



*The Heartbeat of The Mission*

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**January 2011**

## Hope For Tomorrow



The holidays are over, the greeting and salutations have ended – we have closed the books on 2010. The year-end activities always bring extra work and long hours but it also brings extra blessings and a nearness to God that only sharing and giving can bring. It was a glorious experience and we truly enjoyed every minute of it.

I do not have the words or the ability to express my heartfelt appreciation to all of you, who prayed, volunteered, gave your gifts-in-kind, and your financial support to the Cornerstone Rescue Mission this past

year. We could not have accomplished the things we did without your help.

There is much to do to address the needs of so many homeless and hurting people in our community. However I am encouraged by the faithfulness and compassion of this community. Scripture tells us the poor will always be among us and I believe the Mission will continue to be a light and respite for the least of these for many years to come.

So yes, life goes on at the Mission and we need your continued faithfulness to stand with us, and especially your prayers.

In His Service,  
*Jim Castleberry*

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The Cornerstone Rescue Mission will be holding its annual *Bird & Bison Banquet* **Saturday, March 5, 2011** at the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center, and we hope we can count on your support again this year! Your donation will provide additional support for the Mission's **homeless families** in the form of food, housing and Christian counseling geared toward self-sufficiency.

We are collecting items for the silent auction. Please consider donating an item for this important fund raiser. Perhaps you have an item in stock that you could donate to the auction and receive a tax donation receipt for it.

If you can help by donating an auction item please call Judy or Lori at 341-2741.  
If you do not wish to donate an auction item please consider a monetary donation for the event.  
Please make checks payable to Cornerstone Rescue Mission and return to  
PO Box 2188 Rapid City, SD 57709

Thanks so much for supporting the Cornerstone Rescue Mission.  
In Christ,  
The Cornerstone Board of Directors

# ♥ Hearts of Gratitude ♥

**Colossians 3:16 (NIV)** *Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.*

Gratitude takes on a whole new meaning after spending time at Cornerstone in preparation for Thanksgiving at the mission. This year we had more than 200 calls from people either wanting to donate food, money or time to help with Thanksgiving. We are so blessed to be in a community of giving individuals and groups who donate food (like 70 pies), or table decorations with fresh flowers, or people dropping off checks to help pay for the food, and the food donations themselves.

We planned for 300 people and had slightly less, but what we did have was full hearts of gratitude for the way the community came alongside us with everything needed for a very blessed holiday. The blessings continue as a high school youth group held a fundraiser collecting money from the congregation for four weeks, raising \$623 and purchasing and delivering 180 dozen eggs, several pounds of coffee, 15 gallons of cooking oil and several containers of powdered drink mixes, with the help of a grocer who belongs to that church. Several retailers collected coats for the coat drive, and the C-Me Ministry continues to grow. C-Me stands for Coffee, Milk and Eggs. Each day the

Cornerstone Rescue Mission and its ancillary facilities uses 10 pounds of coffee, 10 gallons of milk, and 12 dozen eggs. We provided over 149,000 meals last year, and we are eternally grateful to the people who volunteer to bring and cook meals, make monetary and food donations, and help out on a daily basis.

Families from Cornerstone Apartments were blessed with Thanksgiving meal baskets and holiday gifts. Families have been appreciative and have been sponsored for the holidays and beyond. Community residents from several local churches and other volunteers extended their generosity to the Cornerstone families through these donations. Folks from Ellsworth Air Force Base and employees of other Retailers and Restaurants have contributed toys for all the children this Christmas. The Cornerstone Christmas Store once again gave out gift certificates for every guest no matter the age for shopping at the Thrift Store. Santa was on hand for photos with the children, and another church group served homemade Christmas cookies and hot apple cider. The Christmas meal was prepared and served thru donations and volunteers, with special desserts for all.

How do you ever find a way to say thank you to so many people for making such a difference in the lives of our community's homeless men, women and children? We do definitely have an extra dose of appreciation and an attitude of gratitude!



Volunteers serving Thanksgiving dinner at the Cornerstone Rescue Mission.

# A New Start for Ruby

“Ruby” came to stay at Cornerstone Women and Children’s Home in early June last year. She had been staying with her daughter who had kicked her out. Even though she received a monthly SSI check, she didn’t have any place to stay.

