



Don't
miss...



Help our hurting
neighbors this
Easter

2



"I can't do
it without
God."

3



Help Meet
Our Easter
Needs

4

**THANK YOU
FOR GIVING**
Steve
**A NEW
BEGINNING.**



Because of you, he
has joy in his heart
this Easter!





“With God’s
guidance, I’m
now on a
truthful
path.”

When Steve looks back on his childhood, he remembers a loving family, but also his mother’s alcoholism. This instability led to conflict and his parents’ divorce. As devout Catholics, this confused Steve as it went against everything he’d been taught.

In high school, he started drinking. Friends tried it, too, but it was Steve who fell into the grips of addiction. In college, he’d been diagnosed with ADD, and he used drugs to soothe his symptoms and stimulate his brain.

Feeling out of touch with his true self, Steve turned to desperate measures and landed in jail. He was sentenced to drug court, with the completion of rehab being a key requirement. Relapse after relapse led to frustration and hopelessness.

Finally, he decided to try a new way forward. **The day he walked into Rescue Mission of Utica, Steve**

found a real opportunity for change.

“The little things – like making your bed – reinforce routine, and I never want to break mine,” he shares.

Through our classes and counseling, Steve was able to overcome his addiction while learning more about himself. He now feels much closer to the Lord. “It’s not all about Steve,” he admits, chuckling. “It’s been a humbling experience.”

Once back out on his own, he’ll work for his father’s company and finally graduate drug court so that he can close that dark chapter. Meanwhile, Steve won’t be missing any masses, Mission chapel services or daily devotions. “I know I can’t go through the day without Christ front and center.”

With Jesus’ love in his heart and hope for the future, Steve is grateful for your support this Easter. “The Mission helped guide me to honest change. I feel so blessed.”

“At long last, I realized I can’t do it without God.”



A Message from WENDY GOETZ

THE GIFT OF *Eternal Life*

Easter is such an incredible time of year, isn't it? A day when we're both humbled by the sacrifice Jesus made on the cross and lifted up as children of the King. It still amazes me that God goes to such great lengths to make you and me part of His family!

That's why we're committed to making local men, women and children feel welcome here at Rescue Mission of Utica.

We invite them to be part of *our* family... and share with them the eternal hope that Jesus freely offers us *all* when we accept Him as our Father.

This Easter, you are sharing the blessings of love and community with everyone who comes through our doors. Through your prayers and financial gifts, you give them the strength to overcome their current challenges and start on a path toward new life.

Thank you for making this Easter a season of rejoicing. **I hope your own celebrations are especially meaningful, knowing how lives are being transformed through your generosity and God's unending grace.**

Wendy L. Goetz

Wendy Goetz
Executive Director



HELP OUR HURTING NEIGHBORS THIS EASTER



Help make a new beginning possible for more men and women this Easter!

- ♥ **A hot meal for \$2.19 – often the first step to a new life in Christ**
- ♥ An overnight stay in our safe shelter
- ♥ Christ-centered care & healing in our life-changing programs
- ✉ Give now using the enclosed reply card and envelope.
- ✦ Give online anytime at uticamission.org.

Easter²⁰²³
ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

Life transformation starts with YOU!



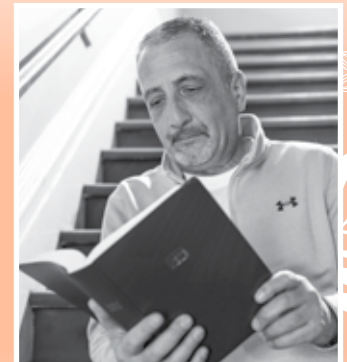
28,000 meals
\$2.19 for a meal!



6,000 nights of shelter



110 men & women in our Christ-centered recovery programs (on average)



5,000 hours of education & counseling

Thank you for blessing those in need this Easter!

HELP MEET OUR EASTER NEEDS



Sunday, April 9: Our Easter Celebration!

Dine-In Dinner with Special Music 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Easter is a day of joy and celebration. But right now, far too many of our neighbors are struggling with the rising costs of housing and food. They're turning here... and YOU can help welcome them with love and a special meal!

Drop off donations at Food Service, 201 Rutger Street in Utica from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

No time to shop? Donate now! ☎ (315) 735-1645 ✨ uticamission.org

URGENTLY NEEDED ITEMS!

Drop off any of these items **by Friday, March 31:**

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> HAMS | <input type="checkbox"/> GREEN BEANS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> TURKEYS | <input type="checkbox"/> ROLLS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREPACKAGED PIES | <input type="checkbox"/> BAGS OF EASTER CANDY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SWEET POTATOES/YAMS | |

LEAVE A LEGACY OF BLESSING

Thank you for your generous spirit. It's reflected in all you do to share your blessings with our neighbors in need.

Would you like to continue bringing healing and hope to the broken beyond your lifetime? When you remember Rescue Mission of Utica in your will or estate plan, you ensure that your spirit of compassion continues blessing others tomorrow and beyond.

For information on planned giving opportunities, please contact our Director of Development, Susan Woods, at ☎ (315) 735-1645, ext. 2115 or ✉ susan.woods@uticamission.org.

"Just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." - Romans 6:4, NIV