

Serving Utica and the Mohawk Valley since 1890

HOLIDAY 2019

Don't
miss...



Your Gifts Fill
Hearts With **Joy!**

2



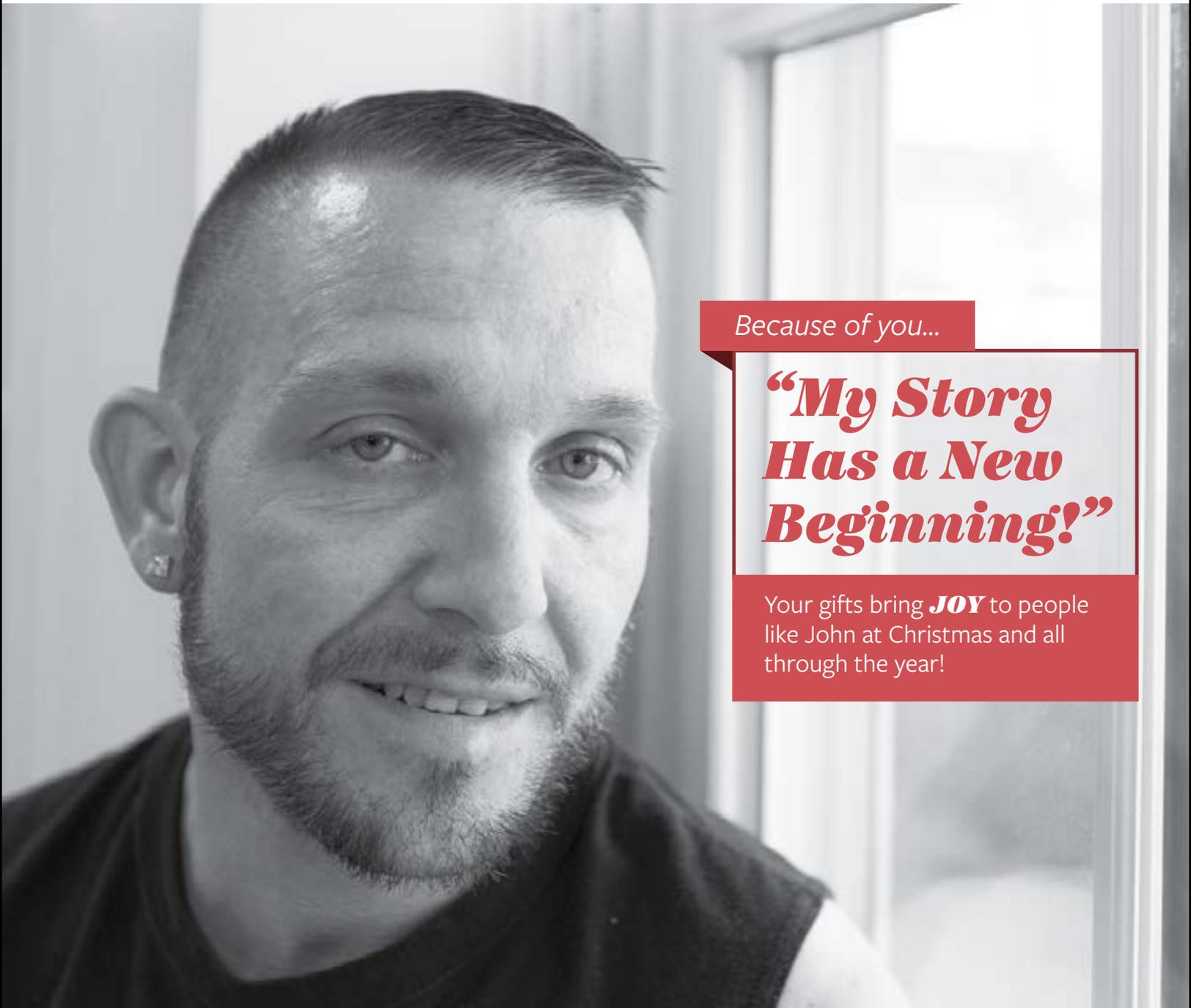
"I'm a good
dad now."

3



Celebrate
Christmas
with us!

4



Because of you...

***"My Story
Has a New
Beginning!"***

Your gifts bring **JOY** to people
like John at Christmas and all
through the year!



“I’m a good dad now...
The cycle has been broken.”

John grew up in a world of addiction and violence. **“My father was an alcoholic who abused my mom and held a shotgun to my head,”** he says.

