

NEW LIFE

SAVING LIVES / RESTORING HOPE / IMPACTING COMMUNITY

A Newsletter of Tri-City Union Gospel Mission – Summer 2026



**See how your
compassion
gave Engjell
a fresh
start...**

**LOVE YOUR
NEIGHBOR**
SUMMER CAMPAIGN



A meal served with LOVE for a neighbor in need... **just \$2.75!**



A Message from ANDREW PORTER

Sharing a story of **HOPE** this summer.

I'm grateful for how the Lord weaves together each of our stories. Through gifts and prayers, you play a meaningful role in the stories of your neighbors' lives!

Sadly, too many are experiencing a heartbreaking "chapter" this summer: extreme heat... hunger... loss of hope. Many turn to us for cool shelter, meals, recovery services and more.

You can help share the life-changing care our hurting and homeless neighbors need.

That is my prayer, **as we begin our 3-month Love Your Neighbor campaign:** to change our neighbors' stories for good.

I've seen these life-transformations happen right here at the Mission... like for Engjell, whose story is on page 3.

Your support will help make

transformations possible for people like him, whether you help once or give all three months. Your generosity will mean steady meals, safe shelter and Christ-centered care to help write new stories of hope!

In His service,

Andrew Porter
Executive Director

P.S. Praise God! The reality of a new Women and Children's Facility gets closer each day. **We are less than \$2 million away** from our original \$9.5 million fundraising goal. Our architect is working on both the site and floor plans. What a glorious day that opening will be!

"Love your neighbor as yourself..."

- Matthew 22:39



IT TAKES A VILLAGE...

We are so grateful for these local organizations who *really* care!

Through their steadfast partnership and generous contributions, our community sponsors have helped meet the needs of struggling neighbors in the Tri-City region.



New U Women's Clinic



South Hills Church



Grocery Outlet



International Association of Machinists & Aerospace Workers



Tri-City Lumber



We sincerely thank all these folks for their faithful support of the Mission and our programs! After all, it really *does* take a village!



**“With God as
my rock, I
have a *NEW*
PURPOSE.”**

Engjell’s childhood was in constant upheaval as his family moved from Albania to other countries in search of better opportunities.

As a young adult, Engjell married and came to the United States, hopeful that this new chapter would offer stability. As he learned English from scratch, he relied on determination and hard work to build a life from the ground up.

Engjell attended culinary school and went on to open several restaurants. “I loved working in hospitality while providing for my family,” he shares.

Then, several devastating losses unraveled his hard-won life: financial challenges forced his restaurant to close... a painful divorce separated him from his children... and his father passed away unexpectedly.

Overwhelmed by grief, Engjell returned to Albania to be with his mother. During that time, alcohol became a way to numb the pain from everything he had lost.

Engjell missed his children terribly, so he returned to the U.S., but he had very little money and nowhere to go. He began sleeping on the streets, unsure of his next steps. “It was the basement of rock bottom,” he recalls. “I almost gave up on life.”

One day, while walking downtown, Engjell came across Tri-City Union Gospel Mission. With no plan beyond survival, he knocked on the door and asked simply for a place to stay.

At the Mission, Engjell found safety, compassion and structure. With access to case management, meals and clear expectations, he settled into a disciplined routine that helped restore his focus. For the first time in a long while, he could think about the future.

Through chapel services and Christ-centered support, Engjell also began to feel spiritually grounded. “Peace returned, and I sensed that the Lord was working within me.”

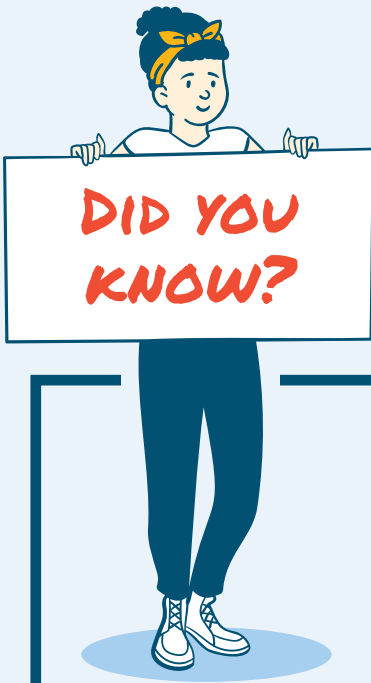
During his time at the Mission, Engjell served by washing dishes and doing laundry, which gave him fulfillment in helping others with dignity and care. Solid in his sobriety, he grew in his faith and rebuilt his confidence.

Today, Engjell runs a pizza business and gives back to the community whenever he can, even providing free slices to hungry neighbors.

Because of you, neighbors like Engjell know that God loves them and they are worthy of a new beginning. Thank you for opening the door to hope and healing this summer! “I believe that transformations like mine are not only possible... but are happening every day!”

**“I discovered I could
rebuild my life... but in
a better way.”**





"BILL PAY"

A Safe and Easy Way to Give

Using online **Bill Pay** is a simple and effective way to support the Mission!

SECURE: When you donate through your bank's **Bill Pay** feature, your information stays within your trusted institution. There's no need to share account numbers or security codes!

FREE: Most banks offer **Bill Pay** with no processing costs. As a free service with no debit or credit card fees, more of your generosity goes directly to support our programs!

CONVENIENT: You choose how much and how often you'd like to contribute, and your bank handles the rest. **Bill Pay** is an easy way to make your support consistent – no stamps or reminders required.

You could even use **Bill Pay** to participate in our monthly giving club, *Recurring Rescuers*!

YOU CAN SHOW A
HURTING NEIGHBOR
THEY'RE NOT ALONE!



*It starts with
a meal...*



*and ends with
a life renewed!*

Your gift of \$2.75 provides a hot, nourishing meal – and can lead to other life-changing services like shelter, Christ-centered counsel and recovery.

Give during our
Love Your Neighbor
campaign... and
show local people
who are homeless
and hurting that
you care.



**LOVE YOUR
NEIGHBOR**
SUMMER CAMPAIGN

Give now!
tcugm.org