

The Connection



Heritage of hope

John

Starting out life as a foster child and bouncing between shelters, John grew up looking for any attention he could get. "My brother, sister, and I lived a sheltered life," recalls John. He suffered from mental abuse from his parents and developed anxiety issues. At age 18 he began drinking and smoking. It was a rough beginning but John was determined to persevere.

In spite of his anxiety, John fell in love with a young woman. John was working full time and the couple had a home, and then a son. But things began to 'unravel.' One day when John was at work, his girlfriend took everything and moved out. John was devastated.

Working construction, John bounced between Michigan and Boston working good jobs. But getting a desperate call from his ex-girlfriend, he ran back to Michigan to their rescue. Their lives had wound up in danger. "I had to protect my son and make sure he was safe, says John. I decided to try to let go of what happened before and try to make it work with my ex to prevent my son from being raised in a broken home."

Unfortunately that plan did not work. John found himself abandoned and alone. Now without a job or a place to live in the middle of winter, John sought

out Good Samaritan Rescue Mission. He remembers arriving at the Mission "afraid and timid." John quickly learned the men's shelter staff were here to help. "Mr. Roland listened, mentored and guided me. I'm very thankful for that guy. He helped me more than he knows."

John began the Employment Readiness Program shortly after arriving at the Mission. "The program is excellent and I learned a lot. I consider Mr. Craig (director of operations) a friend and mentor. Never too busy, he always listened when I needed someone to do so. I'm very thankful," says John.

"By the grace of God, I now live in one of the new apartments at the Mission and I work in the kitchen at Community Village. Because of the Mission I do things I never thought I would. I attend church, a 12-step program, and I'm bettering myself and my situation."

"I have plans to get my own home and full custody of my son. Everything I have and have going on is because of the Mission. I can never pay back the Mission. Thank you!"

DIRECTOR'S DESK

I think many of us have annual traditions that we look forward to each year. Maybe a family reunion, a favorite vacation spot, or an annual event to get together with friends. We reconnect and catch up, build new memories, and strengthen the bonds that bring us together. I hope the Mission Anniversary Dinner is one of those events in your annual calendar.

We have already started preparations for this year's banquet, and I am sure you won't want to miss out on this unique night of inspiration and information. Our theme this year is "Heritage of Hope" and our special speaker is Dennis Van Kampen, CEO of Mel Trotter Ministries in Grand Rapids, MI. Our founder, Mel Trotter, also started their mission in Grand Rapids back in 1900, and so both ministries have historically always shared a common bond and focus in ministry. Dennis is a good friend and an excellent speaker. You will truly enjoy getting to know him and hearing his passion for the hurting, homeless, abused, and neglected in our communities. Our theme verse for the evening is Romans 15:4, "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope."

Our heritage, since the day Mel Trotter worked to open the doors in 1905, is to share the real hope available for all in Christ. Come hear Dennis as he shares his reflections on our shared history, as well as his vision for Christian ministry in the future. Additionally a tremendous meal, ministry update, special music, guest testimony, and sharing our vision for 2018 will all be a part of this special evening. Make plans now to block out September 18 for this inspirational annual event. Check out the detailed information in this newsletter on how to make your reservations.

Hope to see you in September.

Dan Streeter
Chief Executive Officer



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Thank you!



Rescue Ministries of Mid-Michigan would like to thank Mid-Michigan Children's Museum and Thrivent Financial, for sponsoring a special birthday party for children at City Rescue Mission and Good Samaritan Rescue Mission. Children and moms alike had a blast celebrating EVERY child's birthday!

Pictured; Martin Hessler & Nicole Keel of Thrivent Financial, and Kay & Delaney, MMCM interns.

MISSION NEEDS

FOOD ITEMS

- 100% Juice (*apple, orange, grape*)
- Granola bars

CLOTHING

- **Men:**
Dress/Khaki Slacks, Shorts (*32-40*)
Dress shoes (*9-12*)
- **Boys:**
Underwear (*sizes 2-8*)

HYGIENE & MISC. ITEMS

- Toilet Paper
- Men's Razors & Shaving Cream
- Body Wash
- Shampoo
- Liquid Soap
- Diapers (*sizes 4-5*)



Anniversary Dinner Features

"These Forty Years"

The book "These Forty Years," documents the 40 year ministry of Mel Trotter, Founder of City Rescue Mission of Saginaw and co-founder of over 60 Missions across the U.S.A. Come hear about Mel's Heritage of Hope for the Homeless and purchase this historical book Mon, Sept. 18.

(More Information on the back of this newsletter)

Mission Statement:

To glorify God by serving people in need, proclaiming the Gospel, and establishing disciples among disadvantaged people.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

RESCUE MINISTRIES OF MID-MICHIGAN ANNIVERSARY DINNER

*Featuring Guest Speaker
Dennis Van Kampen, CEO
Mel Trotter Ministries, Grand Rapids*



Tickets are Free ~ A Love Offering will be taken
RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED

*To RSVP Contact
Marlene at 989-893-5973*

Monday, September 18, 2017

6:00pm - 6:30pm Punchbowl • 6:30 - 9:00 Dinner & Program
Doubletree Hotel, 1 Wenonah Park Pl., Bay City, MI

Tuesday, September 19, 2017

6:00pm - 6:30pm Punchbowl • 6:30 - 9:00 Dinner & Program
Horizons Conference Center, 6200 State St., Saginaw, MI

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