My Beloved Children,

I’m truly honored by the prayers of thanksgiving you lift up to me each day, and I want to convey my gratitude to you as well. In the midst of all the darkness in your world—the hunger, homelessness, poverty, disease and war—you continue to reach out to the poor and homeless who are suffering. You do everything within your power to ease their burdens. And you remind them that love and hope are always possible . . . because of my Son.

This time of year is as special for me as it is for you. It warms my heart to see you celebrating Jesus’ birth and taking part in activities that demonstrate His love and compassion toward not only your own family and friends but also those who feel alone and forgotten. They will always be with you and I use your hands to lift them out of their desperate situations so they might see the joyous life that awaits them through Christ’s grace and mercy.

As you assist the poor this Christmas, know that I have immeasurable blessings planned for you. Remember that love and hope are always yours too, as you accept the gift of my Son in your heart.

With my deep and unconditional love,

Your Heavenly Father
Our Mission: Christmas 2014 outreach will uplift the lives of thousands of men, women and children—those in our care, as well as our neighbors who are poor. Our Christmas activities are a reflection of the love and hope God offers every one of us through the birth of His Son, Jesus Christ, and they’re made possible because of kind friends like you.

This holiday season, we’ll open our Christmas Store to residents of our New Life Program for women and families, our Christian Life Program for men, and for the impoverished and working poor throughout Kansas City—and they’ll be invited to “shop” for presents for their husbands, wives and children. They’ll choose from much-needed household items like crockpots and clothes irons . . . pajamas and wallets for men and women . . . toys and games for the children . . . and even blankets and diapers for infants.

Homeless men in our emergency shelter will be grateful for gifts like watches and backpacks. Young people in our Vanderberg Youth Center will receive presents from their own special Christmas lists. We’ll also hold a community Christmas dinner for our hungry neighbors and deliver candy and meaningful gifts to nursing home residents and prison inmates.

“I was more hopeless than homeless,” says 56-year-old Grace, recalling the circumstances that brought her to the Mission in 2010. She started drinking at age 30 and her addiction kept her from building a meaningful life. “I’d go to bed with alcohol and when I got up it was the first thing I would want,” she says. “I was out of control.” She lost her job and apartment and was living with a relative, but the arrangement didn’t work out. With nowhere to go but the streets, she went to the police for help and they told her about the Mission.

“As I came through the Mission doors, it was like a weight was lifted off of me,” she shares, and she soon joined our New Life Program (NLP). “It’s indescribable what they helped me do for myself. Because the program is Biblically based, that’s the nourishment. If you apply what you learn here it will make a big impact in your life.”

And Grace herself is a beautiful example. After graduating from the NLP, she became a shelter manager at our Family Shelter and the night manager for the NLP where she now impacts the lives of others. “I’m not just ministering with words, but with actions—helping them learn to wash their clothes or get to their doctor appointments,” she explains. “Some are broken and hardened, so it’s rewarding when even one of them says, ‘You made an impact in my life.’”

One of Grace’s greatest joys comes at the holidays when, through the support of Mission partners and volunteers, she can impact the lives of the homeless children in our care. “To see the kids’ faces light up from the gifts they receive, it’s amazing.”

Grace is grateful for how God brings together everything necessary to change people’s lives. “I appreciate the Mission and God’s provisions . . . the volunteers and donors. Through their compassion and love, hope is always possible!”
We’re grateful to volunteers from Northland Cathedral who provided the main event evening meal at the Men’s Center for Mission: Christmas 2013. “Every experience our men and women have had in sharing with the men at the Mission has been a tremendous blessing,” said Paul McGarvey, assistant pastor, Northland Cathedral. “It’s enjoyable and very gratifying to serve when you see the ministry that City Union Mission has to the poor. Each time, our people come home more eager to serve the Lord and help people.”

Jesus tells us it is more blessed to give than receive and, especially at the holidays, the Mission offers many opportunities for you and your family, friends, congregation and coworkers to delight in the experience of bringing joy to others.

