

NEW LIFE

SAVING LIVES / RESTORING HOPE / IMPACTING COMMUNITY

A Newsletter of Tri-City Union Gospel Mission – Holiday 2022

The best Christmas
gift there is...

Jennifer
has a new life,
thanks to you!



**DON'T
MISS...**

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The Joy that
Comes from
Christ

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An update on our
Women & Children's
Center

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"What would
have happened
to us...?"

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“I’m so
thankful
for this
**AWESOME
COMMUNITY!**”

Sitting on her bed at the Mission, holding her daughter Zaleya, Jennifer can’t believe she once had nowhere to sleep at night.

She was raised in a tumultuous environment, and being misled by people she trusted left Jennifer feeling lost. “I kept getting let down, and I didn’t know where to turn when things got out of hand,” she shares. To cope with her emotions, she began turning to drugs.

Pregnant and struggling, Jennifer often slept at bus stops. “If someone with bad intentions approached me, at least I could make a visible scene,” she explains. Fortunately, concerned friends intervened with good advice: if she didn’t find a way off the streets, she’d be putting her baby at risk.

“I needed a safe place – I owed that to my child,” she recalls.

Then, Jennifer found shelter at the Mission, and everything began to change.

“I didn’t know what to expect,” she remembers. “But the staff made me feel welcome.”

Through case management, access to addiction counseling and Bible studies, Jennifer has gone from despair to hope-filled happiness.

“I enjoy striving to meet my weekly goals,” she says. “The staff are so great about helping me stay on top of that. I’m more confident now.”

Studying scripture is a big part of daily life for Jennifer. **“The wisdom I receive from the Bible is my biggest blessing from God.”**

**“What would have happened to us,
had I not found the Mission?”**



Now that Jennifer is stable, she’s doing good things for herself and her daughter. “My plan is to go back to school, work full time and stay focused on Zaleya.”

Jennifer is excited to celebrate the restored hope she has been given this Christmas – and wants YOU to know just how grateful she is.

“The Mission never gave up on me. And since I was motivated to change my life, we’ve made that happen together.”



Help meet our \$20,000 GIVING TUESDAY Goal!

Tuesday, November 29

A Message from ANDREW PORTER

The JOY that Comes from Christ

Don't you just love the words of John 1:14? *"The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."*

As we rejoice over the birth of our Savior, it's such a blessing to know God fills our hearts with joy everlasting – today and every day. His faithfulness sustains us through every circumstance and His grace offers renewal in our lives... as well as in the lives of those we serve.

While we do provide Christmas gifts to the guests in our care, what's most important is that they know about Jesus' sacrifice and the gift of salvation that is freely given to us all.

Thanks to your friendship, we're able to share the "good tidings of great joy for all people" during the holidays and throughout the year. Your fervent prayers and ongoing support help restore lives – and wrap local men, women and children in God's loving embrace.

Just like Jennifer, whose story we've shared on page 3, God still works miracles in the lives of people all around us.

This Christmas, I hope your heart overflows with peace, joy and love as your blessings abound.



Andrew Porter
Executive Director

SHARE A CHRISTMAS MEAL...

You can help make this Christmas a time of celebration for our neighbors who are hungry and homeless. With so many obstacles to overcome during this season of hardship, they need a helping hand and to experience God's love!



\$2.25
for 1 hot meal



\$40.00
for 1 night of
safe shelter

**CAN GIVE
SOMEONE**



Please Send Your Christmas Gift Today!



An update on our **WOMEN & CHILDREN'S CENTER**

We're so excited to share that we've officially purchased 3.5 acres of land in Kennewick. This site will serve as the home for the new, highly anticipated Women & Children's Center. Architectural plans are in the works, and we're currently in need of funding so that we can break ground and get building!

Would you like to know more? We'd love to have you be a part of our effort to provide emergency housing to struggling women and children in the Tri-Cities area.

To find out how to help, please contact Andrew Porter by phone at **(509) 547-2112, ext. 0** or email **andrew@tcugm.org**.

*"And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."
-Philippians 4:19 (NIV)*

**May the Lord bless
you abundantly this
Christmas!**



As we prepare our hearts for the miracle of Christmas, we just want to thank you for being a tremendous blessing in the lives of our hurting neighbors. **This year alone, your generosity has opened the door for healing and transformation through God's unending love by providing:**

- 130,000 nourishing meals
- 32,000 nights of safe shelter
- 45 lives changed in our life recovery programs
- 6,000 hours of classes, counseling and job training

Just as you have given generously to help the Mission meet our needs, may God meet all your needs according to the riches of His glory. *Thank you for your caring and compassion, and have a wonderful Christmas!*

Become a Volunteer

It's that time of year – time for festive events, special meals, adopting needy families, and celebrating God's love through the birth of His Son. How would you like to help us ring in the Christmas spirit? We sure do need you!

Volunteers donate their time and efforts to wrap gifts, decorate Christmas trees, sort and organize, and even mentor clients and children through doing things like arts and crafts projects.



Are you good in the kitchen? We also need help with meal prep and serving.

For the most current list of volunteer opportunities, check out the Ways To Give section of our website: **tcugm.org/ways-to-give/volunteer/**.

