

YOUR SUPPORT IS GIVING WILLIE A SECOND CHANCE

and he can't thank
you enough!

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Read how Willie
found God's purpose
for his life.

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A Message from TERRY MEGLI

Love Your Neighbor... And Help Meet Our Summer Challenge

The Bible tells us in Mark 12:31 (KJV), "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." And in these challenging times, as many of our neighbors are hurting, those words are especially important.

You've seen how much people are suffering right now. Many are facing hunger or unemployment... or even greater difficulties like homelessness or addiction. Your heart calls you to give them a hand up and show them God's love.

That's why I'm thankful for friends like YOU.

The summer months can be difficult at the Mission – the meals we serve during June, July and August require \$2,000,000 alone. Then you factor in the costs to provide safe shelter and faith-based recovery services in the wake of the ongoing pandemic, and it all adds up.

We can't meet this summer challenge without your assistance!

During these busy months, I hope you will remember our homeless and struggling neighbors. They need your encouragement, prayers and compassion more than ever. Your financial support is also critical to providing them with life essentials, faith-based guidance and life-transforming opportunities.

Thank you for loving your neighbors this summer and all year long.

Giving thanks
to God,



Terry Megli
Chief Executive
Officer



Your Gifts in Action

January - March 2021 *Thank You!*

				
241	528	1,470	230	134
Homeless Sleeping Overnight (daily average)	Meals Served (daily average)	Patients Seen (for medical issues)	Chapel Service Attendance (daily average)	Salvations and Rededications

Consider These Giving Options

City Union Mission is blessed by weekly donations from generous financial partners who are making gifts from the minimum distributions required by their 401(k) and 403(b) plans, as well as from Donor-Advised Funds. If you'd like to learn more about these options for consistent giving, contact Dennis Chapman at **(816) 329-1476** or dennis.chapman@cityunionmission.org



A SHOUTOUT TO DELOITTE

Over the past year, **Deloitte** has provided the Mission with a comprehensive analysis, market assessment and forecast to guide the planning of both our shelter expansion and vocation development program. As we work to meet the needs of this community, we truly appreciate Deloitte's partnership and dedication to our ministry!



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“I FEEL LIKE I’VE GOT A PURPOSE.”

After many years of working for a major manufacturing company, Willie was laid off. Not only did the job loss destroy his livelihood, it also shattered his self-esteem. “I began feeling I was worthless,” he says. “And my life spiraled downhill.”

No longer bound by a daily routine, he began shirking his responsibilities, neglecting important relationships and drinking to fill his time. When his unemployment payments ran out, he lost his home.

He stayed with friends or in motels when he could. But for several months, “I lived in homeless camps... in abandoned houses... even underneath a bridge,” he says, recalling painfully frigid nights.

Finally, walking the downtown streets, he noticed City Union Mission on the hill. “There was a cross on the building and it was all lit up.” And he felt God calling him to our doors.

The compassion of our staff made him feel

“God said, ‘You need to stay here and get your life cleaned up,’ and that’s what I’ve been doing.”

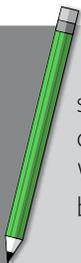
welcome and at home. “And the more I listened to the Bible classes, I started to enjoy them and knew I needed God in my life.”

In addition to growing his relationship with the Lord, he studied hard and earned his high school diploma. He participated in our trades camp where he gained experience installing drywall. And now in our new vocation development program, he’s learning to drive a tractor trailer and is being recruited by a trucking company.

“I plan on being an over-the-road driver, buying a house and reconnecting with my daughter,” he says of his future plans, well aware of what could have been: “If not for the

Mission, there’s no question in my mind I would have overdosed or frozen to death.”

Willie is beyond grateful for this second chance in life – and says it’s thanks to the love you’ve shown for a neighbor like him. “I feel like I have a purpose... goals... and a new direction. I can be a good member of society.”



Mission's Car Ministry Program Helps Ensure Graduates Succeed

One of the greatest challenges our graduates face on the road to independence is reliable transportation. Even where public options are available, they can be time consuming and inflexible. So we ensure our graduates are supported with a way to get to work, manage grocery shopping and appointments and care for their families' needs by providing them with a dependable vehicle.

Through the Mission's Car Ministry Program, we accept donations of used cars, pickups, SUVs and minivans in good condition. The Mission provides basic maintenance and inspections, and matches graduates with an appropriate vehicle type – a truck for a man working construction, for example, or a van for a single mom.

Currently we have only a half dozen cars in inventory, far fewer than the number of men and women preparing to graduate and begin their new lives.

If you have a vehicle you'd like to donate to bless a Mission graduate or want to make a financial contribution to be used toward maintenance and repair, please call

(816) 841-6171 or email us at **car.ministry@cityunionmission.org**.



Thank You, HEARTLAND CHEVROLET

We're grateful to this generous Mission partner who donated a pre-owned Chevrolet Spark to the Mission, which was given to a recent graduate of our Christian Life Program. In addition to this tremendous blessing, the dealership supports the Mission on a monthly basis through clothing and food drives, even offering extra discounts to their customers who donate items.

"Our employees love to get involved, and our customers love it too," says General Sales Manager Steve Isaacs. "They love the idea of giving back to the community."

Holding on Through the Storm

When a tornado hit a town outside Omaha, the 120-mile winds destroyed the home of Mr. Robin Stoll. He recalls the tornado "...picked me up and threw me against the tree... so I just held on." And that tree helped save his life.

In times of uncertainty, it's important to know we have something strong to hold onto. Psalm 46 says "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." He can be trusted, no matter the stakes. We can also take steps to ensure we're financially secure for years to come.

A Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) is a financial agreement that provides you dependable lifetime payments and allows us to further our work. CGA's offer confidence and financial security, no matter what life brings. Here's how:

1. You transfer cash, securities or other property to City Union Mission and receive a tax deduction.
2. We pay a fixed amount each year to you for life.
3. When the gift annuity ends, the remaining principal goes to our work.

Even though we can't see what is ahead, the promise of God's unwavering love stands firm.

For the full version of this article, request a FREE copy of "God's Provision for Uncertain Times" by contacting Dennis Chapman at

(816) 329-1476 or **dennis.chapman@cityunionmission.org** – or bless your family today with a God-honoring will at **christianwill.org/cityunionmission**.