

# The Connection

A Publication of Rescue Ministries of Mid-Michigan

## Give Thanks, Give Blessings, Give Hope

Growing up in Wellsville, NY, life for Paul, number 5 in the line of 7 children, was a combination of good and tough times. "Looking back, it was somewhat below average due to the number of siblings, my place in the rank and file, and the lack of stable income." Paul says his parents were hard-working, adventurous, and God-fearing. When he was younger, however, Paul witnessed his father struggle with the effects of being a war veteran. Memories of this, along with having low self-esteem as a teenager, wasn't helpful in Paul's emotional growth and stability.



Although he attended a faith-based school through the 8th grade where he learned about God's love for him, Paul still struggled for a 20-year period when he turned to drugs and alcohol. "My problems started in 1967 and gradually evolved." At 18 years old, and in poor physical condition, Paul left high school and entered the army for 11 months. From there he worked as a rail car builder all while hiding his addiction to drugs and alcohol. Although a concerned friend encouraged him to stop drinking, Paul said, "I knew what I needed to do, but I didn't want to do it."

The necessity of getting out of a dangerous living situation is what brought Paul to the doors of Good Samaritan. "It took two failed attempts (speaking of his first two mission stays) in 2021 plus 6 more months". However, during his third stay at the mission this past winter, Paul finally understood what he had to do. "When I paid closer attention, I noticed a change in my behavior and attitude." Once Paul felt resigned to the fact that he needed help, he was thankful for the structure the mission staff and programs offered him. Now understanding the benefits of having a safe place to sleep, shower and eat, he is thankful for the advice and encouragement he received.

Since moving out of the mission, Paul is feeling more spiritually fit than ever and hopeful about his future. Landing in local housing, he says, "My apartment is awesome!" Paul plans to continue to attend AA meetings, volunteer at a weekly food give-away and continue to re-connect with 2 of his siblings.

# DIRECTOR'S DESK

A few weeks ago, Rescue Ministries held its Annual Gala at the Horizons Conference Center.

If you haven't attended one of our past Gala events, you have missed out on a great time of fellowship, a great meal, life changing testimonies, and a chance to hear the many ways that God has been blessing the ministry. Our theme verse for this year's event was, "Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness." Lamentations 3:22-23



One of the highlights of the evening was recognizing the faithful work of my parents, Ken and Karen Streeter, for their combined 75 years of ministry to the homeless. We have seen so many lives changed through the time of their dedicated service! Another highlight of the evening was hearing the testimonies of Dennis and Brenda. God has done an amazing work in their lives, and I am always in awe of a God that is so faithful to us and cares to help us in our struggles. He has done it for 117 years in the ministry, and He will continue to do it tomorrow with the new face that walks through the door. The mom with two kids struggling to keep their head above water financially but it seems all they find are obstacles, the 35-year-old man struggling with substance abuse that can't find peace in life, the 24-year-old young adult that has mental health issues that just overwhelm them, and they can't find any stability in life. They need us, they need God, and they need you. They need to know people care.

We need God's faithful to pray for these souls, to soften their hearts and to see His faithfulness.

We need God's faithful to come and get involved. It might be in helping teach a class, preparing or serving a meal, or even helping with an Impact Designs move. There are many opportunities just waiting for you. Please start prayerfully considering what God might have you do to help your neighbor in need.

Dan Streeter, CEO

***Thank You Ken & Karen Streeter for  
your 75 years of dedication to the  
homeless in Mid-Michigan.***



Providing 117 Years of safe shelter, nutritious meals, clothing, and the Love of Jesus.

For over a century, Rescue Ministries of Mid-Michigan has addressed the basic needs among people. With time, we have increased our effectiveness by expanding our facilities. Improving our life skills programs and providing compassionate care to the homeless in our community.



# ACROSS THE BAY

*Across the Bay is where we share with you highlights about our Saginaw Shelter, City Rescue Mission.*



The City Rescue Mission kitchen remodeling project launched in March 2022 and reopened August 22. During the six-month remodeling project meals for guests were prepared at the Good Samaritan Rescue Mission and transported to City Rescue Mission.

The new 1600 sq ft layout makes meal preparations and dish washing much more efficient. One of the additional benefits of the kitchen remodel was how the construction team was able to correct some drainage issues that caused flooding in the kitchen area during heavy rain downpours. Often during long periods of heavy downpours, the drains could not keep up and water backed up into the kitchen area.

## 2022 Samaritan Award Recipient

The Samaritan Award is presented to one whose charitable acts have somehow stood out among hundreds of kindnesses. The 2022 Samaritan Award was presented to Marcia Letson.

Marcia started volunteering at Good Samaritan Rescue Mission before it opened, when she learned that the shelter needed donations and volunteers. Hearing about the need, Marcia volunteered to help in the kitchen since she enjoyed baking. She would get there about 5:30 am to help prepare breakfast for the guests. That was approximately 15 years ago. Today, Marcia still volunteers in the kitchen. Mission guests enjoy her signature desserts.



### Thanksgiving Needs:

- Buffet Hams
- French style green beans
- Cream of mushroom soup
- French's Crispy Onions
- Canned Yams
- Brown Sugar
- Canned Cream Corn
- Stuffing
- Gravy
- Cornbread Mix
- Bisquick

## Mission Statement:

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



## AL CHRISTIANSEN MEMORIAL GOLF CHALLENGE



1st Place Team - Stan Sobol, Pat Lynch,  
Eric Nordquist, Charles Lange



2nd Place Team - Craig Laska, Ben Doyle,  
Kurt Schwannke, Bill Nicholson



3rd Place Team - Doug Dawe, Frank Dawe, Jim  
Jones, Nick Scott

The 21st annual Al Christiansen Memorial Golf Challenge was held June 16th at the beautiful Fortress Golf Club. The Golf Challenge sponsored by InCal Technologies, and Serenus Johnson Construction raised over \$90,000, providing 3,000 nights of hope and care to the homeless in the Great Lakes Bay Region. Our top three teams raised \$34,176.

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Starbucks  
Stardust Lanes

## Sharing Hope Radiothon brings Hope to the Homeless

You can help make the 2022 Sharing Hope Radiothon a huge success!

Please tune-in on December 15, 2022 to WSGW, FMTALK 100.5, Moose 94.5, Core 106.3, and Kiss 107.1 as they share remarkable stories of hope and raise support to combat homelessness in Mid-Michigan. The average cost for a night of hope and care is \$30. Our goal is to provide 1,500 nights of emergency shelter services to the homeless in the Great Lakes Bay Region. To make a gift go to <http://r3monline.org/radio>.



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