

# TIDINGS

ALLENTOWN RESCUE MISSION



Serving the entire Lehigh Valley since 1900

## From Gary's Desk:

91% Privately Funded  
100% Recession  
110% Occupied

Dear Donor Name,

As a gospel rescue mission, leading men to Jesus Christ is central to our purpose. We do it through chapel, Bible study, by example from the staff and by direct invitation. As a faith organization we are almost entirely funded by your private donations – 91% of our budget, to be exact. The City of Allentown helps us get Emergency Shelter Grant money and some support for our Clean Team. For those we are very thankful. We also earn some drug and alcohol treatment fees through the County of Lehigh. With nine dollars out of ten coming from folks like you, the staff and I are most grateful for your support.

Right now we are in a 100% recession. Money is tight. Some people have lost their jobs. Almost everyone is worried about their finances. Here at the Mission, we have concerns too. Will the donations come in? Will our finances hold up throughout the recession? Amidst all the headlines about “bailouts” and “stimulus

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## “I Felt like God had Failed Me.”

Shawn struggled with alcoholism for ten years. After losing his last job, he lived on the streets for over a month. “I felt like God had failed me so I turned my back on Him. I didn’t understand how He could let me live the way I was living.”

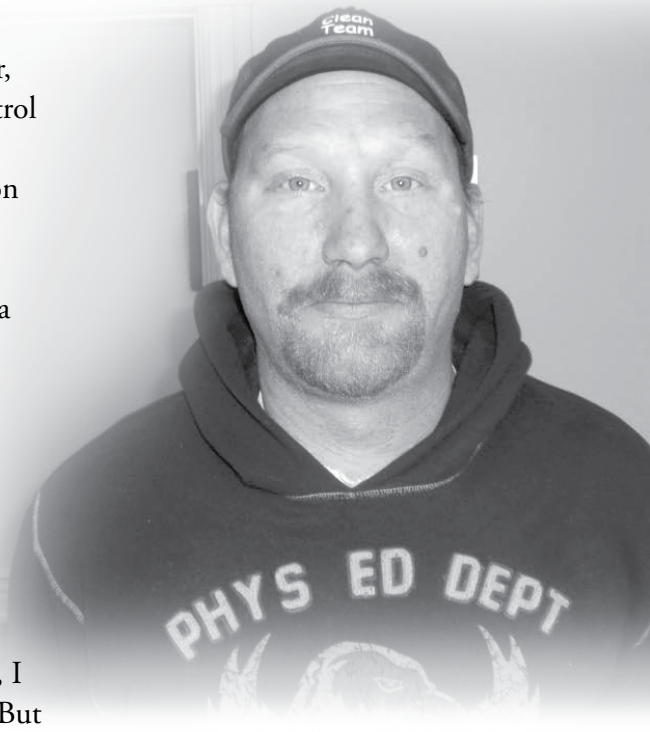
Complicated by bi-polar disorder, Shawn’s alcoholism raged out of control until he was finally hospitalized. “I got back on my prescribed medication and detoxed from the alcohol, but then I had nowhere to go.” Hospital staff recommended the Alpha-Omega recovery program at the Allentown Rescue Mission. “I wasn’t too happy about it, but I realized I needed a change.”

*“I got God back in my life!”*

“Before I came into the program, I always wanted to do things my way. But I realized that I had to give my life to God.” It’s not just himself that Shawn’s working hard for; he’s also trying to get custody of his nine-year-old daughter. “She’s in foster care right now. She was taken away from her mother and I’m trying to get her placed with my mom

until I can get squared away with a job and a place to live.”

Shawn has a lot on his plate these days. In addition to looking for a steady job so he can support himself and his



daughter, he also works as part of the Mission’s Clean Team and is studying to get his GED so he can go back to school and get a degree in restaurant management. It’s a lot to manage, but now that God’s part of Shawn’s team, anything is possible!

355 Hamilton Street ♦ P.O. Box 748 ♦ Allentown, PA 18105 ♦ 610-740-5500 ♦ [www.AllentownRescueMission.org](http://www.AllentownRescueMission.org)



## Gary – I’ll continue to help the Mission to do great things!

Enclosed is my gift to feed, shelter and care for the Lehigh Valley’s neediest people.

- \$XX.XX for XX meals and care
- \$XX.XX for XX meals and care
- \$XX.XX for XX meals and care
- \$\_\_\_\_\_ to help as many as possible
- Bill my credit card
- VISA  MC

CREDIT CARD # \_\_\_\_\_ CIV/SEC # \_\_\_\_\_

EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

Donate online at [www.AllentownRescueMission.org](http://www.AllentownRescueMission.org), or call 610-740-5500 ext.14.

