

A Publication of CITY UNION MISSION

THE LIGHT

VOLUME 63 • NO. 2 • 2023 FALL NEWSLETTER

A Heart of Thanksgiving

Adam wants to share
how your support
changed his life!



Don't miss ...



**Our Thanksgiving Campaign
has begun!** Page 2



**"I'm the person I was meant
to be."** Page 3



The backbone of our ministry...
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For more information: (816) 474-9380 cityunionmission.org

Anticipating This New Season with Thanksgiving



A Message from DR. TERRY MEGLI

It's hard to believe we're here again: over halfway through another year. Here at City Union Mission, preparations for our busy fall season are already underway.

Outside, the weather will soon start to cool. But inside our doors, it's still warm and inviting as **we get ready for the many men, women and children who will come to us during the months leading up to Thanksgiving**. It's one of my favorite times of the year, and it's possible thanks to the generosity of friends like you.

As I think about this time of the year, I'm reminded of the words of Ecclesiastes 3:1: *"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens."*

Each time someone comes to the Mission for help, their season changes. They leave a time of pain and struggle that

they may not have anticipated and certainly didn't desire – and they **choose** a season of support and recovery. **I truly believe this is God's hand at work through your partnership in this life-giving ministry.**

Now, as we prepare to serve an estimated 32,000 meals in the coming months, I ask you to pray for every struggling man and woman who finds a seat at our tables. Pray that if the time is right for a new season in their life, God will make it known and see it through. Thank you. I'm grateful for you now, and always.

Giving thanks to God,

Dr. Terry Megli
Chief Executive Officer



Join Our

2023 Thanksgiving CAMPAIGN

32,000

Meals Needed this Thanksgiving Season

This Thanksgiving, countless guests will gather at our tables. Many are alone... longing to overcome homelessness and poverty... wishing they could reunite with their families for the holidays.

For just \$2.50, YOU can provide a meal to nourish their bodies and lift their spirits. Your gift surrounds hurting people with loving care that leads to a better life through:



Safe, welcoming shelter



Warm clothing, coats & shoes



Classes & job training



God's life-changing love

Please help our neighbors in need this holiday season! Send your 2023 Thanksgiving Campaign gift today using the enclosed reply card and envelope OR online at cityunionmission.org.

Meet Adam— who is thankful for your support!



“I’ve become
the person I
was **meant**
to be.”



Adam didn’t see the harm in using drugs. After all, his mother struggled with addiction and managed to love and care for her family. “I have good memories of times with her,” he says. “She spoiled me.”

In his teens, Adam began drinking and using drugs, but it took a heavy toll, eventually destroying his self-esteem, damaging his health and crushing his hopes for a happy and productive life. “I dropped out of school, was in and out of jail and couldn’t keep a job,” he says. “I got down to 115 pounds. My addiction was killing me.”

Finally, he had to be hospitalized, and when he was ready to be discharged, a case worker referred him to our Men’s Shelter, where he found a warm bed, three meals a day, medical care, clothing, everything he needed to grow physically strong.

But Adam wanted more. He wanted to learn a new way to live, so he entered our New Beginnings Covenant Recovery Program, and there he surrendered his life to Christ.

With the help of his newfound faith, Bible studies, counseling and life skills classes, Adam began

“
I’ve been reborn.
”

processing his pain and developing the tools he needs to live a godly life. After graduating, he entered our Christian Life Program, where he continues to grow physically, emotionally and spiritually strong. “I’ve developed self-esteem and confidence. I feel brand new.”

Today, Adam is developing vocational skills through providing security at the Mission, and after he passes his high school equivalency exam, he plans to earn a degree in cyber security. For the first time in years, he has hopes for a happy and successful future. “I have a new life.”

Adam is filled with thanksgiving for God’s redeeming love in his life – and your incredible generosity and support! “I was a lost soul, but the Mission helped me become the person I was meant to be.”

Find a Treasure Change a Life!

When you visit one of our City Thrift locations, you'll find hidden treasures and great bargains – gently used clothing, furniture, household items, tools, toys, bikes and so much more!

And when you make a donation or find a treasure at one of our stores, you'll be blessing others' lives in so many ways. All City Thrift proceeds go to support our life-changing programs and services and give our struggling neighbors access to affordable essentials.

Let your old stuff... do good stuff!
Shop at one of our City Thrift locations in Overland Park, Shawnee, Waldo, Blue Springs, Metcalf Avenue-Overland Park and Lawrence.

For store addresses, shopping hours or donation bin locations, go to citythrift.org. To schedule a donation pick-up, call ☎(816) 222-5081.

Bed & Bread Club®

City Union Mission • Kansas City, MO

The backbone of our ministry...

For our homeless and hurting neighbors here in Kansas City, each day is a struggle to survive, to find hope to carry on.

Jesus calls us to care for them, to welcome them in, to feed and shelter and clothe them in His name.

Because of the generosity of the members of our monthly giving club – **Bed and Bread** – we have the resources to do just that!

You're invited to become a member of this extraordinary group. When you join, your monthly gift will help ensure that we're able to care for every man, woman and child who walks through our doors, providing the support they need each month as they change their lives through God's love.

To learn more about becoming a monthly giving partner, go to cityunionmission.org/bedandbread.



Sign up now!



Volunteers needed... like YOU!

Ever thought of how you can do more for men, women and children here at the Mission? Come serve as a volunteer! There's plenty to do, and no experience or skill sets required... just open hands and a willing heart. We'd love to have you!

Contact us today to see how you can help...

Call: **Chris at (816) 474-9380**

Email: **impact@cityunionmission.org**



Give the gift of independence

Our long-term programs help participants grow physically, emotionally and spiritually strong, while developing the vocational and life skills they need to successfully navigate life on their own.

As they near graduation, we support them in their transition to stable, independent living by purchasing and gifting each participant with a reliable, affordable vehicle through our **Car Ministry Program**.

Will you prayerfully consider donating to this important work? Your gift will help support our graduates as they start life anew, ensuring they have dependable vehicles to get to work and take care of all the personal and family responsibilities that accompany independent living.

To make a donation, visit cityunionmission.org/cars. Thank you!



HOPE LIVES HERE

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