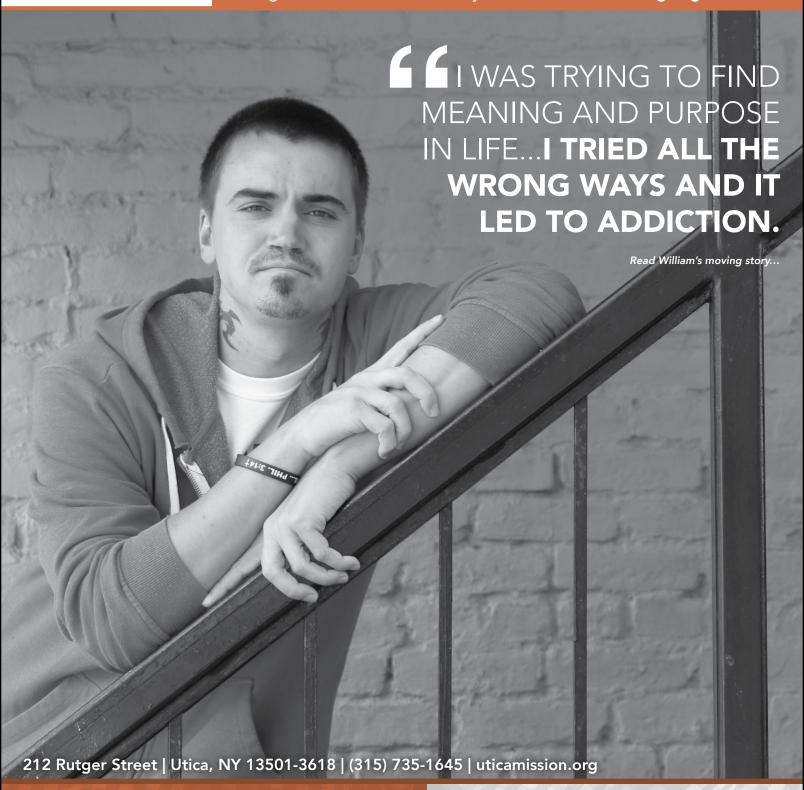


Changing Lives

Serving Utica and the Mohawk Valley since 1890

Thanksgiving Issue 2016



MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

We praise God every day for bringing men and women to our door to begin new lives: Lives without addiction. Lives free of poverty and abuse. Lives now filled with grace.

More often than not, these transformations start with a simple meal, just like the 11,088 being served in the month leading up to Thanksgiving.

We also praise God for you.

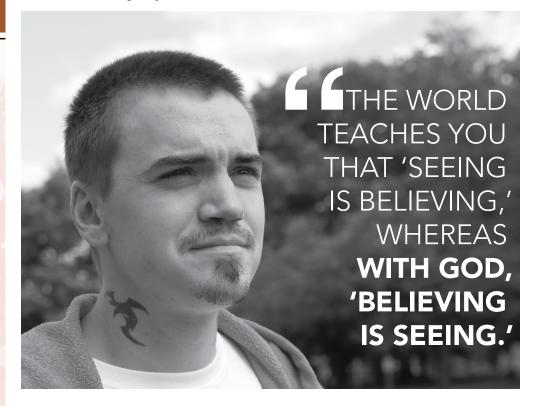
This ministry – the meals, the shelter and the life-saving programs – is only possible with your support.

We praise you for fulfilling Christ's command to feed, shelter and care for brothers and sisters in need. And, we share with you His promise: "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these, you did for me."



Jim Haid

Executive Director



ver the course of 12 years, William tried living every which way but God's way. "I was full of pride and ego," he admits.

He went to church when he was young and had some Biblical understanding. "But I got wrapped up in the world and did what I wanted to do." Which, for him, was alcohol and drugs.

His growing addiction led to carnal and selfish behavior that separated him from the people he loved and left him believing he had little to live for. Eventually, he ended up in a mental hospital, suicidal.

"I was at my wit's end," he says.
"I was so tired of my life and the way things were."

When he learned our Parker House residential aftercare program had an opening, he felt a spark of hope. "I honestly feel it was the hand of God on me, trying to nudge me into His family," William recalls. He decided to give God a chance.

"I heard a still, small voice, or maybe it was just a feeling."

"That was the start of my walk with the Lord," William says today. His desire to use alcohol and drugs is gone...and he's thinking about going to a Bible college. "I'm figuring out what the Lord is calling me to do."

And he's grateful for friends like you: "Your prayers and the money you donate are helping people who want to be helped. God bless you for all you do."