You can be a Mission partner this Christmas by taking part in the activities listed below and making blessed memories that will continue to warm the hearts of those in need through the cold months ahead!

Donate Gifts
We need thousands of items of clothing, toys, small appliances and more to stock the shelves of our Christmas Store and provide presents for our neighbors who might otherwise be forgotten. See Page 8 for details on donating gifts for our Mission: Christmas 2014 outreach! We especially need these gifts early to be sure our shelves are filled for our first shoppers.

Give Financially
In addition to the donated gifts we receive, we buy other items in large quantities from special sources—at a lower cost per piece, often below warehouse prices without tax. We need financial donations to cover these costs as well as other special holiday needs. See Page 10 to learn more.

Volunteer
It takes the loving hearts and hands of scores of individuals to carry out our holiday outreach. If you’d like to help in a very personal way, see Page 12 for a list and description of our volunteer opportunities.

Last year more than 400 volunteers shared their giving spirit by bringing Christmas to some of our area’s neediest families. In all, more than 15,500 gifts were distributed to more than 3,500 people through the Mission’s holiday programs and activities. Thank you for your eager and tireless efforts!

Maranatha Academy sixth graders demonstrated once again their dedication to helping us serve our guests. From their annual canned food collection they presented the Mission with over 1,000 pounds of pure blessings for our food warehouse. May God bless these young people for being good and faithful servants!

Employees from Safelite AutoGlass wrapped presents at our Christmas Store last holiday season. They also donated $1,500 toward purchasing gifts. Thank you, Safelite, for having a heart for the poor and the homeless of Kansas City!

For additional information and updates on our holiday needs and programs, visit www.MissionChristmas.org throughout the holiday season!

These Friends Ensure Love and Hope Happen at the Mission
We’re grateful to volunteers of all ages and from all corners of our city who make our holiday programs possible.

Lives Touched through . . .
Mission: Christmas 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3,545</th>
<th>651</th>
<th>15,551</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individuals</td>
<td>Families</td>
<td>Gifts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mission: Christmas 2014 Gift List

Household Items
- 4-qt. crock pots: 100
- Toaster ovens: 100
- Electric griddles: 100
- Cookie sheets: 200
- Tupperware-like lidded food storage sets: 200

Men’s & Teen Boys’ Gifts
- Bath & body/cologne sets: 300
- Pajamas/lounge pants (all sizes): 150
- Watches: 75
- Wallets: 75
- Slippers: 150

Women’s & Teen Girls’ Gifts
- Bath & body sets: 900
- Pajamas/lounge pants (all sizes): 400
- Watches: 100
- Purses: 100
- Slippers: 200

Boys’ Gifts
- Remote control vehicles: 200
- NERF toys: 400
- Lego sets: 400
- Action figures: 400
- Pajamas (all sizes): 200
- House shoes/sliders (all sizes): 200

Girls’ Gifts
- Barbie dolls: 300
- Disney princess dolls: 300
- Zhu Zhu pets: 300
- Polly Pocket playsets: 300
- Pajamas (all sizes): 300
- House shoes/sliders (all sizes): 300

Baby/Toddler Gifts
- Baby blankets: 100
- Diapers: 100
- Baby wipes: 100
- Baby bottles/sipper cups: 100
- Toys (0-24 months): 100
- Onesies/pajamas: 100
- Hat/glove sets: 100

Other Items
- Board games: 200
- Monopoly, Connect 4, Sorry, Clue, Apples to Apples: 400
- Sports: Basketballs, footballs, soccer balls, skateboards: 500
- Electronics: MP3 players, digital cameras

Men’s Emergency Shelter
- Long underwear sets (all sizes): 400
- Flip flops/shower shoes: 350

Men’s Christian Life Program
- Jeans (all sizes): 80
- Pajamas: 25
- Watches: 30
- Wallets: 30
- Belts: 20
- Slippers: 10

Please provide items that are new and not gift-wrapped. For up-to-date information about gifts we need, visit www.MissionChristmas.org.

