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January 2022

▲ HAPPY NEW YEAR! ▲

I always love the beginning of the New Year and set aside time on January 1 to just sit in God's presence and listen to what He wants to tell me. It varies from year to year depending on what is happening in my life and in the Mission, but it gives me peace, direction and a strong foundation. One thing never changes though, and that is giving Him thanks for all of the blessings he brings to me, my family and the Mission. His blessings are too numerous to count. Even when things are not going well, the blessings still outweigh the burden by far.

As another year closes, we look afresh to the New Year. Many of us have high hopes and anticipations for getting healthier, getting out of debt, renewing relationships, etc. For many, the top of the list will include a stronger relationship with God. I would challenge you to pursue God harder than you ever have before and let God guide you! We all have wonderful plans, and God likes to hear our plans, but He also wants us to know that our plans can change if He wants us to head in a different direction.

God has a lot of experience divinely guiding people. Abraham was guided into a new land, Moses was guided throughout the desert, Jesus was guided into the wilderness, and Paul was guided to Macedonia to spread the Word. All of us know people who have been guided, and

most of us have our own testimony of how God has guided us. It may not seem like a great journey in the beginning, but it ends up being better than our best laid plans.

God guides us every day – sometimes a nudge so slight we barely feel it, sometimes it feels like we've been struck by lightning. But God always has our best interest at heart. Take his hand, let him lead and enjoy the journey.

Cornerstone Rescue Mission is grateful for all who have donated to us with their time, money, donations to our Thrift Store, and your prayers. We are so grateful for the continued support of our donors, a vital part of our Cornerstone family. We continue to lift up all of you and your families in prayer and thanksgiving. We wish you a Happy New Year full of health, love, prosperity, and a deeper relationship with God – our provider and our strength! Thank you for journeying with us!

Peace and Happy New Year, Lysa



🌲 Louis's Path to Success

"I had a big struggle with my addiction throughout my years in Rapid City, SD. In and out of jail repeatedly, treatment, probation, etc.

In my battle with my own problems. I also had to care for four young children whom I know I psychologically and emotionally scarred, due to my selfishness.

Although it was complicated, I always made sure my love for them never changed. In this last time, I willingly reached out for help and checked myself into inpatient treatment at Avera Worthmore Addiction Center in Aberdeen, SD.



Having worked the program and coming back to Rapid City, SD I came to the Cornerstone Rescue Mission for the sixth time in my life.

The mission has always welcomed me with open arms, as well as my children and their mother. The staff here at the mission have always been a huge help and always caring about our well-being.

For some reason, this time around it was different, not with the staff but with myself. I realized my life has got to change for the better, for my children, for myself. And so, I gave myself to God and promised myself I would never go back to that lifestyle. I had my calling, and I took the first step in my journey to live a sober and guilt free life. I wanted to help others find this greatness I felt by becoming a staff member. Being a part of CSRM, has blessed me with opportunity and fulfillment. I thank the CSRM for all that it has done for me in my life and allowing me to better myself as well as helping the community. God is a Great-God. God bless to all."

Louis Means recently became a staff member at the men's mission at 30 Main. We are all cheering for him and so proud of him for the positive steps he has taken!



🌲 Goodie Bags for Guests

A sweet group of ladies from Open Bible Church dropped off bags of hygiene items, socks, and gloves. Each guest received a bag full of useful items. What a nice gift!

Donation of Warmth

Don and Linda Rydstrom dropped off 10 bags of new winter coats for the children at the Women & Children's Home. Alyssa Norman and Donita Mellette (case managers) accepted the generous gift! The Rydstroms are such good friends to Cornerstone and we thank them!



Students Give Back

Rapid City really has some great kids and some of those kids can be found at St. Thomas More High School, St. Thomas More Middle School, and St. Elizabeth Seton Elementary School! These schools have continued the wonderful tradition of helping our guests with donations of long underwear and other clothing items during the cold winter months. When the South Dakota winter winds are blowing, and the temperatures drop significantly, a new set of long underwear can certainly make all the difference in keeping warm! We want to thank these wonderful students, the teachers, and their leaders for all the generosity and compassion they show our guests - and the effort they put into keeping our guests warm during the cold winter months!



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The Blooming Loomers group from the Canyon Lake Activity Center dropped off many handcrafted hats and scarves to keep our guests warm this winter. The items they made were so cute!



Ray from the Rapid City Moose Family Center dropped off a check for \$300 to Morris, a staff member at the men's mission. What a generous gift!

Gift Baskets Needed for the Cornerstone Celebrates Banquet



In preparation for the Cornerstone Rescue Mission's biggest fundraiser of the year, Cornerstone Celebrates, we are asking churches, businesses, or any interested parties to put together a gift basket to be sold at our silent auction that evening, March 5, 2022.

I have been amazed in the past by the generosity of the people who put such great items in these baskets and by the creative people who decorate them. We hope that your group will come together and take on this fun project. Contact Deb at dberg@cornerstonemission.org or 718-8712 for more information.

Needs List:

MEN'S MISSION - 30 Main St.

KITCHEN: Canned fruits and vegetables, eggs, milk, coffee, oatmeal, pancake mix, cream of mushroom or chicken soup, cereal, egg noodles.

MISSION: Foot powder, towels, twin-sized blankets, twin-sized sheets, reading glasses, bottled water for sack lunches, personal hygiene items for men & women, backpacks.

WOMEN & CHILDREN'S HOME - 301 Fox Run Drive

Coffee, eggs, milk, cereal, sandwich bread, butter, sugar, laundry soap, dish soap, kleenex, clorox wipes, personal hygiene items.

CORNERSTONE THRIFT STORE - 401 - 11th Street

Beds, furniture, small appliances, kitchen items, home décor.

VETERANS - 30 Main St.

Shoes, boots, sugar, creamer, antiperspirant, lotion, backpacks, coffee.

APARTMENTS - 1220 East Blvd.

Dish soap, household cleaners, toilet paper, laundry soap.

ADOPT A FAMILY

Gas cards, oil changes, laundry soap, dish soap, toilet paper, household items.

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO CORNERSTONE RESCUE MISSION
(The enclosed envelope is for your convenience. We are serving more people every day. Your help is appreciated!)