





A Newsletter from Faith Mission of Elkhart

801 Benham Avenue, Elkhart, IN 46516

# A Message from Ross Swihart

Healing broken lives is like baking a very complicated cake. You need exactly the right ingredients. You must mix them in a very specific order. Then, you have to allow time for them to bake at the proper temperature.

Miss a step or omit a vital ingredient and you're risking disaster.

Here at the Mission, we're not just healing lives: we're healing minds and bodies destroyed by alcohol, addiction and neglect. We're restoring souls wounded by abuse and abandonment. The ingredients are not complicated: food, shelter, time, encouragement, counseling, care and a huge helping of God's love.

But there are no short cuts, no substitutions.

This Thanksgiving season, many broken bodies and souls will come here to the Mission. Whether you volunteer your time, take part in a special event, donate food or send a gift, you play a vital role in making them whole again.

Let the healing begin

Ross Swihart
Executive Director

"Lord,
what should
I do now?"

Randall can do almost anything... drive a cab, run a restaurant kitchen, and work as a painter, electrician or carpenter. But the one thing he couldn't do was overcome the deep depression that began overtaking him several years ago.

Little by little, he lost jobs and gave away or sold all his possessions until all he had left was his truck and a deep desire to begin again...to start a new page in his life.

Randall visited a couple of homeless centers in South Bend, but couldn't find what he was seeking. "I asked the Lord what I should do," he remembers. One of the phone numbers he had been given was for Faith Mission. "I called, and a young lady gave me directions."

For a time, Randall's pride kept him from staying at the Mission and making a real commitment to change. "I always figured I could move on," he says. But today, he calls the Mission "home." "This is my address. I have everything I need here, and there's nothing I can't talk with the counselors about that they won't help me with."

Since he's been here at the Mission, Randall's found work, and gotten health care that's probably saved his life! His next steps will be to begin contacting family he hasn't seen in more than 10 years, and, when he's ready, find his own place.

Randall will leave the Mission a changed man. "Everything has changed a lot," he says. "My attitude, my caring. They've got everything you need here. This place saves a lot of lives... that's what America should always be, about saving lives." "He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry." Psalm 146: 7

This season, thank you for providing:

- 52,000 meals
- 27,000 nights of shelter

Your gifts are the fuel that enables us to bring hope and help to hungry, homeless neighbors.

#### Join us Nov. 27



ake room for Thanksgiving Dinner and provide meals, shelter and care for our community's most destitute men, women and children: Take part in one of Michiana's biggest Thanksgiving events, the Faith Mission Turkey Stampede.

Sign up today for the 10K run, 5K run/walk, or 1 mile walk through the streets of Elkhart. Or, just come and cheer on the runners from the sidelines!

If you aren't a runner, consider becoming a **volunteer!** We need lots of help to get ready for the event. Call Vera at (574) 293-3406, ext. 103 or e-mail her at vera@thefaithmission.org.

The Turkey Stampede has a new location: Elkhart Youth and Community Center at 200 East Jackson Blvd., Elkhart, IN 46516.

For more information, visit **theFaithMission.org**, or call Mike at (574) 293-3406, **ext. 105**.

Tell a friend about...

## National Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week

ar too many of our neighbors live in poverty. Some have trouble "making ends meet." Others "do without" to pay rent or utility bills or buy medicine. Many are homeless, fighting for survival each and every day.

You may not see these neighbors every day, but they are here, and Faith Mission is working hard to help them.

We are grateful that you work with us to end hunger and homelessness year round!

So Nov. 15-23 is a great time to

encourage others – friends, family, and coworkers – to join you, and help fix the problems that cause hunger and homelessness by volunteering, organizing a clothing or food drive, or making a special donation to the Mission.

If you're on Facebook or Twitter, please, urge friends to help. You can even give them our address, www.theFaithMission.org, as a place to get more information. THANKS!

### Holiday Dinner Shopping List

Can you help us by providing one or more of the items on this list?

Turkeys
Hams
Instant stuffing mix
Canned yams
Cream of Mushroom soup
Milk
Dinner rolls
Carrots
Celery
Onions
Potatoes
Cool Whip
Foam cups/napkins

Donations can be dropped off at 801 N. Benham Ave., Elkhart. Or, call Kerry at (574) 293-3406, ext. 112 for more information.

# **Attention Hunters** & Farmers



o you have livestock or deer that could help us feed hungry neighbors? Faith Mission is seeking donations of fresh meat to help reduce the cost of the more than 500 meals we serve each day.

As an added bonus, we'll do the processing for free!

Call Kerry at (574) 293-3406, ext. 112 for more information.

#### Breakfast, Lunch or Thanksgiving Dinner – Still Just \$1.79!

Some of us still remember when a soda was 5¢. Or a time when you could get a burger for a quarter. These days, a plain cup of coffee can set you back \$2 or more!

But here at Faith Mission, you can still provide a hot, wholesome, home-cooked meal for just \$1.79.

We'll be serving a lot of those great meals this Thanksgiving season, including hundreds of festive Thanksgiving Dinners with turkey and all the trimmings!

Your \$1.79 gift can provide a meal that's a turning point in the life of a person who's lost all hope, along



with the care and counseling that helps end homelessness and addiction.

If you think that's amazing, imagine what a gift of \$25 or \$50 or

even \$100 can do!

Please share your blessings by making a special gift today to feed and begin to change the lives of as many people as possible. Use the enclosed envelope, or make a safe, secure donation on our website at **theFaithMission.org**. THANK YOU!