



The Heartbeat of The Mission

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November 2014

Harvest Time

I love harvest time. Even when I'm stuck behind a combine on a two lane back road, there is just something special about this time of year. Maybe it's just the crisp air, the barrage of pumpkin flavored drinks and goodies, the newness of the school year combined with the leaves changing—honestly I don't know, but I've always favored this time of year.

However, with the joy of the harvest season comes the bleak reminder that winter is right around the corner. From what I've read it sounds like we are in for an especially frigid one, which doesn't bother me until I think of those without a warm home to go to.

As the temperatures change and we approach the cold season, please remember those who are in need. There are many who have nowhere to go at night, and many of those who do may not have working heat. Let us remember that not all parents can afford a new coat for their kids every year. There are needs in our community throughout the year, and as the temperatures go down those needs seem to be amplified.

Thanksgiving is a wonderful time to be thankful for the Lord's bountiful harvest. Let us share our blessings with those in need. Donations of all kinds and financial contributions go a long way to meet the needs of our guests who utilize our services. Some of them are ill and elderly. Some are single mothers trying to provide for their children. Many are young. All of them need help, hope and a new direction. Some are homeless for the first time which can be a hard place to be.

Our annual Thanksgiving meal is more than a great Cornerstone Rescue Mission holiday tradition. It is lifesaving and life changing. And you can help! Your special gift today will help feed and care for hurting people in the Black Hills.

God Bless,

Tom Golden
Associate Director



Tina is featured in the middle of this photo, to her left is Mike, volunteer and great kitchen help, and to her right is Art, also a great help in the kitchen!

We are very pleased to introduce our new chef, Tina Bunker. She brings a delightful energy to the kitchen at the mission. Tina ran the Food Program for the Boys Club for 8 years and has a real love for cooking. She has been a volunteer for Cornerstone Rescue Mission for over 5 years and we are blessed to have her on staff. She commented that this is God's kitchen and He is letting me run it. She jokingly refers to herself as the new Sheriff in town when it comes to the order of the kitchen and detailed organized pantry. When asked if there was anything she wanted to share with our readers, she said "I live by the knowledge and peace that whatever we need in this kitchen God will bring. Please thank all the churches and organizations who faithfully bring food and joyfully serve it every month! What a blessing they all are."

THE SUMMER WAS SLOW FOR DONATIONS, BUT NOT FOR OPERATIONS.

Help change a life



- In August, 2014 Cornerstone Rescue Mission
- Served 12,776 meals. (600 more than last year)
 - Averaged 63 guests each night
 - Maintained overflow capacity in the Women and Children's shelter.

Please consider a one-time or recurring tax deductible gift of \$25, \$50 or \$100 to help us provide food and shelter for the growing number of homeless men, women and children in Rapid City and the Black Hills.

**Donations may be sent by mail to
Cornerstone Rescue Mission
PO Box 2188
Rapid City, SD 57709**



Rescue Mission

Or online at:

www.cornerstonemission.org/give.html

A Story of Redemption

We recently had a Marine Veteran as a guest at the mission who was willing to share the very interesting, difficult story of his life. For the purposes of this article we'll call him David. He had a rough start as a young child enduring abuse by a family member, and isolated himself from others because of it. At the age of 10 he started boxing and it became more than hobby when he started boxing professionally. He was blackballed when he refused to take a dive in a match, so he began boxing for private parties. David chuckled as he added I fought until I was 45 years old one way or another.

Addiction had been a prevalent part of his life, starting with alcohol at the age of 13 and marijuana at the age of 17. He rode with the Hells Angels motorcycle gang after meeting one of their members and building his own motorcycle. He had begun to study scripture and was inspired but it didn't last -- David had trouble with the law and in court one day his dad suggested joining the Marine Corp. and the judge quickly agreed.



During these years David had periods of sobriety. He mentioned the scripture in Matthew of the sower and likened himself to the seed who grew up quick and had no root & withered. He began, once again, to study scripture but the lust of the world kept him coming back to the addictions. He had a three year period of sobriety and during that time he got accepted into the Baptist Seminary. An old Baptist preacher told him that it was outlaws like him that sometimes make the best pastors because of their experiences. Especially in jail house ministries because they are so relatable. As David looks back now he sees how God was with him in every situation.

After a few failed marriages he met a Madame and felt that world pull him into drugs and bigger trouble. He was in and out of jails, a total of 17 county jails in 3 different states. He finally ended up in prison but believes it was a blessing, quoting Psalm 119:71 *It was good for me to be afflicted so that I might learn your decrees.* NIV He says God took him out of everything and allowed him the prison time to read the bible and truly study scripture. As he said "I did not have anything else to do." David had gotten involved in jail house ministries because of his prison time, laughingly commenting he did it by coming in the back door. He says he thoroughly enjoys the jail ministry. He now prays with anyone of the guests at the mission who wants prayer. David listens as they talk, he can relate with many of their circumstances and they can tell he really understands and cares in a nonjudgmental way. He wants to serve the Lord and says "I'm just like them - I am the least of these, and I wish someone had done that with me."

Now days he gets up early to read and meditate on scripture. He enjoys God's creation and to work outside, having done concrete work and ranch work in the area. David finished his story by stating one of his favorite verses -- John 3:17 *For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.* NIV He feels that verse is just as important as the verse that precedes it.

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Needs List

MEN'S MISSION

30 Main St.

Socks & underwear
Coffee
Butter
Juice
Evaporated Milk
Canned fruit
Eggs
Razors
Cough drops

VETERANS

30 Main St.

Shoes & boots, all sizes
Back packs
Underwear and T-shirts
Winter clothing/coats

WOMEN & CHILDREN'S HOME

Kleenex & tampons
Diapers size 3
Baby lotion & baby wipes
Tomato/spaghetti sauce
Shampoo & Conditioner
Bus Passes

APARTMENTS

1220 East Blvd.

Toilet paper
Queen size mattress pads
Queen size beds/frames
Vacuums
Kitchen chairs/tables
Dressers
Pots and Pans

DEAR ONES CHILD CARE

2901 Wisconsin Avenue

Size 5 & 6 diapers, baby wipes & cream
Milk and soy based infant formula & juice
Baby Food (Jarred) & nutritious kid cereals
Baby spoons & toddler silverware
Child Safety Locks
Canned fruits and veggies
Liquid hand soap & paper towels
Toy storage containers with lids (all sizes)

For Thanksgiving Dinner:

Turkeys!

National Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week

November 15-23

This is the week before Thanksgiving, please remember those in our community who have no home and no food. We can all play a role in ending hunger and homelessness.



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!)