Gifts Each Family Receives
- One item from the household list and a food box
- Adult—two gifts and three stocking stuffers
- Teenager—two gifts and three stocking stuffers
- Children—three gifts and three stocking stuffers

The gift lists on these pages have been created to target the items most requested, needed and appreciated in past years. We need donations in the quantities indicated to stock the shelves at our Christmas Store and for our other holiday distributions. Our Store opens the first Monday after Thanksgiving, so we encourage you to begin purchasing the items you wish to donate now and bring them to the Mission by November 17. The delivery details are provided below.

Don’t Forget the Stocking Stuffers
Small, practical gifts can often mean the most to people who are homeless or who struggle to get by. Your Sunday school class, work group or civic organization may choose to help by holding donation drives for stocking stuffers—items our Mission guests and residents need all year-round. After you’ve collected these items, simply follow the delivery instructions at left.

- For adults: toothbrush & toothpaste, razor, shampoo, body wash, cologne/perfume, knit hats, gloves, religious tracts
- For children: toothbrush & toothpaste, knit hats & gloves, small toys

Beat the Christmas Rush!
We’ll welcome the first shoppers to our Christmas Store bright and early on Monday, December 1, and our shelves must be stocked and ready! To be sure we’re prepared, we will begin accepting your donated items NOW.

In previous years we’ve often run short of items in the first two weeks our Christmas Store is open. The Mission’s new warehouse provides plenty of space to store donated inventory, so please make your donations early to ensure our shelves never go empty!

Simply deliver your gifts to the Christmas Store at 1700 E. 8th Street, Kansas City, Missouri, weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., or to the Family Center, 1310 Wabash, after 3 p.m. daily and anytime during the weekend.

Early delivery of gift items is crucial.

Donate Gifts for Our Christmas Store and More

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Help Cover Cost of . . . Mission: Christmas 2014

If your business, civic organization or other group is looking for a greater way to partner with the Mission and impact the community, consider these opportunities for support.

Purchase Christmas Gifts
While we’re grateful to receive donated items for our Christmas Store, we must also purchase inventory that isn’t donated to make sure our shelves are stocked and ready for shoppers. It costs approximately $7,000 per day—or $35,000 per week—to maintain our inventory. We invite your group to make a financial contribution to cover a full or partial day of items to fill our shelves.

Sponsor Our “No Family Forgotten” Program
This initiative was created to meet the needs of families who are unaware assistance is available through our Christmas Store or who don’t realize they have a need until after the Store has closed. Like those who “shop” in our store, each income-qualified family receives an item for their home and age-appropriate gifts for the members of their household. This year we expect to assist as many as 200 families or 450 individuals at a cost of $30 per person. Your group can make sure no adult or child is left out this Christmas with a sponsorship gift of $13,500.

“Adopt” the Mission
Our “wish list” on the next page includes items and products we use to conduct our programs and services on a daily basis, all year-round. You may choose to cover the cost of one or more of these particular needs. Your contribution will offset our budget, allowing more donated income to be used directly to help the homeless.

Purchase “Out of Inventory” Items
After the opening of our Christmas Store on December 1, you’re invited to visit www.MissionChristmas.org each evening after 4:00 p.m. to review the items that have been depleted. You may give online immediately so the Mission can purchase those items and have them in place on the shelves for the next day’s shoppers.

1

To learn more about these financial partnership opportunities, please contact Cara Madden at (816) 474-9380, ext. 1497 or cara.madden@cityunionmission.org.

