

Faith IN Action

A Newsletter from

Faith Mission
OF ELKHART, INC.
Michiana helping her own

SUMMER 2017

Don't miss...

2 The Greatest Challenge

3 "I'd whip my addiction with God's help."

4 Match it by May 31!



JIM'S CHALLENGE:

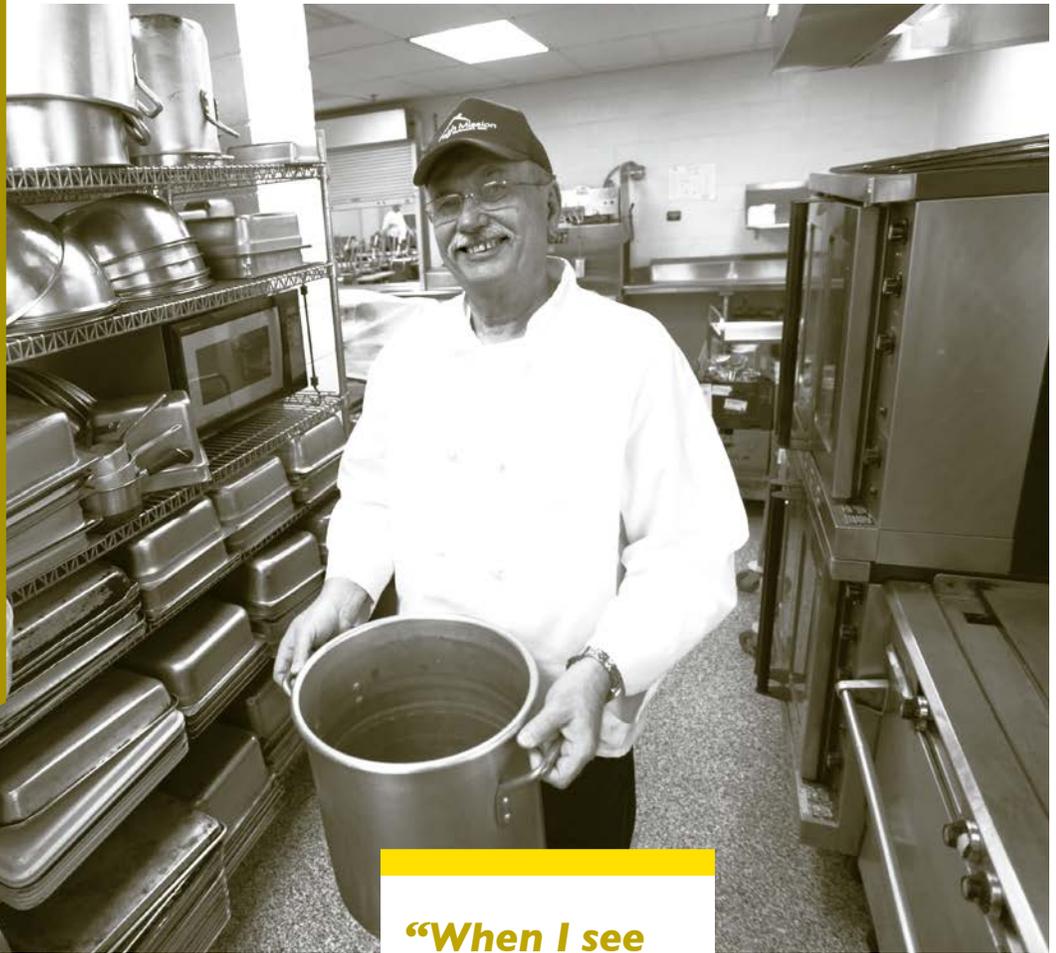
Serving up new hope

Jim's own life brought him face-to-face with addiction. But he never guessed his past struggles would inspire others in the kitchen.

“

I'd whip my addiction with God's help.”

”



“When I see the line of people for lunch or supper, it doesn't take much to imagine myself on the receiving end of that line.”

When Jim remembers his past, he remembers the joy of becoming a chef. He also remembers his struggles with alcohol.

His employer recognized that Jim was struggling. **“They gave me an ultimatum: get help or leave,”** he says. “I was in denial, but to keep my job, I sought help.”

