

Don't  
miss...



Our Thanksgiving  
Campaign has  
begun!

**2**



"The Lord  
led the way."

**3**



Bargains That  
Give Back!

**4**

# A Heart of Thanksgiving

Andy wants to share how  
your support changed  
his life!



# Anticipating This New Season with Thanksgiving



## A Message from WENDY GOETZ

It's hard to believe we're here again: over halfway through another year. Here at Rescue Mission of Utica, preparations for our busy fall season are already underway.

Outside, the weather is starting to cool. But inside our doors, it's still warm and inviting as **we get ready for the many neighbors who will come to us during the months leading up to Thanksgiving.** It's one of my favorite times of the year, and it's possible thanks to the generosity of friends like you.

As I think about this time of the year, I'm reminded of the words of Ecclesiastes 3:1: *"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens."*

Each time someone comes to the Mission for help, their season changes. They leave a time of pain and struggle that they may not have anticipated and certainly didn't desire –



and they **choose** a season of support and recovery. **I truly believe this is God's hand at work through your partnership in this life-giving ministry.**

Now, as we prepare to serve an estimated 30,000 meals in the coming months, I ask you to pray for every struggling man and woman who finds a seat at our tables. Pray that if the time is right for a new season in their life, God will make it known and see it through.

Thank you. I'm thankful for you now, and always.

Wendy Goetz  
Executive Director

## Follow Us on Social Media

For the most up-to-date news on what's happening at the Mission, please follow  
Rescue Mission of Utica  
on Facebook  and  
@UticaMissionMV on Twitter 






**Join Our**  
**2023 *Thanksgiving* CAMPAIGN**

**30,000**  
**Meals Needed this Thanksgiving Season**

This Thanksgiving, countless guests will gather at our tables. Many are alone... longing to overcome homelessness and poverty... wishing they could reunite with their families for the holidays.

**For just \$2.65, YOU can provide a meal** to nourish their bodies and lift their spirits. Your gift surrounds hurting people with loving care that leads to a better life through:

  
Safe, welcoming  
shelter

  
Warm clothing,  
coats & shoes

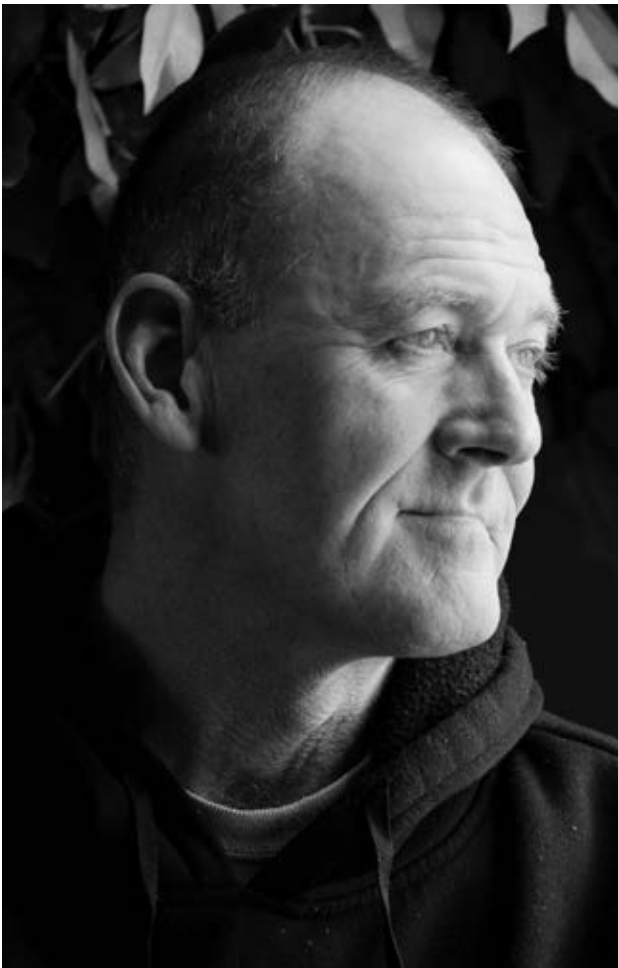
  
Classes & job  
training

  
God's life-  
changing love

**Please help our neighbors in need this holiday season!** Send your 2023 Thanksgiving Campaign gift today using the enclosed reply card and envelope OR online at **[uticamission.org](http://uticamission.org)**.



*Meet Andy – who is thankful for your support!*



“I let the  
**Lord lead**  
the way.”



Looking back, Andy remembers happy childhood moments like playing sports and hanging out with friends. But he also remembers the loud, sometimes violent, arguments between his parents. His father was a hardworking truck driver... and an alcoholic.

“I didn’t see him much, but when I did, he was drunk,” he shares.

**Andy spent many nights wrapped in his crying mother’s arms after angry words from his father.**

As a teenager, Andy struggled in school and longed to fit in. Because of that longing, he wound up trying drugs and alcohol, and before long he was in the grips of addiction.

Later on, marriages, good jobs, and even having beautiful children weren’t enough to inspire him to seek help. Over the years, the people Andy loved had to distance themselves from him... and it left him

lonely. In an attempt to reconnect with his loved ones, he went to recovery programs and got sober... but then, he would relapse. This vicious cycle left him exhausted and spiritually empty.

At times, he wondered how he could go on for another day.

During one of those dark periods, Andy had a chance encounter with one of our staff members who was able to explain the Mission’s programs and services. “By this time, I was desperate for help – I couldn’t stop my addiction by myself. **This meeting was God taking care of me – I’m sure of it.**”

**“The missing link in my life was Christ.”**

“At Parker House, Andy found a safe place to rest and recover. Here, through structured classes and Christian counseling, he’s been able to address the roots of his substance abuse, like the effects of his father’s addiction and the confusion and pain he experienced growing up.

With consistent support and accountability, he’s found lasting sobriety and a renewed self-confidence.

Before coming here, he’d had a hard time understanding the Bible, but these days he gets a perfect start to the day by reading Scripture. “I don’t think about the past; I just think about today... and what the Lord wants for me. I know now that I’m never alone.”

**Andy is filled with thanksgiving for God’s redeeming love in his life – and your incredible generosity and support!** “I wanted peace and serenity, and I finally found it here at the Mission. They saved my life!”







Are you curious about exactly how your support is transforming lives? If the answer is “yes,” then please join us any Thursday, 12-2 p.m., for an awareness luncheon and campus tour. No reservation needed!

If Thursdays aren’t convenient, simply reach out to Susan Woods, our Director of Development and Communications. She’ll be happy to schedule a tour

for you or your group.

You can reach her by email at **[susan.woods@uticamission.org](mailto:susan.woods@uticamission.org)** or call **(315) 735-1645 ext. 2115**.



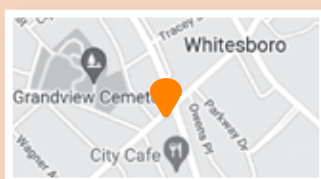
# BARGAINS THAT GIVE BACK!

Our Thread of Life Thrift Store in Whitesboro is a triple blessing to the community. Together, we:

1. Help recycle and reuse goods that might otherwise be thrown away,
2. Support the work of the Rescue Mission of Utica and
3. Distribute unsold household items and clothing to families in need.

To find out how to donate your reusable clothing, appliances, books, linens and toys, please call **(315) 735-1645 ext. 2102** or email **[catherine.hardy@uticamission.org](mailto:catherine.hardy@uticamission.org)**.

We’re open Thursdays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Fridays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. *Thank you for sharing with the Mission!*



130 Oriskany Blvd.  
Whitesboro, NY  
(parking off  
Owens Place)

