



The Heartbeat of The Mission

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Thank You



Jim & Lisa

Jim says, "Thank you" and so do I. I would like all of you to know what an incredible person Jim has been to work with these past seven years. I have watched and learned from him in so many ways; it is difficult to sum it up into just a few words. But as I make the transition into the executive director position I have heard some people say, "You have big shoes to fill." All I can personally tell you is "no one can fill the shoes of a great man."

Thank you all in making the past nine years a blessing for Jim as executive director. I look forward to the coming year with the anticipation of what God will do and knowing too that Jim is only a phone call away. The year 2012 marks the 30th year that this community has been serving the homeless men, women and children through Cornerstone Rescue Mission. Continue walking with us to make it a great year in revealing God's goodness to those who would not otherwise see HIS love.

With great thanks,
Lisa Swallow

The New Cornerstone Veterans Outreach Center

The smell of paint filled the air as veterans living at Cornerstone Rescue Mission prepped and painted the walls for the opening of the new Veterans Outreach Center. Located on the second floor of the mission at 30 Main Street, the Veterans Outreach Center opened in October, but held the official grand opening on December 2.



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Veteran @ Grand Opening



Celebrating with Cake

The Veterans Outreach Center is a collaboration between the Cornerstone Rescue Mission and the VA Black Hills Health Care System as part of the Department of Veterans Affairs' plan to end homelessness by 2015. The Veterans Outreach Center provides support to homeless veterans and their dependents, but is open to any veteran.

Cornerstone Rescue Mission houses 56 homeless veterans daily and constantly strives to reach other homeless veterans. Some stay in the homeless camps nearby and some are doubled up in motels or other residences. Homeless veterans do not have to reside at Cornerstone Rescue Mission to receive services; they are welcome to visit and do their laundry, take a shower, work in the craft room, go online or work on their resumes, or just visit with other veterans. Additionally, VA staff members are also present to help them find employment and housing, get set up with medical appointments and other social services.

There is definitely a need for the Veterans Outreach Center in our community. We are blessed to have outstanding VA facilities in Ft. Meade, Hot Springs and the VA Clinic on Fifth Street. These facilities bring in veterans from around the country and this Outreach Center is an extension to the services already being offered.

"At this point, the Center has been a big success," said Jack Knodell, Veterans Outreach Center manager. The veterans residential wing is full and people are making good use of the computer room, the craft room and we're getting to see veterans coming in off of the streets." Currently the Center is seeing about 27 people per day.

"I think that it's a warm place to go and have a nice cup of coffee, do your laundry, talk with fellow vets about your situation; there are people here to help," said Jerry Kline, one of the veterans who has used the facility. Veteran Steve Keesey adds, "It's a place for vets run by vets. Come in and see us. If we can't get you the help, we'll find someone that can. Stop and have a cup of coffee and warm up. It's a great place to go."

All veterans are welcome to come in and have a cup of coffee and visit with us. We are always interested in meeting them and hearing about their experiences; and we thank all veterans for your service so we can enjoy the freedoms we have today.



Shoes for Mexico

Last spring Tina Johring and her daughter Jaymee took a trip to Mexico City to visit Craig Johring, the founder of Revive in Mexico City. Through this ministry Craig connects the richest of the rich and the poorest of the poor. They spent time with the ones to be considered the poorest of all: street kids. As soon as these kids wake up on the street each day they begin inhaling solvent fumes that instantly gets them high. The chemicals ease their hunger pains, but it destroys their bodies. These kids live like animals. But they aren't animals, but rather human beings made in the image of God. Sadly, their life spans are at the most about five more years when they start inhaling chemicals and living on the street.

When Tina and Jaymee flew to Mexico they took two suitcases full of shoes from the Cornerstone Thrift Store. Tina said "Craig took us downtown to the subway station where a small group of street kids lives. They literally sleep on the concrete. They are filthy. They are huffing paint thinner constantly. They are hungry. Some wore shoes literally in threads and falling apart; a couple of them only had one shoe. One by one we took them away from the others and let them choose a pair of shoes. They were so full of joy!"

Perhaps a pair of athletic shoes you donated to our Cornerstone Thrift Store made the trip to Mexico City. What a blessing those shoes were! They were a physical—and spiritual—gift to the "poorest of the poor" in Mexico City! What started as an adventure to deliver shoes from Rapid City to homeless kids in Mexico City turned into an unforgettable lesson in how God's word satisfies spiritual hunger. And by giving them shoes, which may seem rather insignificant, the Johrings showed them the love of Jesus.

Every time you donate to the Cornerstone Rescue Mission in any form, monetary, time, or Thrift Store donation you spread the love of Jesus. Tina said it best, "I now understand what Mother Teresa meant when she said "we are the hands and feet of Jesus."



Street Kids in Mexico



MEN'S MISSION

Tomato sauce/tomato soup
Spaghetti sauce
Coffee, creamer, sugar
Drink mixes, any kind
Cheeses – any kind
Canned fruit
Egg noodles & macaroni noodles
(No spaghetti noodles-thanks!)

VETERANS

Phone cards, gas cards
Shoes & boots, sizes 10-13
Flannel shirts & hoodies, all sizes

Needs List

APARTMENTS

Bulk laundry & dish soap
Kitchen and large black trash bags
Shower curtains, rods, & rings
Quart size Ziploc bags
Diapers, sizes 4, 5, 6 & pull-ups
Gas cards
Bus passes

THRIFT STORE

Hand sanitizers
(waterless hand soap)
Rechargeable AA & AAA batteries
Laundry carts (on wheels)
Kleenex



DEAR ONES CHILD CARE

Pots, pans, & muffin tins
Dish soap (both kinds)
Sippy cups, Paper plates

WOMEN &

CHILDREN'S HOME

Dish soap (both kinds)
Ear thermometer
Sippy cups
Paper plates
Teflon utensils, wooden spoons
Baby bottles, nipples
Powdered formula

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Remember to Mark Your Calendars for The Bird & Bison Banquet!

Cornerstone Rescue Mission will be holding its annual Bird & Bison Banquet Saturday, March 10 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 Women and Children's Shelter 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.

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.

Be watching for details on ticket sales or to purchase a table,
see more information online at www.cornerstonemission.org

ATTENTION CHURCHES! BIRD & BISON BANQUET BASKETS REQUESTED

In preparation for the Cornerstone Rescue Mission's main fundraising dinner, the **Bird & Bison Banquet, to be held on March 10, 2012**, we are asking churches to put together a basket to be sold at our silent auction.

Each church basket could contain gift certificates from your church members who represent different businesses, art that your members have created and/or services that your members would want to provide to the winning bidder. Your church can package the items in a basket in a decorative way and have your name proudly displayed.

For instance, "The ABC Church Basket" could include a gift certificate to a Bed & Breakfast, 1-hr of handyman services and an oil painting, for example -- all provided by members of that church.

It would be great if the total value of items in your basket total more than \$300, but any value of basket is welcome, of course.

Please let Madeline know your commitment at mrobinson@cornerstonemission.org or 718-8712 ext 220. Baskets should be delivered to Madeline at the Cornerstone Thrift Store by March 1. Thanks so much for your support of the Mission.

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!)