The Mission’s 2014 Holiday Wish List

Meal Ministries
Food for Vanderberg Youth Center – $12,000
(after-school snacks for tutoring and programs)

Program Ministries
Crisis prevention training – $850
(staff to work with clients and guests)
Family Shelter Learning Center – $600
(materials & resources)
Counseling and education – $1,600
(counselor/discipleship resources)
Mental health first-aid training – $500
(for frontline staff, 10 people @ $50 per person)

Camp Ministries
Specialized skill training – $560
(camp staff safety training for archery and other sports)
ACA (American Camp Association) membership – $930
(required for accreditation)

Lifeguarding, CPR and first-aid training – $695
A CA (American Camp Association) membership – $930
(required for accreditation)

Shelter Ministries
Twin size fitted sheets – $1,375 per month
(275 sheets @ $5 each)
Bath towels – $600 per month
(150 towels @ $4 each)
Volunteer
Your Time and Talents

The volunteer opportunities below offer compassionate individuals special ways to have a very personal and meaningful impact on a hurting family or individual. For more information and to apply, visit www.MissionChristmas.org.

Christmas Assistance Interviewers
Once a family has been qualified to receive Christmas assistance, volunteers will then have the opportunity to share the Gospel and offer spiritual encouragement.

Christmas Store Buyers
Be “on call” on a daily basis to go shopping at discount stores for specific items needed to fill the shelves of the Christmas Store.

Christmas Store Shopper’s Assistant
Accompany the shoppers at our Christmas Store and assist them as they select gifts for their families. Then, bag the gifts in preparation for the gift wrappers.

Christmas Gift Wrappers
After families have selected their gifts in the Store, the items are bagged and tagged. The presents are then taken to the wrapping station where volunteers wrap them, apply name tags and place the family’s gifts in a giant red sack to be delivered to their home a few days before Christmas.

A Father’s Second Chance

Just a few short months ago, Clarence, a graduate of our Christian Life Program (CLP), secured a full-time job. The salary and benefits bring him confidence on many levels, but he’s especially excited he’ll be able to provide presents for his children this Christmas—something he couldn’t do last year on his own.

Before coming to the Mission, Clarence’s life was on a downhill spiral. He grew up in a stable family but joined a gang right out of high school. “I was angry toward a lot of people and it gave me comfort to be part of something,” he explains. He met a woman who had three children and the couple eventually had three of their own. With little education and no marketable skills, he struggled to provide for his family and turned to alcohol to ease his stress. When the mother of his children left, taking his son and daughters with her, he felt he had nothing to live for. He came to the Mission, joined the CLP, and asked for our help to become the man and father he longed to be.

“Being in the Mission’s program was the best thing that ever happened to me,” Clarence says today. “It made me more aware of other people’s feelings and not just my own. It changed how I talk, react and respond.” And it strengthened his relationship with the Lord. “God says, ‘Put your faith in Me and I’ll provide what you need.’”

Clarence relied on God to provide for his children’s needs through the Mission last Christmas. “Even though I was at the Mission, I still had an obligation—even more so, a desire—to have presents for my kids,” Clarence says. “The Christmas Store was such a blessing. I got to pick out the things I knew they would like—a basketball for my son and books for my daughters.”

And he has this message for Mission donors who provided him the opportunity for a second chance: “Your investment here truly changes lives, I didn’t realize God was this awesome. He saved me!”
Our 2014 Annual Award Recipients

Each year we honor Mission friends who partner with us in special ways to bring hope to Kansas City’s homeless and less fortunate. This year’s recognition luncheon was held on September 16 at Fiorella’s Jack Stack Barbecue. We thank each of our 2014 Service Award recipients for their dedication to our ministry and Jack Stack for their continued generosity.

Matthew 25 Award
For Outstanding Corporate Involvement
The Mission presents this award in recognition of the many years of commitment and excellent service a corporation (business, organization, foundation, media outlet, etc.) has provided to Kansas City’s poor and homeless through partnership with City Union Mission. The award reflects key verses found in Matthew 25: “Well done, thou good and faithful servant . . . enter into the joy of the Lord.” (Verse 21) And, “in as much as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.” (Verse 40)

- The Water Hole
- Scarbrough International
- Union Supply Group
- Platte County YMCA
- DEMDACO
- Life 88.5
- Moyes Eye Center

A Cup in His Name Award
For Exemplary Church Involvement
This honor is awarded to local churches in recognition of their many years of commitment and participation with City Union Mission in serving the least of these. The award is named after a key teaching of Jesus found in Matthew 10:42: “And whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward.”

