

Don't
miss...



Celebrate
Easter

2



"I wanted
the help of
God."

3



Easter
Needs

4

CHRISTOPHER IS
*celebrating
new life*
THIS EASTER!

Thank you for touching
his life with hope.



“I WANTED THE HELP OF GOD.”



Christopher was raised by parents who were addicts, so it seemed normal to him.

“I just assumed other parents were like mine. They were in and out of abusive relationships and I saw a lot of drama growing up... it was definitely painful.”

But then, at age 19, Christopher became completely overwhelmed and turned to drugs to numb the pain he couldn't escape.

“I used drugs because I didn't want to feel much of anything. My life was so chaotic.”

For 8 years, Christopher fell even deeper into the nightmare of addiction. The turning point finally came when Christopher could no longer keep a job and became homeless.

“I got so depressed and down and out... I felt like a loser. I wanted more for myself.”

That's when Christopher went to rehab to get clean and then spent time at a halfway house. But he wasn't ready to live on his own and still felt like something was missing...

Christopher called Pastor Dave and was welcomed into our Parker House Aftercare Program, where his new life truly began.

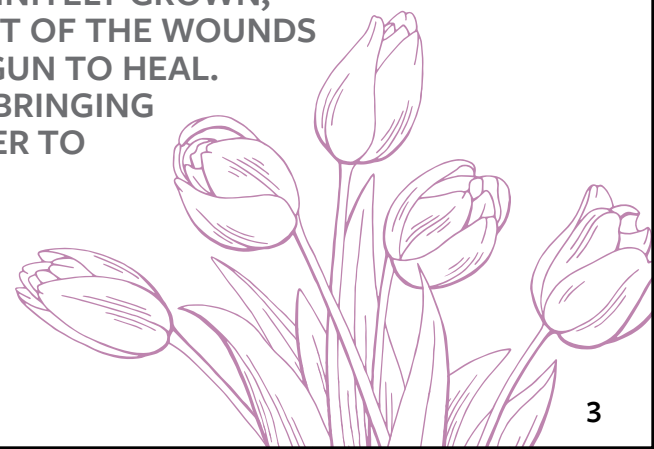
“I wanted to study the Bible and get clarity. I've come to know God personally and I've accepted His grace... I feel like a weight's been lifted off my shoulders.”

Daily devotions are helping Christopher dig deeper into the Word and giving him guidance to rebuild his life. He feels the Lord leading him to go back to school and get his counseling certification so he can help others overcome similar situations.

“I want to help people not only come out of their addiction, but bring them to Jesus. Save their life and their soul at the same time.”

Your generous support has filled Christopher's life with love, encouragement and, most of all, hope this Easter season. “Before I came to the Mission, I would look in the mirror and see a broken soul. Now I can be proud of where I came from and who I've become.”

“I'VE DEFINITELY GROWN, AND A LOT OF THE WOUNDS HAVE BEGUN TO HEAL. THEY'RE BRINGING ME CLOSER TO GOD.”



Leave a lasting legacy

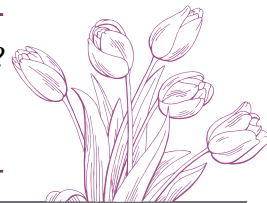
While many individuals provide a lifetime of generous gifts for family, friends, and organizations they care about, more than half of U.S. adults do not have a will or other estate plan.

Without a will, your estate will be divided according to the state in which you live. The result may be very different from what you had wished, especially if your desire was not only to care for those you leave behind, but to leave a lasting legacy for the causes close to your heart.

The Mission can help make sure your wishes are followed and that your generosity lives on to transform hearts and lives for years to come. For information on planned giving opportunities, please contact our Director of Development, Susan Woods, at ☎ (315) 735-1645, ext. 2115
✉ susan.woods@uticamission.org

If you have already included the Mission in your will, please call so we can say, "Thank you!"

"Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!" - Luke 24:5-6, NIV



A Message from WENDY GOETZ

The everlasting hope OF EASTER

As we celebrate the joy of Easter morning, we must also remember the pain and sorrow of Calvary. The agony Jesus faced and the fear His friends and followers felt when they thought all hope was lost.

Many of the people who come through our doors also feel like all hope is lost. They look back on their lives and feel nothing but brokenness... regret... shame.

But this Easter, they can experience the heart-pounding joy and love that comes through new life in Christ! Your support helps us share that message of hope all year long, but most especially during the miraculous Easter season.

The Bible tells us, "And God is able to bless you abundantly..." (2 Cor. 9:8 NIV). Through your

gifts to the Mission, you pass on those blessings to those who come through our doors!

Thanks to caring friends like you, this Easter will be a time of rejoicing for those who have found abundant life in the arms of our Risen Savior... and a time to welcome anyone in need of everlasting hope.

I pray that you, too, will be filled with blessings and peace this Easter!

Wendy Goetz
Executive Director



CELEBRATE EASTER BY CARING FOR OUR HURTING NEIGHBORS!

Hurting men and women turn to the Mission each day... longing for a second chance in life. Today, you can help make their new beginning possible with help like:

- ♥ 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

By giving generously now, our homeless and hungry neighbors will be welcomed with food, shelter and care this Easter season!

- ✉ Give now using the enclosed reply card and envelope.
- ✦ Give online anytime at uticamission.org.

Thank you for your support of our Mission guests. Have a blessed Easter!



HELP MEET OUR EASTER NEEDS

Sunday, April 17: Our Easter Celebration!

Chapel Service 11:00 a.m. | Dinner To Go: 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

You have a BIG heart for those in need – and this Easter, we have a great way to show how much you care! Between now and Easter Sunday, we’re preparing to serve **hundreds of hot meals** and provide people with **basic necessities like safe shelter, clean clothing and Christ-centered care.**

Our hurting neighbors are turning here... and we’re counting on YOU to help them!

Drop off donations at the Mission’s Food Service Center, 201 Rutger Street, Utica.

No time to shop? Donate now!

(315) 735-1645

uticamission.org

URGENTLY NEEDED ITEMS!

Drop off any of these items by Friday, April 15:

- HAMS
- PRE-PACKAGED PIES
- POTATOES
- CANNED VEGETABLES
- POWDERED MILK
- BUTTER
- COFFEE
- INDIVIDUAL SUGAR PACKETS
- INDIVIDUAL CREAMERS
- INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED EASTER CANDY
- SOCKS FOR MEN AND WOMEN



YOUR PRAYERS CHANGE LIVES!

Prayer is powerful. That’s why we covet your heartfelt prayers and faithful support of our work in Utica and the Mohawk Valley.

Here are some of the ways you can pray for our ministry!

- Pray that God will lead people in need to the Mission.
- Pray that our guests’ hearts will be open to Christ’s love.
- Pray that our staff will have strength to lead & speak His truth.
- Pray that our community will be healed & strengthened.

Thank you for lifting up our guests, staff, volunteers, neighborhoods and country. God bless you!