

A Message from Mark: **His Glorious Presence**

Jude 1:24-25



Often times, God will bring someone into your life to teach you about yourself and your relationship with Him. God brought Ronn Mason into my life to show me that faith should be greater than our circumstances. I met Ronn about eight years ago because he was homeless and addicted to crack cocaine. He and his wife were both homeless because of their lifestyle and choices. However, God used this homeless situation and your gifts, which allow the Mission to open its door to men, women, and children with physical *and* spiritual needs. Because of your compassion, Ronn came to the Mission for a meal and a bed; there he heard the Gospel and believed. Ronn later shared that he left the shelter one night and decided to allow the message he had heard to truly transform his life. “I went

We never looked back!

and preached my wife out of the drug house...and we never looked back.” He didn’t care what the drug dealer would say or do. Ronn simply knew that it was time for a divine change and that God would accomplish that change.

After coming to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ, Ronn’s life became dedicated to helping others who were homeless or in prison. I was almost envious of how diligently Ronn demonstrated his joy and contentment in what God provided for him. If you heard him preach in our chapel, you would think that Ronn was one of the wealthiest people on the planet because he often talked about “God’s blessings” and was diligent in providing for our guests. However, after witnessing how Ronn lived and seeing his humble abode, you would recognize that his thankfulness had more to do with his relationship to God than a standard of living.

Recently, we celebrated the heavenly homecoming of Ronn Mason, who left this earth at the age of 49. Sudden death, sudden glory. More than anybody I know, I can say that Ronn was genuinely thankful. He saw God’s mercy, care, and provision for his servant. It wasn’t a façade. Ronn had very little by the world’s standards, but he didn’t know that because he was too preoccupied with being content in God. Not just content with God’s provisions but with his mercy and sovereignty. Ronn had many lessons to teach about life and contentment in serving and knowing God. I thank Ronn for his example and I thank you for enabling people, like Ronn, to be eternally impacted by the ministry of rescue. Your gifts made a difference in Ronn’s life and in the lives of the many he encouraged.

Thank you for being a rescuer to souls in need. Thank you for helping us help others.

To God be the Glory,
Mark Criss
Executive Director



See Ronn Mason’s Testimony:
www.lcrm.org/media.cfm



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Thank You for Being a Rescuer!

We are so grateful for all of you for being a “rescuer,” by helping the Mission make a difference in Michigan’s capital area. Look below for just a few of the many ways YOU are helping us help others:

Alliance OB/GYN: Employee Jeans Day

This donation, collected from the employees at Alliance, went to help the women and children at our Maplewood Center. As you can see on page three, women and children make up the largest percentage of our homeless guests. We are so grateful for our new Maplewood Center and for those who give to ensure its continued successful operation.

Capital Area Women’s Lifestyle Magazine: Lady Classic

For the third year, CAWLM chose the City Rescue Mission to benefit from the proceeds of their Lady Classic golf outing. We are so grateful to Tiffany Dowling and her dedicated staff for the effort and creativity that goes into making this event such a success and so enjoyed by those who attend.



First National Bank MSU vs U of M Food Drive



Along with a chili cook-off for employees, First National Bank celebrate this timeless rivalry by working together toward a good cause: “feeding the need” at the City Rescue Mission. Besides collecting several barrels worth of non-perishable food items, the group collected socks and personal need items and raised funds for the Mission to purchase food.

Jumpin’ Jax: Coats for Kids (Going on Now!)

Jumpin’ Jax is once again having their annual coat drive for kids. On November 16 through 18, patrons who bring in a child’s coat will receive one paid admission to the bounce arena for that day. The normal rate is \$8 per child, and parents are always free. Visit www.jumpinjaxbouncearena.com or call 517.372.4200 for more information.

H.O.P.E. - Tom Cullimore

John Schneider recently featured an article on Tom Cullimore and his efforts on behalf of our community. Tom, with the help of several local meat processors, collects extra game from hunters and processes the meat for donation to agencies who serve meals to homeless or low income individuals or families. Since the Mission serves the public, we are required to meet the same standards as any restaurant, and our cooks and helpers work hard to exceed those requirements, for the health and safety of our guests. Groups, like Tom’s, are greatly appreciated as they provide meat that also meets those regulations.

All our generous and faithful supporters!

We could not begin to list all those who give so generously to support the Mission. Our 100 years of service to the capital area is only possible because of your faithfulness and compassion. We look forward to another 100 years of meeting needs together. Thank you for being a rescuer!

