



Don't  
miss...



A Message from  
Jim Haid

2



"I left God. God  
never left me."

3

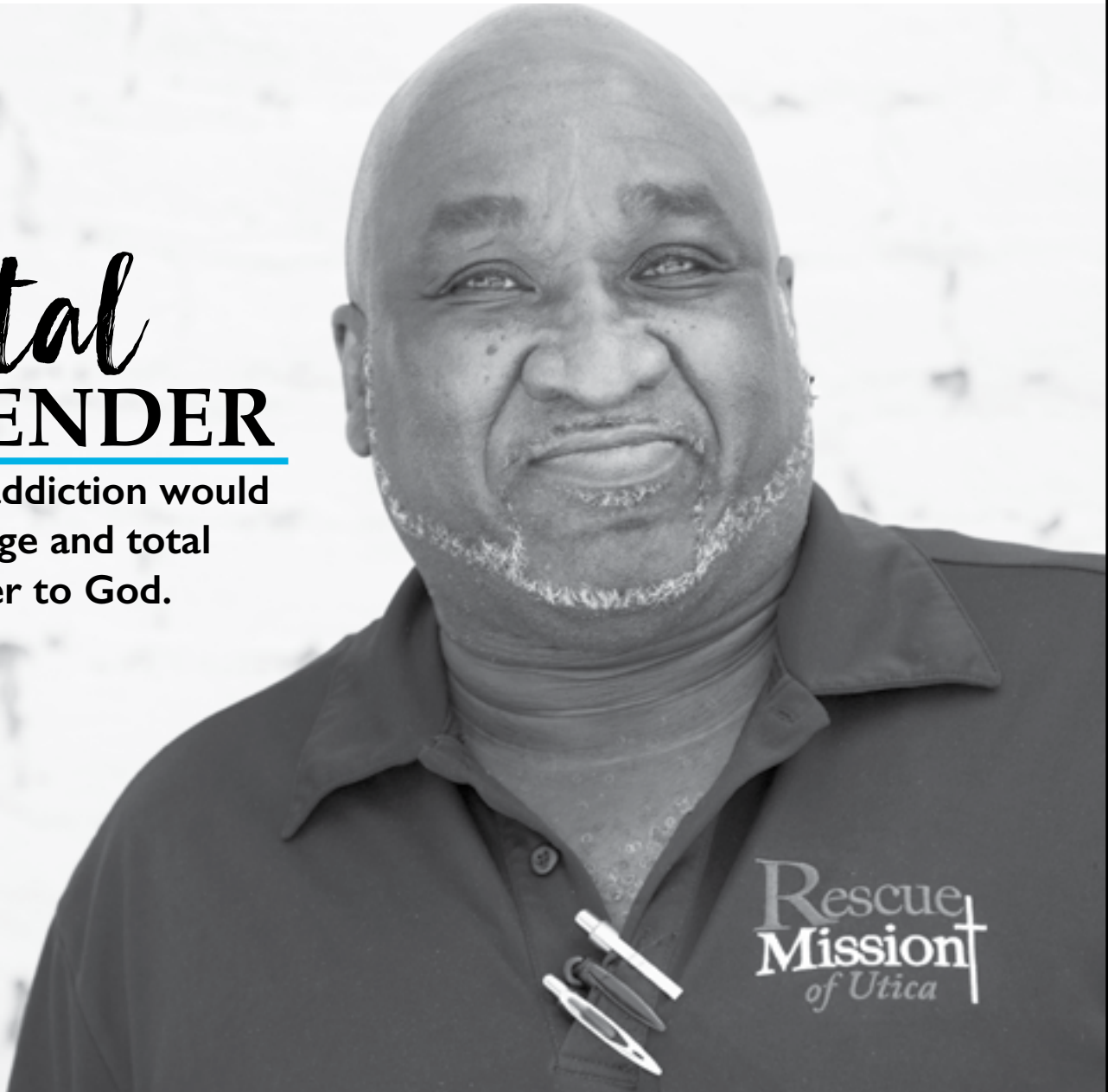
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Match it by  
May 31!

4

# Total SURRENDER

Overcoming addiction would  
take courage and total  
surrender to God.



*Thankfully, John had the support of friends like you.*



“I couldn’t do anything without drugs,” says John, the son of a minister. “I lost my family, I was homeless and I’ve been to prison.”

Like so many of the men here at the Mission, John had been introduced to drugs as a young man. And for nearly 25 years, the powerful grip of addiction cast a dark cloud over his life.

“I came to the Mission because I was sick and tired of being sick and tired,” John says.

Our staff and counselors opened their arms to John, without judgment, which is exactly what he needed. He was soon placed in Parker House, our residential discipleship program that offers men a safe environment in which to grow spiritually while healing from addiction and other destructive behaviors.