His denial lasted until he attended Alcoholics Anonymous and found himself nodding along. “The stories sounded awfully familiar.”

“Alcoholics Anonymous brought me back into my spirituality,” he says. “I didn't have the power to defeat my addiction, but I knew I'd whip it with God's help.”

Jim did just that. And when he retired, he wanted to keep cooking. So he began working with our Culinary Program, which provides work-skills training for our long-term residents

recovering from addiction, abuse or homelessness.

“It's teaching a trade,” Jim says. **“The sooner they can get back on their feet and on their own, the better for them.** The Culinary Program helps with that.”

Jim teaches his kitchen crew the basics: sanitation, safety, food preparation and even hospitality. Their training culminates with catering the meal for the Mission's Annual Volunteer Banquet.

Jim often shares his own story with chefs-in-training. “Had things been a little bit different, I could have gone down that path... that's part of why I do what I do here.”

Jim is grateful for the chance to teach those in our Culinary Program...

and for what they teach him too. **“We often don't realize how blessed we are until we look around... and here, you don't have to look very far,”** Jim says. “The Lord has provided for myself and many others in the community – and He asks us to take care of our less fortunate brothers and sisters. One of the best ways we can do that is with a donation

to the Mission, whether it's monetary or goods or time.”

WITH YOUR HELP, men and women can discover that God's hope and healing are for everyone, regardless of their past or circumstances. Thank you for your generous support!

THE GREATEST CHALLENGE

How do you challenge yourself? Maybe you've trained for a marathon or half marathon and pushed yourself to run across that finish line. Maybe even a 5K race – like our Turkey Stampede – is a real test!

Or maybe you've been challenged by family, friends or a pastor to open your heart to someone who's very different than you... or to live out God's love in new and powerful ways.

Right now, we're in the middle of a challenge from wonderful friends of the Mission to match their generous \$17,000 gift with an additional \$17,000.

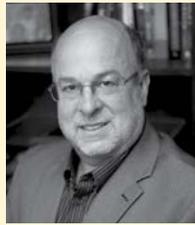
But our greatest challenge is a daily one: inspiring new hope in the lives of people struggling with an addiction or abuse, unemployment or homelessness, hunger or hopelessness.

In this issue's cover story, you'll

hear Jim's testimony about how being part of Faith Mission has transformed his life.

Like Jim, you understand the challenges our neighbors in need face, and we're grateful you share the truly life-changing gifts of meals, shelter and care.

We can meet the challenge of caring for our community's hurting because of you and your faithful support. Thank you for giving to bring new hope to countless lives forever.



Ross Swihart
Executive Director



TAKE OUR "I DIDN'T KNOW THAT" TOUR

Schedule a tour of the Mission... see your gifts in action!

Contact Mike Perez
☎ (574) 293-3406, ext. 105
✉ mike@thefaithmission.org



You don't have to go far to find people in desperate need of help. They're right here in Michiana.

This Memorial Day, our 97-day summer campaign to help our community's homeless and hungry begins.





MATCH IT BY MAY 31!



Right now, because of a generous Matching Challenge, every gift you give will have **double the impact** for those in need.

Or as we like to say,

1 + Y = TWO!

By giving, you'll provide hot meals for a hungry child... safe shelter for a homeless woman... counsel for a man battling addiction... care for a family who has suffered abuse... and training to help men and women prepare for employment.

\$50 → \$100

\$100 → \$200

\$150 → \$300

That's how \$17,000 becomes \$34,000 when you give today!

 Give online at theFaithMission.org.

 Give now using the enclosed reply card + envelope.

DEADLINE TO GIVE: MAY 31

VISIT US ONLINE to learn more about our outreach, read stories of hope & securely donate anytime!

 theFaithMission.org



A Legacy that Lives On

Jeanne wanted to be a blessing to others. She realized she could make a bigger impact by including the Mission in her will... often referred to as a "bequest."

Her bequest ensured her legacy of generosity would continue for years to come.

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

Ready to talk more about leaving your legacy? Or just interested in learning more?

Please contact Mike Perez, our Director of Development, who would love to tell you more!

 (574) 293-3406, ext. 105

 mike@thefaithmission.org

Already blessed the Mission with a bequest?
Please let us know so we can say,

"Thank you!"