



INSIDE...



A Message from
Jim Haid

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"I am much
happier with
myself."

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**THERE IS
A TIME.
THERE IS
A SEASON.**

Peter found healing when
he hit the pause button.

.....

Today, through your gifts and
prayers, he has a joyous new life
and a heart of thanksgiving!

READ HIS MOVING STORY
ON PAGE 3.



I am much happier with myself.

Peter grew up in Northern Ireland, where one thing was the cultural norm: drinking. Before he was even 10 years old, Peter would drink a Shandy (beer diluted with lemonade).

He moved to the states in his early twenties and maintained a comfortable life. “They call it a higher functioning alcoholism,” he says, “where you protect your work... and you let everything else sort of go away.” As a result, Peter’s relationships with his wife, children and friends were crumbling, but it took awhile for Peter to notice. “All those years, I had this funny sense of normal. I work, I drink, I work, I drink...”

Eventually his health started to deteriorate too. Peter’s son worked at the Mission and suggested he go to the Addictions Crisis Center—a triage for those battling substance abuse. There, he found that, in addition to alcoholism, Peter was suffering from mental exhaustion.

A nurse read him Proverbs 24:16, a verse about falling seven times and rising again. **“That gave me a lot of peace, and I started to seriously think, ‘Maybe I needed a little bit more help,’”** he explains.

Peter wanted to join a spiritually based program that would make him feel safe and close to his family. He found all of that at the Mission.

In our program, by learning life skills, overcoming his addictions and rebuilding his relationships, Peter has thrived.

“The routine actually helped. It made it easier to spend each day not involved with the addiction.”

Peter can see the worth of the Mission. **“There is an opportunity here for folks to get their lives back together again,** and not be a burden on society. There’s so much good here... helping people leave a positive impact in the community.”

With a heart of thanksgiving, Peter moves forward into a new life. **“I’m recently discovering who I am, and the whole foundation for that was the slow, steady peaceful time that I had here.”**



A Heart of Thanksgiving

Our guests may never meet you, but their hearts are filled with joy and thanksgiving for the care and opportunities you provide every day!



54,000 MEALS



11,000 BEDS



THOUSANDS OF HOURS
OF TRAINING, COUNSELING & PRAYER

OPEN YOUR HEART THIS THANKSGIVING

FOOD. SHELTER. GUIDANCE. HOPE.
GOD'S LIFE-TRANSFORMING LOVE.

Your **2017 Annual Thanksgiving Campaign** gift will bring a harvest of joy to people in need.



Give now using the enclosed reply card and envelope.



Give online anytime at uticamission.org.

THANK YOU
FOR BEING A GENEROUS
SUPPORTER AND FRIEND

A MESSAGE FROM JIM HAID



Your heart of Thanksgiving... brings a harvest of joy!

The human need for food is fundamental and has remained the center of our ministry outreach for more than 127 years. **But the people who turn to the Rescue Mission of Utica hunger for more than a meal.** Their emptiness extends to all areas of their lives.

Their spirits are tired of searching for something to believe in. They lack the training to change their dead-end paths. Friends and loved ones have long since turned their backs on them. They come to us hungry, homeless, broken and alone – and through your kind compassion, we fill their plates with hope... and their hearts with thanksgiving.

From faith-based counseling to life-skills courses to job-readiness training, **your gifts and prayers empower men, women and families** to overcome troubled circumstances and rebuild lives that are stable, meaningful and a blessing to our community.

As we look forward to serving our less fortunate neighbors this holiday season, **I pray you will continue to demonstrate your heart of thanksgiving.** Your ongoing partnership will bring a harvest of joy to men, women and children who are longing for hope. God bless you for your gift today and throughout the months ahead.


Jim Haid
Executive Director



THANKSGIVING DINNER...

add our shopping list to yours!

- * Turkey
- * Ham
- * Potatoes
- * Canned vegetables
- * Fresh vegetables: carrots, onions, celery
- * Rolls

Please drop off donations at our Food Service Center at 201 Rutger Street, 7 days a week. Bless you during this season of thanksgiving!

If you want to know more, contact Debi Kenyon at (315)-735-1645, ext. 115 or email debi.kenyon@uticamission.org.

CONNECT WITH US

 uticamission.org



Save the Date!

25TH ANNUAL GOURMET GUYS —TO THE RESCUE!

DATE: OCTOBER 29, 4 P.M. - 6 P.M.

PLACE: HARTS HILL INN
135 CLINTON ST.,
WHITESBORO, NY

Hope to see you there.

Contact Stacia Bridger at (315) 735-1645, ext. 102, or stacia.bridger@uticamission.org for more information on the event.

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

WE NEED YOUR HEARTS AND HANDS TO BRING A JOYOUS THANKSGIVING TO SCORES OF HUNGRY AND HURTING PEOPLE. Individuals, families, church groups – all are welcome to volunteer!

For more information, call Stephanie Moore at (315) 735-1645, ext. 103, email stephanie.moore@uticamission.org, or visit our website at uticamission.org and click on “Volunteer.”