**“I always had God in my life,” John says. “I left God. God never left me. But I truly surrendered when I came to Parker House.”**

When John graduated from the program, he began volunteering at the Mission as a way of giving back. Before long, he accepted a job with us, working in housekeeping and maintenance. He is happy for the work and loves the opportunity to encourage men entering the program.

“I share my story with anybody that wants to hear it,” John says. “If I can do it, they can do it. And if they need to talk, I’m here, because somebody was there for me.”

John has now been clean for 4 years and has reconnected with his family. He is deeply grateful for the Mission and for people like you who support it.

“There are people out there who need an organization like this to help them get back on their feet,” he says. **“A place like the Mission can make people feel good about themselves.”**

*Thank you for helping restore lives like John’s!*

“I wanted to change my life because I’m not a bad person. I just made bad decisions.”

“I left God. God never left me.”

**YOUR GENEROSITY  
AT WORK  
MAY 2018**



**23,780 MEALS SERVED**



**5,040 NIGHTS OF SHELTER**



A MESSAGE FROM JIM HAID

# A TIMELESS CHALLENGE

When we first opened our doors in 1890, the gifts of generous friends made it possible to serve dozens of meals each day to Utica and the Mohawk Valley's homeless and hungry.

Today, your gifts make it possible to serve nearly 600 meals daily, in addition to providing shelter, clothing, counseling, job training, and more services and programs than our founders ever imagined.

**Yet more local people find themselves in need – and that's the challenge we face each day.** Feeding them. Sheltering them. Caring for their immediate and long-term needs. Sharing God's love with them.

Here's a great way to help them right now: A wonderful friend of the Mission is challenging you to match their generous \$25,000 gift with an additional \$25,000. That means this entire month, your gift will have double the impact!

I hope when you read John's story (*on page 3*), you'll see how tremendously his life has been changed by gifts like yours. **Now just imagine doubling that impact to touch the lives of others who are hurting and homeless.**

Rescue Mission of Utica has always existed to help people facing huge challenges in their lives. I thank you for your faithful support – and pray you'll continue to provide the means to create brighter futures for all who come here.

Jim Haid  
Executive Director

## YOUR COMPASSION IN ACTION *A Look Back at 2017*



**217,000**  
meals served



**44,354**  
nights of safe  
shelter



**136**  
men & women in our  
recovery programs  
on average



**7,962**  
Chapel attendances



**Over  
15,000**  
articles of clothing  
distributed

*Thank you*

FOR BRINGING HELP AND HOPE  
TO THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST!

**ON AIR**

Tune in daily for  
**"Reaching Out... Changing Lives"**  
on Mars Hill Network.

**WHERE:** 91.1 FM or 102.9 FM

**WHEN:** 1:25 p.m. and 12:25 a.m.

Hear the change you're making possible!

### *11th Annual* **RESCUE MISSION OF UTICA GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Join us Thursday, June 14th for our 11th Annual Golf Tournament at Twin Ponds Golf & Country Club in New York Mills.

**TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE:**

Registration - 7:30 - 8:30 a.m.

Shotgun Start - 8:30 a.m.

Lunch & Award Ceremony - Approx. 1:00 p.m.

**TOURNAMENT DETAILS:**

Teams - Captain & Crew Cost - \$400/Team; \$450/Team & tee sign and \$125/Individual (*includes 4 green fees, 18 holes of golf, golf cart beverages & snacks on the course, tournament goodie bags, lunch prizes*)

To register, or for more info about volunteering or sponsoring the event, go to [uticamission.org](http://uticamission.org) and click on "Events."

Or call us at **(315) 735-1645**.

**YOUR GIFT  
TODAY...**

**\$50**



**HAS TWICE  
THE IMPACT!**

**\$100**

**\$100**



**\$200**

**\$150**



**\$300**

**DEADLINE TO GIVE: MAY 31**

Give your most generous gift to match the \$25,000 challenge grant from one of our most generous donors... for a total of \$50,000 to feed and shelter our community's homeless.

- Give now using the enclosed reply card + envelope.
- Give securely online at [uticamission.org](http://uticamission.org).

**Thank you for helping to meet  
this tremendous challenge!**

VISIT US ONLINE to read stories of lives you've touched, get involved & securely donate anytime.

LEAVE A LEGACY THAT  
*Shines On*

Nancy and Paul have been faithful friends to Rescue Mission of Utica for years... they've even volunteered in our kitchen on Thanksgiving.

Because of their passion for serving our community's homeless and hungry, they chose to set up a bequest that includes the Mission in their will. "My wife and I value the Mission's Christ-centered approach to serving those in need," Paul says. "Setting up a charitable bequest allows us to support them in the future."

You can choose how you wish to give: cash, real estate, property or stocks. It's easy to update your wishes at any time.

**Have you already left Rescue Mission of Utica in your estate plans? Or are you interested in learning about how to do that?**

Please contact us. We would love to thank you for including the Mission in your will or answer your questions about leaving a legacy gift.

(315) 735-1645

[uticamission.org](http://uticamission.org)

Let's be friends!

