

# VISION

Change Lives

Holiday 2024

ws Rescue MISSION

THANK YOU FOR  
GIVING BRANDON

*a life-changing*

GIFT THIS

*Christmas!*



**DON'T MISS...**

**2** Planning Ahead

**3** "I gained deep peace."

**4** Give a meal. Spark a miracle!

For more information: (336) 723-1848 [wsrescue.org](http://wsrescue.org)

*You help make  
Christmas  
miracles possible*

Get ready... the busiest time of the year is upon us! I imagine your calendar is filling up quickly. But **before the year ends, please save a few moments for our neighbors who are hopeless and hurting.**

I know you agree no one should live in a car... in a tent... or outside in the cold. Certainly not a child. Living with constant fear and uncertainty. It's a terrible way to spend any day... much less Christmas Day. If there's anyone in need of a miracle, it's them.

You can make a Christmas miracle possible for a neighbor who is hurting by giving \$3.76 to provide a hot meal at the Winston-Salem Rescue Mission. It may not seem like much – but each meal you provide can be someone's first step toward recovery and a new life. Where you see a meal, a hurting neighbor sees a miracle.

With your support, no one in the Triad has to be hopeless and hurting this Christmas. People like Brandon (whose story is on page 3) can find the miracle of hot meals, safe shelter and Christ-centered addiction recovery at the Rescue Mission this holiday season... and all year round... thanks to you!



*Lou Carrico*

Lou Carrico  
Executive Director



# YOU'RE TRANSFORMING LIVES!

Thanks to the generosity of friends like you, lives are being transformed every day at the Rescue Mission. Here's just a glimpse of the difference you're helping make for people who are hopeless and hurting in our community.

So far this year...



Over 80 men have accepted Christ, and 40 men have been baptized



Over 20,000 nights of safe shelter have been provided



Over 100,000 meals have been served



Residents are earning their GED and taking college courses

Thank you for your gifts and prayers to make this life-changing work possible! To learn more about the impact you're helping make, visit [wsrescue.org/core-values](http://wsrescue.org/core-values).



## *Planning Ahead*

Many of us spend the first half of our lives telling ourselves we should prepare for the second half. However, we're often so busy with family, friends, church and business obligations that time just slips away... We might wake up one morning wishing we had done more!

Our gift planning experts can help you implement a plan that will meet your financial objectives while also leaving a legacy of hope and renewal for our community's most vulnerable.

Brian Weer, our Director of Development, would be happy to share his experience and insight to help guide you in your decisions. Please reach out to him at **(336) 723-1848**.

*"God never  
left my  
side."*



**B**randon's childhood family dynamic was complicated. He has happy memories of school, church and homelife... yet he was also traumatized by a father who resorted to violence when he was drinking. "I confused my dad's abusive behaviors with love," he shares.

In high school, Brandon started dabbling in drugs and alcohol to mask the pain he felt. "I was meant to go to college, but I dropped out, and that's when my addiction spiraled," he says.

A few years later, Brandon was devastated by his mother's death. He reconciled with his father... but then he passed away, too. That's when Brandon gravitated to harder drugs. "I just wanted to wallow in my sorrows. I didn't know how to ask for help."

After losing his housing, Brandon lived in a tent. "I looked for Jesus... and now I understand He was right there the whole time," he admits with a smile. That's because he distinctly remembers the moment he felt the Lord leading him out of the darkness.

"I looked in the mirror and saw a ghost. So, I packed up and began detox." After a healing stint at a recovery center, Brandon found the Rescue Mission.

When he walked through our doors, Brandon was welcomed without judgment. The staff prayed over him, and his journey toward a new life began. "I felt the

presence of God, like I was stepping on holy ground."

Brandon completed our biblically-based Life Builders and Transformers programs. He bonded with new friends he now calls brothers. Serving on the Rescue Mission's loading docks, he enjoys interacting with and inspiring others while working. "I'm clean, I'm safe and I'm in the presence of God," he beams.

**"I gained a deep peace  
within myself."**

Brandon plans to go into the ministry, serving incarcerated people. "I want to touch lives by sharing how the Lord allowed me to heal from the inside out. If I can recover, anyone can."

**This Christmas, Brandon is experiencing all the joy this season has to offer – because YOU believed in the power of a fresh start and the promise of God's unending love.** "The Rescue Mission helped restore my life – my family, my friends and my faith. This is a wonderful, spirit-filled place!"





# YOU'RE MAKING GOALS AND DREAMS POSSIBLE...



At the Rescue Mission, hopes and dreams are born – because thanks to the support of friends like you, men in our recovery program can believe that a brighter future is possible.



*“The Rescue Mission gave me the tools to learn to love myself while helping me become a better person for others. I feel alive once again... fully restored, through Christ!”*

*“Since coming here, my fears and worries have disappeared. Learning about the Bible in a supportive environment has led me to understand that I belong in God’s family.”*



To find out more about how you're helping transform lives and fulfill dreams, visit [wsrescue.org](http://wsrescue.org). Thank you for believing that everyone deserves the opportunity to build a better, more fulfilling life!

# Give a meal. Spark a miracle!

It's hard to find a reason to celebrate Christmas when you're hopeless and hurting. **YOU can give JOY and spark a miracle** with a gift to lead someone to join our long-term recovery program and experience a new life! It all starts by providing a meal for \$3.76... because where you see a meal, they see a miracle.



**\$3.76**  
for 1 hot meal



**CAN SPARK A MIRACLE**



**That leads to new life!**

## Please Send Your Christmas Gift Today!



*Dear Jesus,*

*This Christmas, can you please help my mom? She's sad a lot. We don't always have money for groceries. Mom said they cost too much. My tummy used to hurt when I went to bed, until we got help at the Rescue Mission. They have a food pantry and it's really good! But I still wish my mom wasn't having such a hard time. I know you love me, but can you make our life a little easier? Please don't forget about us. p.s. It's almost your birthday. Happy birthday!*

*Love, Jane, age 7*

Give people seeking help at the Rescue Mission a Christmas to remember! Visit [wsrescue.org](http://wsrescue.org) to learn ways you can help this holiday season.