



Faith IN Action



“I’ve got to go somewhere or I’m going to die...”

When Tracy came to Faith Mission, she was battling an addiction and living in a tent in below-zero weather.

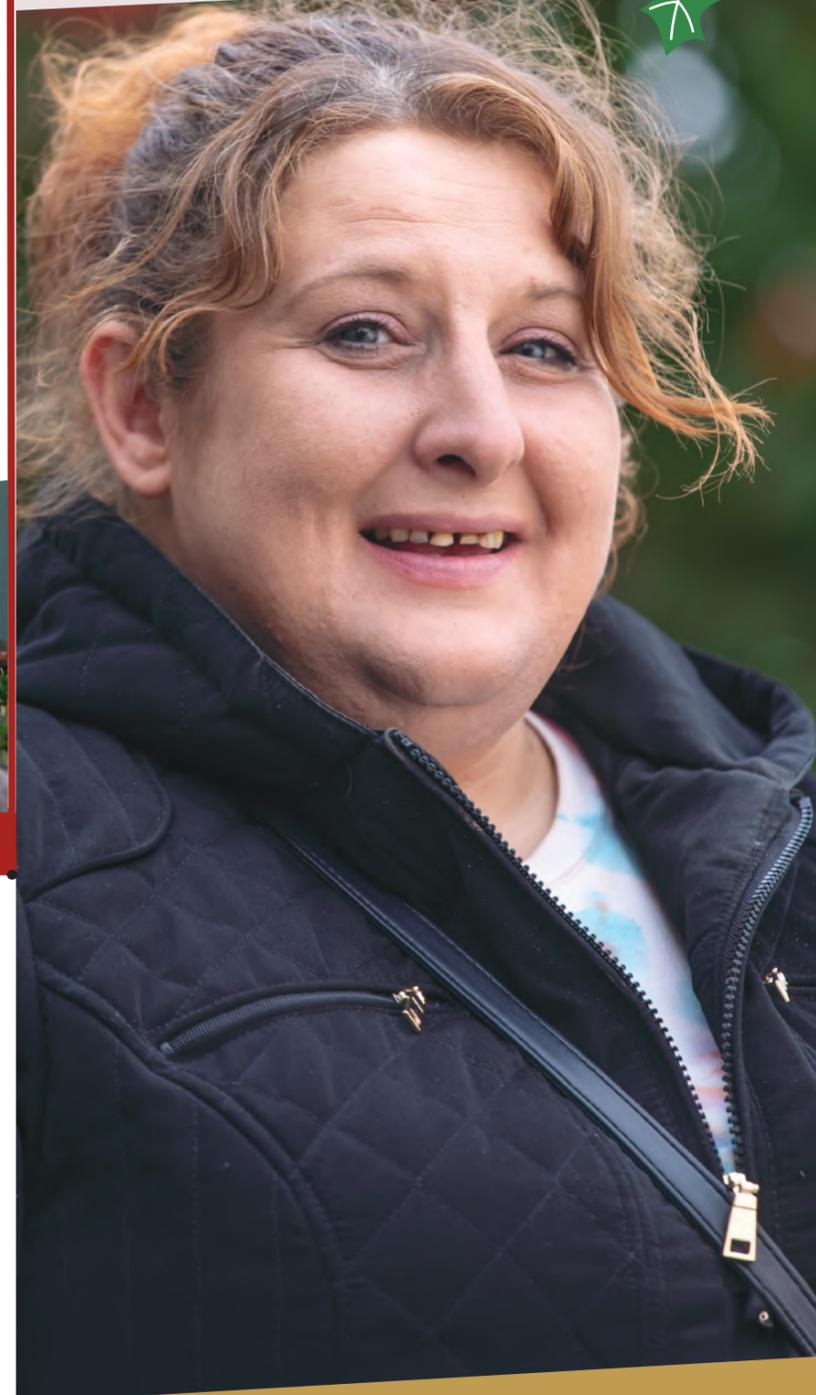
She had come to the Mission before to eat, and she knew that now her life was on the line.

“My whole life changed,” she says today. “Everything that someone needs to rebuild their life is within these walls!”

Read more about Tracy’s amazing recovery inside...

Just for you...

- Continuing the Legacy of Faith
- “Everything someone needs to rebuild their life is within these walls!”
- 15th Annual Turkey Stampede



801 Benham Avenue, Elkhart, IN 46516 | (574) 293-3406 | theFaithMission.org



The Perfect Christmas Gift

Looking to bless someone in need this Christmas season? Consider filling and donating Christmas bags for those who call Faith Mission home! It’s a great opportunity for your family or small group to get involved in spreading the joy of the season!

Men’s Gift Bags (120 needed)

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| Stocking Hat | Pair of Socks |
| Shaving Cream | Devotional Book |
| Pair of Gloves | Disposable Razor |
| Body Lotion | Deodorant |
| | Card of Encouragement |

Women’s Gift Bags (40 needed)

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| Stocking Hat | Pair of Socks |
| Shaving Cream | Devotional Book |
| Pair of Gloves | Disposable Razor |
| Body Lotion | Deodorant |
| | Card of Encouragement |

Please mark your bag(s) “man” or “woman” and drop them off at the Mission by Saturday, December 23. For more information, please call (574) 293-3406.



Holiday Dinner for 18,000

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Turkeys | Dinner rolls |
| Hams | Carrots, celery, onions and potatoes |
| Stuffing | Cans of yams |
| Cans of mushroom soup | Gallons of milk |

Directions: Combine with love and feed 18,000 hungry people this month.