- Grace Christian Fellowship

Director’s Award
For Outstanding Philanthropic Leadership
This recognition goes to an individual with a record of exceptional generosity and who has demonstrated outstanding civic and charitable responsibility by his or her philanthropic leadership role in our community.

- Dayton Moore
- Bill Miller

Compassion for the Homeless Award
This award is presented to an individual who exemplifies compassion to an extraordinary degree and works to extend this value as broadly as possible through dedication to those the Mission serves.

- Kay Johnson
- Dave Gordon

Barnabas Award
This award is presented to a church ambassador in recognition of his or her gift of time and resources in order to bring his or her church into a greater awareness of the Mission, supporting our ministry in the inner city. This recipient goes beyond that which is required, exercising passion on behalf of the Mission’s vision.

- Mike Head, Antioch Baptist Church

Volunteer Award for Exceptional Effort
This honor recognizes individuals who have demonstrated heartfelt compassion for those we serve through numerous volunteer opportunities, giving of that most valued resource—their time.

- Arthur Lott
- Fred McCain
- Melanie Golightly
- Marge and John Raya
- Darlene Engle
CAMPAIGN GOAL: $5.5 Million

October 1, 2014 – January 31, 2015

WE CELEBRATE HOPE
Reach Out to K.C.’s Poor and Homeless

We’re grateful for our faithful family of supporters who give generously during the holiday season through programs like our Mission: Christmas. But the fact remains that homelessness, hunger and despair remain steady year-round! By supporting our annual Celebrate Hope campaign, you help build the financial foundation to reach out to Kansas City’s poor and homeless 365 days a year with programs like these that bring immediate relief and permanent transformation:

• Food, shelter, clothing and medical services
• Counseling, case management and spiritual guidance
• Long-term Christian recovery
• Career-development and job placement assistance
• Summer camp and wholesome year-round activities for children
• The ability to keep pace with growing and changing needs

Because the Mission accepts no funding that would require us to compromise the Christ-centered values at the heart of every aspect of our ministry, we’re blessed to rely on financial contributions from compassionate individuals, church congregations, local businesses and like-minded foundations to meet our campaign goal, which represents about half of our annual budget. This holiday season please pledge your financial support to this important initiative and show our homeless guests that love and hope are always possible.

WAYS TO GIVE

• Respond generously to our mailings from now until January 31, 2015, or donate online at www.cityunionmission.org.
• Send a holiday gift in honor or memory of a friend, family member or business associate.
• Ask your company to match your Celebrate Hope gift to the Mission.
• Give online at FeedKCNow.org. Gifts to this hunger-fighting initiative also support Celebrate Hope. (See details to the right.)

For more information on ways to give, including “challenge” opportunities or donations of securities, automobiles or collectibles, contact Dennis Chapman, Chief Development Officer, at give@cityunionmission.org or (816) 474-9380, ext. 1476.

People in Kansas City are hungry, not only for food, but also for the guidance, hope and opportunities that lead to a better life. FeedKCNow.org is the Mission’s metro-wide initiative to nourish them physically, spiritually, emotionally and educationally. Visit FeedKCNow.org to learn how you can join partners like John Dorsey, Greg Cotton and Dayton Moore to make a difference in our community!

John Dorsey
Kansas City Chiefs General Manager
I’m proud to be part of this Kansas City community, so it hurts me to know there are neighbors who are hungry. Visit FeedKCNow.org to learn how you can partner with City Union Mission and me in bringing hope to hungry neighbors in need!

Greg Cotton
Sporting Kansas City General Manager and Chief of Staff
Knowing there are neighbors among us—especially children—going hungry on a daily basis causes me great concern. But with support from the community, City Union Mission feeds people in every sense of the word. We can all make a difference by joining the Mission in a very important initiative. Visit FeedKCNow.org to learn more!