Ruby, a joyful lady in her 50s, was a pleasure to be around, but there were several things she would need assistance with to help improve her quality of life and secure housing. She was mentally challenged but had graduated from high school. Since Ruby didn’t receive special education in high school, she wasn’t eligible for housing offered by Black Hills Workshop. She would need to undergo testing to determine if she would be an appropriate referral for their program. Without transportation and an advocate it was likely that her ongoing needs couldn’t be met, and that she would continue to fall through the cracks.

Ruby was functionally illiterate, she could read and write just enough to get by, and so her case manager helped her get an appointment with the Literacy Network so she improves her reading and writing skills. As she went to her appointments, Ruby’s confidence continued to grow. Ruby, her case manager at the Home, and her counselor worked together to set up an appointment with Vocational Rehab to begin

the process so she could get the testing needed to determine if she was eligible to be referred to the Workshop.

Ruby also suffered from chronic back pain. Her case manager from the Home worked with her doctor to get her a referral to a specialist. In early September Ruby left the Home to undergo back surgery, drastically reducing her chronic pain.

After getting out of rehab, Ruby returned to the Home. She continued to work with her case manager to get her remaining needs met. After much persistence, her test results were compiled and she was accepted to move into an apartment where an advocate from the Workshop will see that all of her ongoing needs are met. She recently met her new roommate and the staff person from the Workshop who she’ll work with. Her eyes just beamed when she returned from her visit.

Ruby can’t wait to move to her new apartment. She will be settled in time to enjoy the New Year. Ruby will continue to work with Literacy Network to improve her reading and writing skills. All of us at the Women and Children’s Home are happy for Ruby and relieved to know that her future needs will continue to be met.

## NEEDS LIST:

### **MEN’S MISSION**

Pasta noodles  
Cooking oil  
Butter  
Coffee  
Meat – all kinds  
Milk  
Sugar  
Eggs  
Salad dressings  
Juice mixes

### **WOMEN & CHILDREN’S HOME**

Odoban cleaner  
Butter  
Milk  
Fruit juice

Size 4, 5, 6 diapers & pull-ups  
Q-tips  
Conditioner  
Children’s shampoo  
Laundry soap  
Coffee creamer  
Cough drops

### **APARTMENTS**

Bulk laundry & dish soap  
Quart size Ziploc bags  
Package juice boxes  
Individually wrapped crackers/  
granola bars  
Pillows/twin/queen sheet sets/  
mattress pads  
First aid supplies  
Cordless drill for making repairs  
Plastic storage binds

Dining table & chairs  
Shower curtains, rods, & rings

### **DEAR ONES CHILD CARE**

Boppy pillow (infant room)  
Saran wrap & wax paper  
(for art activities)  
Tempera paint- primary colors  
Baby wipes  
Diapers- sizes 2,3,4,5 & pull-ups  
Black printer ink: HP 920  
Color ink- HP 920  
Double sided scotch tape  
Paper towels  
Unscented bleach

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*Dear fellow believers in Christ,*

I am a volunteer at the Cornerstone Rescue Mission whose heart and goal it is to reach out and touch people with God's love. I would like to present you or your group with the opportunity to help feed God's people spiritually. As you well know, God directs us all in different ways to minister to His people. Here at Cornerstone we concentrate on taking care of the physical needs so that they are ready to receive spiritual needs.

Now we are asking for help to reach out and demonstrate His love spiritually to our guests. He has called all to come to Him. As you are fully aware, there is so much more healing when Jesus walks with you and carries you through the hard times.

I would like to ask you, your groups and congregation members to prayerfully consider ministering in our chapel. Your group can minister once a week, bi-weekly, or monthly. The forms of ministry can be musical, bible study, skits, ice cream socials, craft times, prayer or something as simple as a cup of hot apple cider and a smile, any combination of any talent God has blessed you with. We need to be creative in how we minister. One of my favorite memories that helped me with my own personal battles was my former church's youth group puppet shows. When I chose to walk away from all I was taught about Jesus, He was faithful to minister to me in ways that reached my deepest wounds. God gave us these talents to help the hurting as well as for each other. We lean on one another when we are hurting, but those who don't know Him personally lean on what they know. We need your help, consider a great New Year's resolution to help the needy by emailing: [volunteer@cornerstonemission.org](mailto:volunteer@cornerstonemission.org) or [receptionist@cornerstonemission.org](mailto:receptionist@cornerstonemission.org)!

*God's blessings,*

*Heather Hilgemeier*



**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!)