Help us fill the pantry with holiday meals for all our guests, including seniors and shut-ins. Please drop off donations at 801 Benham Ave., Elkhart. For more information, please call (574) 293-3406.

No time to shop? Make a gift at theFaithMission.org.

GIVE. VOLUNTEER. CONNECT.

theFaithMission.org

YES, I’ll bless people in need with food, shelter and care this Holiday season.

- \$23.52 for **12 meals and care**
- \$49.00 for **25 meals and care**
- \$74.48 for **38 meals and care**
- \$_____ to help as many people as possible

Bill my credit card

Make this a monthly gift

Card # _____ Exp. Date _____ CIV/SEC# _____

Phone # _____ Email _____

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ ST _____ ZIP _____

It’s easy to give your gift online: theFaithMission.org.



Point your smartphone camera here to give now

Faith Mission of Elkhart
P.O. Box 1728
Elkhart, IN 46515-1728

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NOTES FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ROSS SWIHART

Continuing the Legacy of Faith

Most great ventures have small beginnings.

That was the case in 1956 when Faith Mission started in a humble storefront at 708 S. Main St. in downtown Elkhart. Since then, God has been faithful to keep this ministry going strong through the prayers and support of generous friends like you.

In the 15 years I've been at the Mission, so many exciting things have happened. The Mission moved from its old downtown location to its current location at 801 Benham Avenue. New ministries have been launched. And best of all, broken lives have been healed and transformed through the love of Jesus.

That's why, as I prepare to retire, it's a blessing to pass the baton to someone who has years of experience serving here at the Mission and who will build on the work that has already taken place: Our director of development, Mike Perez.

Mike's heart for the people we serve, his ties to the community, and his versatility make him the ideal person to take the reins this January as our new executive director.

As for me, I will continue serving at the Mission in an advisory role, supporting Mike and helping with some of our development efforts.

Thank you so very much for the support you've provided to Faith Mission. Exciting things are in store for this ministry, and I pray you'll continue to partner in the work that the Lord started so many years ago.

God bless you!



A Word from Director of Development Mike Perez



When I joined Faith Mission's staff 20 years ago, I couldn't have foreseen all the amazing things that would happen.

It started with the Mission moving from its original location on Main Street to our current location on Benham Avenue. From there, new programs were launched to better serve homeless individuals and families in Michiana, including our Tiny Shelters and Tiny Homes.

Our annual Turkey Stampede began, and we were blessed to acquire a facility on Middlebury Street that will be used as transitional housing for homeless families. And finally, it's been a joy to see so many men and women find freedom and healing in Christ.

Thank you so much for making all of these things possible through your partnership. As I step into Ross' shoes in January and continue moving the Mission forward, I covet your prayers and thank you for being such a blessing to us and to people in need here in Michiana.

God bless you!



"Everything someone needs to rebuild their life is within these walls!"

Tracy grew up surrounded by addiction. "My family were all drug addicts. My father was an alcoholic. My mother was a drug addict. It's the only thing I ever knew."

Before she came here five years ago, Tracy tried a rehab program in Michigan, but it wasn't a good fit.

"I took a bus back here, and from the bus stop, I walked to Faith Mission," she remembers. "We used to come here to eat. I thought, 'I've got to go somewhere, and I've got to do it fast, or I'm going to die.' I walked here, and my whole life changed."

"Sometimes we just don't have families that teach you to be a better person," she says. "And you have to go somewhere else to find that."

For Tracy, that "somewhere else" was Faith Mission.

I'm a firm believer that the only way to cure addiction is God, and this is God's house. I don't think there's any other community that will support you like this place does.

Thanks to the classes, counseling, prayer, and

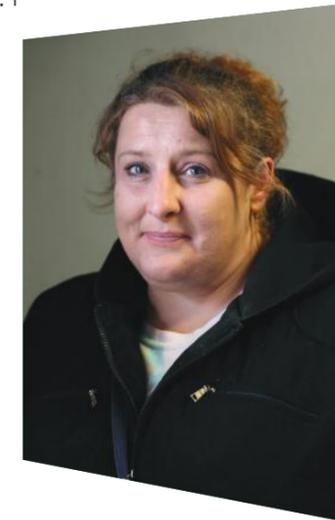
discipleship that your support provides, Tracy's life is back on track.

"I got baptized. I received Jesus into my heart. Doors just opened up for me. I actually felt different inside. So now I attend church regularly. I do a lot of work at my church. You can say that you accept God, but you have to put your life into it, and that's what I try to do."

She not only has a job, but is also helping out here at the Mission. "I have a car now, so I give people rides and I work in the kitchen and the laundry."

Tracy has a message for those who volunteer and support the Mission: "You are changing lives! No matter what the people are here, you're giving them warm blankets, a warm night. You're never leaving anyone hungry. And if God teaches us anything, it's to do those things."

Thank you for making a difference in Tracy's life through your partnership!



The Stampede is Just Days Away!

Faith Mission's 15th Annual Turkey Stampede is almost here!

This Thanksgiving, start a new tradition and gather your family and friends to take part in the 10K run, the 5K walk/run or the 1-mile walk through the streets of Elkhart. Or become an event sponsor!

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

See you there!

Thursday, November 23, 8:30-10:30 a.m.
Elkhart Health & Aquatics (200 E. Jackson Blvd.)

Register today at theFaithMission.org!



Calling all Volunteers

Many more individuals and families will be coming to Faith Mission for help this season, and we would love to have your help! Individuals, groups or families are all welcome!

For more information, call Vera Swihart at (574) 293-3406, ext. 103. Or go to theFaithMission.org and click on "Get Involved" then "Volunteer".

