

Faith IN Action

A Newsletter from

Faith Mission
OF ELKHART, INC.
Michiana helping her own

SUMMER 2018

Don't miss...

2 A Message from
Ross Swihart

3 "God's always
there for me."

4 Match it by May 31!

A GOD-SIZED CHALLENGE

Angela's challenges led her
to a moment of **new hope**.

Because of you, challenges become changed lives through God's love.



“

I've learned
God's *always*
there for me.

”

Angela was adopted at just eight years old by a loving family who raised her in the church. As she grew older, she struggled with anxiety and stress... which made it nearly impossible to hold down a job or live on her own.

She found work caring for an elderly man who needed help with everyday tasks. She even lived in his house to provide the consistent care required. She managed her stress, and for a time, felt in control of her life.

But when that job ended, Angela had nowhere to live and no one to turn to for help.

With the threat of homelessness hanging over her, Angela walked through the doors of our emergency shelter... where she found so much more than shelter. **“The staff works with you... especially when you show you're motivated to improve your life.”**

She joined our Training Faithful Women recovery program, where she's surrounded by love and fellowship on

a daily basis from our staff and other women in the program. That consistent support has helped relieve the anxiety she's felt in the past – and given her the chance to build new job skills.

“When I first got here, the Mission sent me to work in their thrift store warehouse,” she says. “It gave me real experience working a job.”

Angela's gotten valuable work experience managing our front desk, answering phones and helping guests with information. “I've never done anything like that before,” she says with a big smile.

Most importantly, our recovery program has helped Angela strengthen her relationship with the Lord. “The Bible studies here are great,” she says. “I hadn't read the Bible a lot... so now, my faith is much stronger than when I arrived.”

“I've learned that no matter where I am, God's always there for me.”

Angela's job training here prepared her for the full-time job she now holds

at Dollar General. “I felt ready when I went out looking for jobs. The Mission helped me by giving me training and encouraging me to get a job that works for me.”

“Today, I'm standing on my own two feet.”

She's now looking forward to getting a place of her own, and she's excited about the opportunity to give back some of the love and support she's received. “I want to put myself out there to help people if they need me,” she says. “I'd love to volunteer to help people.”

Because of your generous support, women like Angela are facing their challenges and being transformed by God's love here at the Mission. “The Mission helps people get back on their feet and depend on themselves, and helps them find the right job.”



A MESSAGE FROM ROSS SWIHART

A TIMELESS CHALLENGE

When we first opened our doors in 1956, the gifts of generous friends made it possible to serve dozens of meals each day to Michiana'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: Some wonderful friends of the Mission are challenging you to match their generous \$17,000 gift with an additional \$17,000. That means this entire month, your gift will have double the impact!

I hope when you read Angela's story (*on page 3*), you'll see how tremendously her 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.**

Faith Mission 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 help and hope for those who come here – today, tomorrow and beyond.

Ross Swihart
Executive Director



SHARE YOUR SUNSHINE!

97-DAY SUMMER CAMPAIGN

Sunny summer days are here... but many in our community are experiencing dark and troubled times.

This Memorial Day, our 97-day Summer Campaign to care for our community's homeless and hungry begins.



Your Invitation

Schedule a tour of the Mission... see the impact of your gifts!

Contact Mike Perez

☎ (574) 293-3406, ext. 105

✉ mike@thefaimission.org

Please RSVP!

YOUR GENEROSITY AT WORK MAY 2018



18,750
meals served



Hundreds
of nights of shelter



114
men & women in
our recovery
programs



1,200
Chapel
attendances



1,427
hours of education
& counseling

THANK YOU
FOR CHANGING LIVES
WITH YOUR GENEROSITY

**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 \$17,000 challenge grant from a special group of our most generous donors... for a total of \$34,000 to feed and shelter our community's homeless.

- Give now using the enclosed reply card + envelope.
- Give securely online at theFaithMission.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.

theFaithMission.org

Let's be friends!



LEAVE A LEGACY THAT

Shines On

Nancy and Paul have been faithful friends to the Mission 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 Faith 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 Faith Mission in your estate plans? Or are you interested in learning about how to do that?

Please contact Mike Perez, our Director of Development, who would love to thank you for including the Mission in your will or answer your questions about leaving a legacy gift.

☎ (574) 293-3406, ext. 105

✉ mike@thefaithmission.org