



## Changed Lives with Donated Goods

Doing some spring cleaning and needing to unload some gently used furniture, appliances, clothing, books, and household items? Bring them to the Faith Mission Thrift Store!

When you donate goods to the thrift store, you help support life-changing Mission programs. You also provide our guests with clothing and other essential items and promote valuable work experience for men and women in recovery.

### Drop Off Details:

**Where:** 335 LaSalle Street, off Benham Avenue (next to the Dollar General)

**When:** Mon, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.; Tues–Fri, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Sat, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. (Closed Sunday)

**For larger donations, please call (574) 522-0477 to schedule a pickup.**

## Calling all volunteers!

Faith Mission will be serving many men, women and children from across Michiana this summer, and we would love to have your help! Individuals and groups are all welcome!



**For more information, please contact Vera Swihart at (574) 293-3406, ext. 103 or at [Vera@theFaithMission.org](mailto:Vera@theFaithMission.org). We hope to see you soon!**

## Lives you have touched this month in Michiana



More than 15,000 meals served to hungry men, women and children



Safe shelter for over 200 individuals each night



Men and women in recovery programs



Bible study and chapel services



Prayer, counseling and education

**Thank you for making everything possible!**



# Faith IN Action

SPRING 2023



## “I’m just grateful to be alive another day.”

At 60, when many people are thinking about retirement, Vonzette made a decision that would change her life forever.

Once she decided to leave behind drugs and an abusive relationship, your support made it possible for her to find help in our long-term residential and life skills program for women.

*Read her amazing story inside...*

**GIVE. VOLUNTEER. CONNECT.**

[theFaithMission.org](http://theFaithMission.org)  

**Match my gift to DOUBLE the amount of help.**



- \$25.48 for 26 meals and care
- \$50.96 for 52 meals and care
- \$76.44 for 78 meals and care
- \$\_\_\_\_\_ to help as many people as possible

Bill my credit card  Make this a monthly gift



Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ CIV/SEC# \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

It's easy to give your gift securely online at: [theFaithMission.org](http://theFaithMission.org)

**Faith Mission of Elkhart**

P.O. Box 1728  
Elkhart, IN 46515-1728



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### Just for you...

- Praying for another miracle!
- “I knew a better life once upon a time and I wanted it back.”
- Swihart Tiny House Village Now Open!
- Changed Lives with Donated Goods



801 Benham Avenue, Elkhart, IN 46516 | (574) 293-3406 | [theFaithMission.org](http://theFaithMission.org)  



NOTES FROM  
THE EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR  
ROSS SWIHART



## Praying for another miracle!

Matthew 14:13-21 tells us the story of the loaves and fishes. How Jesus took five loaves of bread and two fish, blessed them, and fed 5,000 people with "twelve basketfuls of broken pieces left over."

Right now, we have an opportunity to see a similar miracle happen here at the Mission!

You see, soaring prices for food and basic needs have increased with the number of men, women and children needing help. At the same time, these rising costs have put pressure on many of our supporters.

These rising costs have also affected the Mission, and we're tightening our belts as best we can so that our services can continue uninterrupted.

During this challenging season, we hope you'll join the Mission in praying for our community and for the individuals and families we serve.

And if you're able to give toward our Matching Challenge, please know that your support at any level – just like the loaves and fishes – will multiply the help and hope provided for hungry, hurting and homeless people in our community.

Thank you for all you do to make miracles happen at Faith Mission! God bless you!

*Ross Swihart*



## "I knew a better life once upon a time, and I wanted it back."

Vonzette grew up in Texas and was in a 15-year abusive relationship with a man who had introduced her to drugs.

"I was going downhill in Texas. I was drinking, I was doing crack cocaine and I had started playing around with meth, and that's something I never would have done before," she said.

Then one day, she finally gathered up her courage and left town on the next available bus.

"I just had to get out. I knew a better life once upon a time, and I wanted it back. So the best way I knew, I took my purse and what money I had, and it brought me here."

Vonzette was 16 when she turned her life over to Christ, but she backslid "several times." Now, in the Mission's

long-term program for women, this time she's determined to succeed.

"Faith Mission is giving me a home. It's been a stepping stone."

Working on recovery at the Mission is no easy task. But Vonzette believes "in following Jesus Christ even through the bad and the ugly." "If I give Him praise, He'll lift me up. I'm just grateful to be alive another day."

"God has me," she says. "Every morning, every day, I get up before everybody and get in his Spirit. I feel blessed and encouraged that I'm here."

Now that she's in recovery, Vonzette has reconnected with her son and grandchildren. "I have a life today," she says.

**"And it's all because of this place and the people who support the Mission. I thank them very much. We know that someone cares, and I appreciate all the help that they give."**



## Swihart Tiny House Village Now Open!

Thanks to the generous support of partners like you, The Swihart Tiny House Village officially became a reality early this year! The village includes 12 fully-furnished homes and was named to honor the Swihart family for their long-standing service to Faith Mission.

The Tiny Houses will serve as an additional program to support Mission residents who are in the process of rebuilding their lives.

**To take a Mission tour, including the new Tiny Houses, please contact Mike Perez at (574) 293-3406, ext. 105, or at Mike@theFaithMission.org. Thank you!**



**Make Twice the Impact!**  
**\$10,000**  
**Matching Challenge Gift**  
**DOUBLES your Support!**

Thanks to a generous Matching Challenge Gift of \$10,000 from our Board of Directors, your support today will have twice the impact!

That means you'll be able to double your impact on providing food, shelter and care for homeless and hurting people in Michiana.

**\$20 doubles to \$40 to help with meals and shelter.**

**\$50 becomes \$100 to help twice as many people.**

**\$100 doubles to provide \$200 worth of life-changing services.**

Mail your gift today or donate online at [theFaithMission.org](http://theFaithMission.org).

**THANK YOU!**

