreign, and guilt crept in. I felt I wasn't worthy to talk to God."

### The day Linda walked into Tri-City Union Gospel Mission, a glimmer of hope returned.

"I sensed a Divine protection here. Being physically safe was important, and I felt like I had a new family."

In our Women's & Children's Shelter, Linda and her daughter were warmly welcomed by our staff. After experiencing homelessness, having her basic needs met and access to organizational tools have made all the difference in helping her get back on track.

"The rules and safeguards that are in place here made me feel immediately secure. With so many connections to resources, I now feel empowered to protect my daughter. And through a regular prayer life, I'm remembering my own dreams and goals. I feel so hopeful!"

"

Meeting like-minded people, experiencing Scripture and prayer in Chapel – all of this is helping me grow, spiritually and emotionally. My mind is calm, I'm sleeping better, and things are finally stable.

"

Linda's heart is overflowing with gratitude this Thanksgiving because YOUR loving support gave her the confidence and support to rebuild her life. "The Mission has been there for me, and now I can be there for others."

## Celebrating Thanksgiving Every Day of the Year



#### A Message from ANDREW PORTER

Here's a wonderful Bible verse for this season of Thanksgiving: "This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." (Psalm 118:24) During Thanksgiving, we gather to thank the Lord

for blessings of family, food and health.

But what if we kept that same, abundant spirit of the holiday in giving thanks every day of the year?

Each day at the Mission, I see people who are thankful for the gift of new life that YOU helped make possible! You wrap them in God's loving embrace. Teach them skills to build brighter futures. Lift up our ministry and guests in prayer. And rejoice over every heart restored and life rebuilt!

Life is challenging right now. With continuing inflation, costs for necessities like housing, gas and groceries are

higher than ever. It's even harder for our struggling neighbors to make ends meet... and for our ministry to meet our community's pressing needs.

Through it all, I remain faithful to God's calling and grateful that I can rely on friends like you. My prayer this Thanksgiving is that you will do the same.

I hope you will take comfort in the love of friends and family, and the joy of knowing hearts are changed thanks to you. God bless you!

Andrew Porter
Executive Director

Andrew O. Porter



## **2022 THANKSGIVING CAMPAIGN**

YOU can give our hurting neighbors reason to celebrate!

**27,000**Meals Needed this Thanksgiving Season

Thanksgiving can be another difficult day for our neighbors struggling to overcome homelessness... poverty... addiction. But you can change that!

**Just \$2.25 provides a hot, nourishing meal**. Your gift welcomes someone to our table and leads to a better life through:



Safe, welcoming



Classes & job training



Warm clothing, coats & shoes



God's lifechanging love



We need your help to serve thousands of meals this holiday season! Please rush your 2022 Thanksgiving Campaign gift today using the enclosed reply card and envelope OR online at tcugm.org.

Read Linda's story – a life you helped change!

### Holiday Volunteer Opportunities

Do you have a heart to serve men, women and children here at the Mission? We would love for you to join us as a volunteer!



Contact our Volunteer Coordinator today to see how you can help...
Call: (509) 547-2112, ext. 0 or email: volunteer@tcugm.org
Or visit tcugm.org to find out more or sign up now!

## Help Us Get Ready!

You wouldn't believe how much we still have to do to get ready for the Thanksgiving season... you can help! Host a food drive or shop for these critically needed items, then drop them off at 221 S. 4th Avenue, 7 days a week.

Don't have time to shop? Send a gift in the envelope provided to help us purchase what's needed on our food list.

Frozen turkeys

Onions

Boneless hams

Potatoes

Butter

Napkins

Eggs

Powdered drink

Cheese

mix

Carrots

Celery

Salad dressings





Thank you for making these meals extra special!

#### Are you connected yet? Don't miss out!

Want the inside scoop on what's happening at the Mission? It's easy...

**Follow us on social media!** Every post shows you how your partnership is transforming lives and healing our community.

**Sign up for our emails!** You'll hear about urgent needs, special events and more.

And when you tell your friends about us, they can join the celebration this Thanksgiving, too!

tcugm.org





