

ALLENTOWN RESCUE MISSION



Serving the entire Lehigh Valley since 1900

## From Gary's Desk:

### "Happy?" Thanksgiving. It depends a lot on YOU.

Dear Friend,

Imagine yourself waking up in our homeless shelter on Thanksgiving day. As your eyes open, you are staring at the ceiling tiles of our Gateway Center emergency shelter. You hear unfamiliar voices of people talking – strangers – also homeless. You're hungry, because you couldn't find any dinner last night.

The voice in your head shouts, "How did I end up here? What happened to me? I want to go home!"

But you have no home.

Worse than that, you will not be surrounded by family, fellowship and favorite recipes on Thanksgiving.

You might ask yourself, "Do they even have turkey on Thanksgiving in a homeless shelter?"

Fortunately, you are not going to wake up in a homeless shelter this Thanksgiving. Here at the Mission, 50, 60 or even 70 men will wake up here. We will see over 100 more new homeless arrivals between Thanksgiving and Christmas. It can be depressing, and shocking, and frustrating. We must also feel hopeful. Waking up in a shelter is "the bottom." But there is victory, triumph

## When You're an Addict...

### "People Think You're a Waste of Time!"

For ten years, Anyemil slowly destroyed himself with a vicious cocktail of drugs... marijuana, heroin, crack cocaine.

Some he sold because they provided "fast money." Others he used until he became an addict and found himself trying to commit suicide.

By the time he arrived here at the Mission, Anyemil had burned all his bridges and destroyed every relationship that ever meant anything to him. Every relationship, that is, except one. Because through it all, God was still watching over him!

Anyemil had just been released from prison and went on a heroin binge. "I ended up at St. Luke's Hospital in Quakertown, and they told me about the program at the Allentown Rescue Mission."

Anyemil had thought the Mission was just a shelter, but he learned differently when he arrived here and entered our state-licensed Life Recovery Treatment Program.

*"I had gone away  
from my faith."*

Living a Christian life had been part of growing up with "good parents in a



good family" in Bethlehem's projects. But Anyemil had walked away from all that for "fast money" and the "good life."

Our Life Recovery Treatment Program gave him back a good life, and our Christian Living and Values Transitional Program brought Christ back into it!

Anyemil has come "a long way." "I feel good... I thought I had to be a tough guy, but I learned to put pride aside."

Even though he's graduated and left the Mission, Anyemil is still making progress in his new life every day. "I still get obstacles thrown in front of me," he says. "But today I make better decisions."

## From Gary's Desk...

(continued from front page)

and success waiting for every single man in our shelter. We really need your help to fulfill that hope to the homeless men seeking help from us.

Since 2008, the poor economy has hammered us. Donations were down for 2 years, and need was up. We had operating deficits for 3 years – and this year might be a fourth. We really need your support because these tough times will not go away soon. Yes, your support will help our “finances,” and more importantly, please support us because we are changing lives, every day. Those men waking up for the first time in our shelter might be shocked, hungry, fearful, lost and feel abandoned, but that will change in just a few weeks. Our rigorous Christian Living and Values Program is working wonders. And so is our Clean Team work program, and low cost housing. Help us keep these going strong, with your donation. We do not depend on government grants, we depend on you. The Mission is 91% privately funded.

When YOU wake up in your own bed, on Thanksgiving, I wish you joy, the love of your family, and many blessings.

Thank you for your support.

  
Gary F. Millspaugh,  
Executive Director



## TIDINGS™

Rescue, rehabilitation, and restoration for people in crisis.

Executive Director  
Gary F. Millspaugh

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TIDINGS is funded by private donations, not government money.

# Help Us “Stuff the Bus!”

## Thanks for Giving Supplies and Food Drive

We are collecting hundreds of cleaning products and thousands of pounds of food items for our annual “Stuff the Bus” Thanks for Giving Supplies and Food Drive. All donations will be used by the Mission to benefit the homeless.

If you would like to make a donation of much-needed cleaning products or food, please visit your local Giant food store or Wal\*Mart.

You can pick up a specially printed shopping bag with a list of most-needed items at 15 Top Star Express locations or at your local Giant or Wal\*Mart.

Drop off your donation at one of the following donation collection sites:

### Giant Food Stores

Friday, November 19

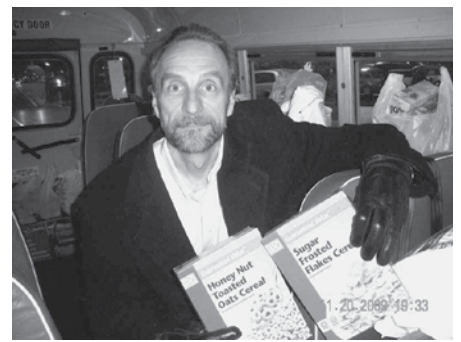
4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

### Wal\*Mart

Saturday, November 20

11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

B-104 will be broadcasting live from the Giant at Tilghman and Cedar Crest in Allentown on Friday from 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.



WAEB-AM 790's Bobby Gunther Walsh will be broadcasting live from the Wal\*Mart in Trexlertown on Saturday from 9 a.m. - 12p.m.

Your donations change lives!

*“The Mission really gets you on the right track.” – Frank*

*“They really helped me. It's a family here.” – David*

*“It has changed my whole outlook on life.” – Bob*

*“It really does work. Life is a whole lot better. This really does change people.” – John*

## Visit Us Online!

Get to know us better, learn about volunteer opportunities, read about the latest news and events and donate securely at

[www.AllentownRescueMission.org](http://www.AllentownRescueMission.org).

While you're there, sign up for Mission alerts and Stories of Hope via e-mail.



## Connect With Us!

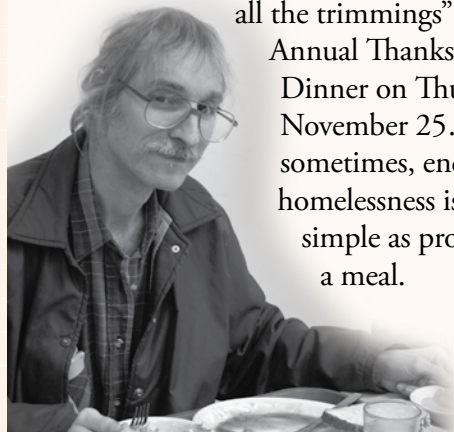
The Mission's on Facebook, My Space, Twitter and You Tube ... connect with us there and then share us with your friends! You'll read more Stories of Hope, see video messages and keep up-to-date with our special events.

twitter™ YouTube

myspace. facebook

## \$17.90 Does so Much More Than Feed 10 Hungry People

A sandwich... a bowl of hot soup... or a special feast like “turkey with all the trimmings” at our Annual Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday, November 25... sometimes, ending homelessness is as simple as providing a meal.



Because once a person is fed, it's much easier to begin taking care of other problems like addiction, abuse, lack of education or joblessness. So your gift to provide meals actually opens the door to all the services that get people back on their feet!

So please, provide as many meals and as much help as you can this Thanksgiving. Mail your gift today in the enclosed envelope, or give online at [www.AllentownRescueMission.org](http://www.AllentownRescueMission.org).