Mission Statistics: January through September of 2011

Nights of Shelter: 35,156	Meals: 87,505
Men: 15,568 Single Women: 8,324 Mothers and Children: 11,264	Breakfast: 35,637 Lunch: 14,209 Dinner: 37,659
Food Orders: 173	Personal Needs: 1,144
Spiritual Growth and Biblical Counseling: 363 Individuals, 639 Sessions	Statistics for all of 2010: 33,375 Nights of Shelter; 93,703 Meals

Mission Free Store Now the Clothing Distribution Center

In the fall of 2009, the City Rescue Mission had to re-evaluate its focus and services, based upon increasing needs in the community and the then-upcoming completion of our expanded women and children's shelter. The result of this "refocus" involved adjustments to our former "Free Store." For a few months, the building itself was not operational and, when the facility re-opened in the same location, the facility was called our Clothing Distribution Center. The new name helps define exactly what service this location provides: free clothing to those of our guests in need. Due to the limited hours this facility operates, we can no longer accept donations at this location; however, this building is still in use providing clothing to men, women, and children. We also "centralized" our donation drop-off site to Michigan Avenue, with preferred hours from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. We have received questions from supporters who are concerned that we no longer offer free clothing to those in need, and we want to assure you that service does still exist for our guests. While we do hope to open a thrift store in the near future, to help defray increasing costs associated with the increasing services (see statistics above), this does not affect our clothing distribution center or the service it provides to those in need.

Holiday Barrel Drive to Help "Pack the Pantry"

This year, we are once again holding our holiday barrel drive to help "pack the pantry." The Mission will provide an estimated 112,000 meals this year to men, women, and children in Michigan's capital area. We also have a food pantry to distribute boxes of food to low income individuals and families; this service is available only as we have enough food supplies. Currently, there is a great need for food. By having a food drive or hosting a Mission barrel during the holidays, you can help pack the Mission pantry with non-perishable food items to supply these meals and food boxes during the holidays and into the following year. For more information or to request a barrel, please email info@lcrm.org or call 517.485.0145.



Upcoming 2011 Donation Giving Reports

To be the best stewards of our donations, the Mission long ago implemented the practice of “monthly giving reports.” This means that, should you give a monetary donation, you will receive notification of that gift in the middle of the following month. This allows us to take advantage of standard mailing rates offered by the United States Postal Service. Because we mail these monthly giving reports, we do not blanket mail an annual giving report. If you give a gift in December of 2011, you will receive a “monthly giving report” in January of 2012, which will include your December gift amount as well as your 2011 total. This saves the Mission the cost of another large mailing. If you would prefer to receive only an “annual” giving report, instead of receiving monthly giving reports, please email that preference to info@lcrm.org or call 517.485.0145. This will not affect your receipt of our monthly newsletter. If you have any questions, please call or email the above. Thank you!

CRM Centennial 3-6-5 Project to “Capture” Centennial Year of Service



As the Mission celebrates its centennial year of service, we would like to encourage supporters and volunteers to help us “capture” the day-to-day “work” that goes on behind the scenes. If your group is doing a drive or having an event to benefit the Mission, we would love to have you share photos with us. For more information on the Centennial 3-6-5 Project, please visit our website and click on the link on the home page. You can also find out more on the Mission’s page on facebook or by emailing info@lcrm.org.

Happy Thanksgiving!



Housekeeping

Tour of the Mission:

For those interested in a tour of the Mission at Michigan Avenue or Cedar Street, please call 517.485.0145.

Personal ID Number:

Above your name on your receipt or newsletter envelope is your PID. This number will help if you have a duplicate or have questions regarding a monetary donation to the Mission.

Tax Deduction/Credit:

Gifts given to the City Rescue Mission of Lansing qualify for a tax credit/deduction. By law, we are not allowed to list a dollar amount for non-monetary donations; please keep your store receipts for new items to attach to your copy of the receipt. Monthly giving reports for cash donations are always mailed in the middle of the following month.

Too Many Mailings?

If you are receiving a duplicate mailing, please call 517.485.0145 or email info@lcrm.org.

Mission Needs List

- Canned Fruit*
- Canned Vegetables*
*(#10 cans preferred)
- Ground Beef
- Tomato Sauce
or Diced Tomatoes
- Elbow Macaroni
- Wide Noodles
- Rice
- Underwear (Men and Women)**
- White Socks for Men**
- Pull-ups (all sizes)
- Cough Drops
- Shaving Cream
- Razors
- Lotion
- New Blankets