Dayton Moore
Kansas City Royals General Manager
For more than 90 years, City Union Mission has fed hungry people in so many important ways. It serves hundreds of meals every day, and with each one comes opportunities for guidance, education and training to help struggling people get back on their feet. That’s why I’m joining the Mission’s initiative to “Feed KC Now,” and I hope you will too!
The Mission recently broke ground on the campus of Camp CUMCITO for our new $2.2 million Multipurpose Center. The facility will house an indoor gymnasium as well as a full kitchen and dining room, restrooms, showers, an infirmary and living space for two cooks and nurses. We’re grateful for donations already received toward the cost of construction but contributions of the remaining $1.2 million are still needed. Tax credits are available for those who qualify. See below for details.

From Dan’s Desk

Dear Friend,

Throughout the pages of this issue of The Light you’ve read about the gifts needed to bring Christmas joy to the homeless and needy of Kansas City and how you can help us provide them. Yet while the material aspect of our holiday outreach is essential for allowing our guests and residents to experience the traditions we all cherish and love, it will never overshadow the true meaning of the season, which is always at the forefront of our programs and activities.

Our holiday festivities bring special opportunities to share the Good News of Christ’s birth and the hope it brings to all people. From those who are homeless, to men and women battling addiction, to families who have suffered economic hardship—we help them understand that the gift of God’s Son is the most precious and powerful one they will ever receive.

The excitement and gratitude I see on the faces of those who benefit from our holiday programs always warms my heart, but no more so than the joy on the faces of those who make them possible—dear friends like you. I pray you’ll partner with us in our Mission: Christmas outreach this year, as we bring the community together in a spirit of giving and love.

May God bless you abundantly this holiday season and always.

For His glory,

Rev. Daniel J. Doty
Executive Director

Plan Now for Year-End Giving

As the end of the year approaches, you may find it beneficial to consider the following options for creating a year-end gift that represents your compassion and concern for Kanas City’s poor and homeless while allowing you the most significant tax benefit.

- Donations of cash are the simplest form of giving and offer the greatest benefit to the Mission.
- Gifts of stocks and other securities (mutual funds, bonds, etc.) allow you to give without depleting current cash reserves.
- Contributions of products or services your company provides or manufactures can be used to offset our budget.
- Used cars, trucks or vans can be used in Mission programs or sold for funding.
- Some planned gifts may also offer current tax incentives.

Tax Credits Available

City Union Mission offers Missouri’s Affordable Housing Assistance Program (AHAP) tax credits to donors on a first-come, first-served basis. They are available to those who have a Missouri business tax liability and who donate gifts of $5,000 or more designated to the new Multipurpose Center. To learn more, contact Dennis Chapman at dennis.chapman@cityunionmission.org or (816) 474-9380, ext. 1476 or Calvin Caylor at calvin.caylor@cityunionmission.org or (816) 474-9380, ext. 1475.

For Year-End Giving
Chaplain’s Corner

When the Mission and those we serve are remembered in prayer, miracles happen.

Please pray with us . . .

- For the success of our Celebrate Hope campaign (see Page 16) and the continued generosity of this community.

- For Carlos who recently rededicated his life to Christ and reunited with his father and seeks God’s help to reconcile with his mother, brothers and sisters.

- For William who, at age 50, cannot read and must rely on others to read important mail to him.

- For Ben who is suffering the stress and tension of homelessness.

- For these hardworking men who have left homelessness for new residences: David, Steven, Jamal and Dwight.

Financial Stewardship

Because You Gave (January – August 2014)

- **727** Meals Served (daily avg.)
- **443** Homeless Sleeping Overnight (daily avg.)
- **5,014** Patients Seen (for medical issues)
- **276** Chapel Service Attendance (daily avg.)
- **317** Salvations and Rededications


- **$10,545,130.00**

Amount Raised (As of Sept. 23, 2014)

- **$10,614,391.92**