He longed for a father who would love, protect and guide him, so when he was 13, he began numbing the pain of his wounded heart with drugs. **“They were a way to escape all that had happened to me.”**

Over the next 24 years, John’s drug use escalated, costing him jobs, relationships and the custody of his children. **“I used to write down a description of the kind of father I wanted to be, but I couldn’t be that man without help,”** he says.

“I needed structured living and accountability.”

Then John gave his life to Christ and felt led to seek help at our Parker House Aftercare Program. Through our Bible studies, chapel services and Christian counseling, he’s grown strong

“God gives me grace and shows me that it’s okay to mess up.”

in the Lord and experienced God’s unconditional love for the first time in his life. “He’s a good Father,” John says.

John has also developed healthy coping skills and learned to be the kind of father he’s always wanted to be. “I’m steady and caring. I get to

see my kids now and they know I’m a good dad,” he says. “The cycle has been broken.”

He plans to graduate from the program, get a place of his own where his kids can stay, and become a drug and alcohol counselor, with hopes of working here one day. “I

want to give back to this wonderful place,” he says.

This Christmas, because of your compassion and God’s

love, John’s story has a new beginning. Through the gift of Christ’s birth, his future is filled with joy and meaning.

“The Mission saves lives, families and children’s futures. That’s a priceless gift. It’s an endless inheritance.”

A MESSAGE FROM
WENDY GOETZ



Your Gifts
Fill Hearts
With *Joy!*

The “Christmas story” isn’t fiction, fable or fairytale. It’s God’s reassuring Truth!

Christ was born to bring hope to a troubled world and healing to broken souls.

That’s the joy-filled message we’re honored to share with our guests at Christmas, and remain faithful to every day of the year.

Jesus’ birth begins a new story for all of humankind. But for a new story to begin, an old one often must end. Through the Christ-centered care your generosity provides, we help individuals close chapters of loneliness, pain, and tragedy in their lives and ask the Lord to be the author of their futures. I invite you to partner with us in the coming weeks to provide gifts of food, shelter and life-restoring guidance, as we celebrate the joyous new beginnings the season brings.

The redemptive story of Christmas continues today, each time friends like you reach out with compassion to those who are homeless, addicted and downtrodden.

Thank you for keeping the story of Christ’s birth alive – and filling hearts with the joy of Christmas – every day of the year.

May God bless you and yours this holiday season and into the New Year.

Wendy Goetz
Executive Director



Give a Meal... *Change a Life*

14,000 meals by Christmas!

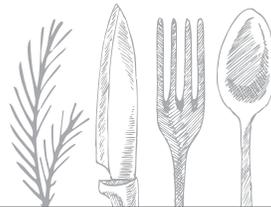
A plate of hot, wholesome food can change someone’s story from struggle to strength... from heartbreak to hope... from despair to joy. With each meal you give, you offer so much more:

- Safe shelter and clean clothing
- Life skills classes and practical guidance
- The message of God’s life-changing love



It costs only \$2.19 to provide a meal and care for one hungry person...

Please Send Your Gift Today!



✉ Give now using the enclosed reply card and envelope.

📄 Give online anytime at uticamission.org.



December 3rd is
**#GIVING
TUESDAY**

Now in its eighth year, **Giving Tuesday** unites compassionate friends and partners in caring for their neighbors and communities. On this special day of generosity and kindness, your gift will bring life essentials and life-changing guidance to those in our care at Rescue Mission of Utica!

**No Need to Wait Until December 3...
Send Your Gift Today!**

📄 Give online at uticamission.org.

✉ Add your special gift to the reply card and send it today.

Meet **URGENT** Needs

.....

These items are a vital part of the Mission's everyday operations and the comfort of our guests.

Please drop off your donations at

293 Genesee Street.

Thank you!

Toiletries (Toothpaste, Shampoo, Soap, Lotion,
Deodorant and Razors)

New Sweats for men and Women

New Undergarments for men and Women

New Hats, Gloves, and Socks



Celebrate **Christmas** with Us!

Come join us Christmas Day as we celebrate the birth of our Savior and all He's done to transform lives at the Mission through your support!

The day's festivities will begin with a chapel service at 11:00 a.m. at the Clarence Seaburg Chapel, 201 Rutger Street, Utica, followed by a delicious Christmas meal at 11:45 at the Rescue Mission of Utica's Mary Tilton Clark Dining Room.

This is a free event and all are welcome!
We hope to see you there!

For more information,
call ☎ (315) 735-1645 or
email Susan Woods at

✉ susan.woods@uticamission.org.