Donor Name  
Donor Address  
Donor City, State Zip



Allentown Rescue Mission  
P.O. Box 748  
Allentown, PA 18105-0748



## From Gary's Desk...

(continued from front page)

packages," we still depend on you and your personal decision to give your private funds.

On top of those concerns, our client count is about 110% of last year. We are helping about 10% more people than 12 months ago. To make matters worse, once we HAVE helped them, it's extremely difficult for our clients to get a job in this economy. OUCH! They need to stay here longer, until they can find a job. It all costs more.

The summer is typically the worst time for donations to come in. We call it the summer slump. It happens every year, but this year the prospect of it is more worrisome. Please keep our clients in your thoughts and prayers. If you can, please keep the Mission on your giving list.

In His Service,

Gary F. Millspaugh  
Executive Director



# TIDINGS™

*Rescue, rehabilitation, and restoration for people in crisis.*

**Executive Director**  
Gary F. Millspaugh

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The Allentown Rescue Mission is a registered Pennsylvania charity. Official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Dept. of State by calling toll free, within PA 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

**TIDINGS is funded by private donations, not government money.**

# Pennsylvania Dutch Dinner

Over 485 guests and 50 volunteers enjoyed our 4th annual Genuine Pennsylvania Dutch Dinner on Saturday, May 2 at Asbury United Methodist Church. The menu consisted of your favorite authentic Pennsylvania Dutch dishes, such as hog maw (filled pig stomach), schnitz un knepp (dumplings, ham and dried apples), chicken pot pie, pork and sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, salads, rolls, beverages and shoo fly pie.

Special thanks to host Mike Mittman of the Wake Up Club, and sponsors: The Kutztown Folk Festival and THE FOX 1470 AM.

We're also thankful for our table sponsors, suppliers and volunteers for doing a tremendous job. Our generous donors helped by sponsoring a changed life. We hoped to have 187 men "sponsored" by folks like you. We raised a total of \$7,456.64 to change even more lives. Thank you!

## 150 Challenge Update

The Allentown Rescue Mission is hosting the 150 Challenge, a challenge to our community to complete 150 projects to benefit our community by the end of 2009.

On April 14 we held a "Moving Forward Mixer" to give the community an update on a few of our projects that are underway. We have already completed several projects and are working on completing many more.

Many have included cleaning up illegal dumpsites around the Lehigh Valley that are not only an eyesore but dangerous as well, through the help of the Allentown Rescue Mission's Clean Team.

To nominate, participate in or organize a project as a group or individual, please visit [www.150Challenge.org](http://www.150Challenge.org) or call Christina Pearson at (610) 740-5500 ext. 45.

## Life Recovery Treatment Program Now Open

We began renovations in December for a completely new living area for the clients in our Life Recovery Treatment Program (formerly Alpha-Omega). On April 30 we held an open house to celebrate its completion!

The program can now accommodate 24 men. It is a spiritually-based approach to recovery, using the 12-step philosophical model with Biblical bridges. The goal is not only individual spiritual renewal, but also restoration to family and community.



Executive Director Gary Millspaugh and Ismael Arcelay, Special Assistant to Mayor Ed Pawlowski, look over one of the client rooms for the new Life Recovery Treatment Program. "We are adding more than 3,000 in-patient days of FREE treatment," says Gary Millspaugh, "It is unprecedented in this region." The Life Recovery Program is a fully licensed in-patient facility, emphasizing free drug and alcohol treatment for men over 18. For admissions and referrals, call 484-239-2654.

# "Never Underestimate the Power of One!"



Jesus calls us to follow Him and work for Him. If we think only of our individual strengths or limitations, the task can sometimes seem

impossible. "What can one person do?" we ask. The answer here at the Allentown Rescue Mission is, "Plenty." Volunteering to serve a meal or answer a phone frees staff for other jobs. Donating food, clothing and bedding saves money.

With over 3,000 meals a month to prepare and serve, 1,417 nights of shelter to provide and hundreds of hours of care, gifts are always welcome, especially during difficult

times like these when only 1 of every 13 donors makes a gift!

One hour of your time, one shirt or jacket, one bag of groceries, one gift – each is vital to the success of this ministry and our ability to truly make a difference in the lives of people in need. If you can, help us continue to make a difference by sending a gift in the enclosed envelope or giving online at [www.AllentownRescueMission.org](http://www.AllentownRescueMission.org).