

Faith **IN** Action



When bad things happen to good people – the Mission is there

John grew up right here in Mishawaka. His dad, a WWII pilot, was the first in the family to go to college. "I grew up in a great family, and everything was awesome," John remembers. "There was just one thing Dad demanded from us – that we get an education."

John honored his father's wishes and went to IUSB. But during the summer, he started working carpentry. "I really, really enjoyed it!"

John became a finish carpenter, building new homes. "I was successful, and life was good. My wife and I could afford trips to Vegas every year."

Then came the Recession...

More of John's story, and how partners like you can make a real difference in a neighbor's life on page 3.

Just for you...

You are the best gift of all
11th Annual Turkey Stampede

“Away in a manger, no crib for His bed..”

When people think of those who are homeless or hungry, they often picture shabbily dressed men.

We know differently.

Of the hundreds of neighbors sheltered, fed and cared for here at the Mission and provided with meals in our partner churches in Elkhart Valley, Goshen, Middlebury and Nappanee, more than **XX% are children!**

Some of them are only a few days or weeks old. Others have been homeless or near-homeless for longer than they can remember. Our job is to provide permanent solutions to the problems their parents face. And, to show them God’s love!



That’s why your partnership and support are so important.

Faith Mission is one of the few emergency facilities in Elkhart County where all these services are provided in one place, making it possible for moms, dads and kids to receive the shelter, meals, clothing, spiritual counseling and care that can help end homelessness.

As the holidays approach, we give special thanks for you, and for your support.

May the peace of the season bring you joy, just as you have brought joy and hope for a better life to others.

Ross Swihart

Ross Swihart, Executive Director

“I started to lose things, one after the other.”

In 2008, John, along with thousands of others in Michiana, got hit hard by the recession. When the economy took a dive and stayed there, one of the first things that went south was the building of new homes – and John’s livelihood.

“They foreclosed on my house.”

John had no place to go. Not only was he truly homeless, but he began drinking. “I started to lose things one after the other, and ended up here at the Mission.”

No matter how grateful he was for the help he received, John, like many others chafed under the rules. Leaving the Mission, he went

back to carpentry, but couldn’t make enough to support himself and eventually returned to the Mission.



“The Mission was always good to me.”

John wanted to give back, so with his love for cooking, he began working in the kitchen. “I found that I had a knack for making big meals. It’s not much different than when you cook at home, just everything is BIG and I was good at that.”

John did so well he was offered a job here at the Mission. And even though it didn’t pay as well as what he had been making, he accepted. “People who work here don’t work for the money,” he says.

Today, he shares an apartment with another Mission employee, and in addition to cooking, John works with volunteers.

“The generosity of people who volunteer and donate food and money is awesome,” he says.

“If someone would have told me what people do here, I would have laughed at them. Now, when I show others all that’s done here, they always say, ‘we had no idea!’”

Lives you have touched this month



Over 18,000 meals served at the Mission & partner churches in Elkhart Valley, Goshen, Middlebury and Nappanee



Safe shelter for more than 200 men, women & children each night



1,900 guests in chapel services

The very best gift you can give this Christmas



Hot meal



Warm shelter



God’s love

DONATE

MY HOLIDAY GIFT

Mail your gift today, or donate securely online at theFaithMission.org

THANK YOU!



2,000 hours of prayer, counseling and education

It's not too late!

New Location: Bigger and better!



There is still time to sign up for our 11th Annual Faith Mission Turkey Stampede, Thursday, Nov. 28, 8:30-10:30 am.

NEW LOCATION: Elkhart Health and Aquatics

All proceeds benefit the men, women and children served by Faith Mission.

Sign up today:

1-mile walk/5K run or walk (3.1 miles)/
10K run (6.2 miles) – theFaithMission.org

Thanks for moving your feet so others can eat!



Can you help?

Holiday dinner shopping list

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> turkeys | <input type="checkbox"/> cans of cream of mushroom soup |
| <input type="checkbox"/> hams | <input type="checkbox"/> doz. dinner rolls |
| <input type="checkbox"/> boxes of stuffing mix | <input type="checkbox"/> pounds of carrots, celery, onions & potatoes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> gallons of milk | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> cans of yams | |

Help fill the pantry for holiday community dinners and meals to shut-ins. Please drop off donations at 801 N. Benham Avenue, Elkhart. Call Kerry at (574) 293-3406, ext. 112 for more information.

Volunteers needed to help prepare and pack food for Christmas meal delivery from 9 to 11 am on Christmas Day. Also drivers to deliver meals from 10:15 am to noon. Call Vera at (574) 293-3406, ext. 103.

Christmas Gift Bags

Receiving meals and shelter is a blessing for the men and women here at the Mission.

You can help make this Christmas special for those who call Faith Mission "home."

Lift their spirits and spread the joy of the holiday by filling a Christmas bag.

- | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Stocking hat | Shaving cream | Christmas candy |
| Pair of gloves | Deodorant | Devotional book |
| Pair of socks | Body lotion | Card of encouragement |
| Disposable razor | Bath towel | |

We need gift bags for men, women and children.

Please mark your bag(s) "man," "woman," "children" and drop off at the Mission. You can contact Mike Perez at (574) 293-3406, ext. 105 if you have questions.

GIVE. VOLUNTEER. CONNECT.

theFaithMission.org



Here's my annual Christmas gift

- \$25.48 for **13 meals and care**
 \$50.96 for **26 meals and care**
 \$76.44 for **39 meals and care**
 \$_____ to help as many people as possible

- Bill my credit card Check enclosed

- Make this a recurring gift

Card # _____

Exp. Date _____ CIV/SEC# _____

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ ST _____ ZIP _____

Phone # _____ Email _____

It's easy to give your gift online: theFaithMission.org or call (574) 293-3406

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