



Frustrated and Disheartened...

“Don’t Call Us, We’ll Call You”

Allen was really struggling to find work! “I must have filled out about a hundred applications, but I’d call back and the only response I got was, ‘Don’t call us, we’ll call you.’”

He had been living with his sister, but felt it was time to move on. Without a job, there was just nowhere to go. Then he remembered the Open Door Mission. His parents had donated clothes here. Allen packed all his belongings in a couple of bags and headed for Samaritan House.

“Things worked out pretty well.” The day after he arrived,

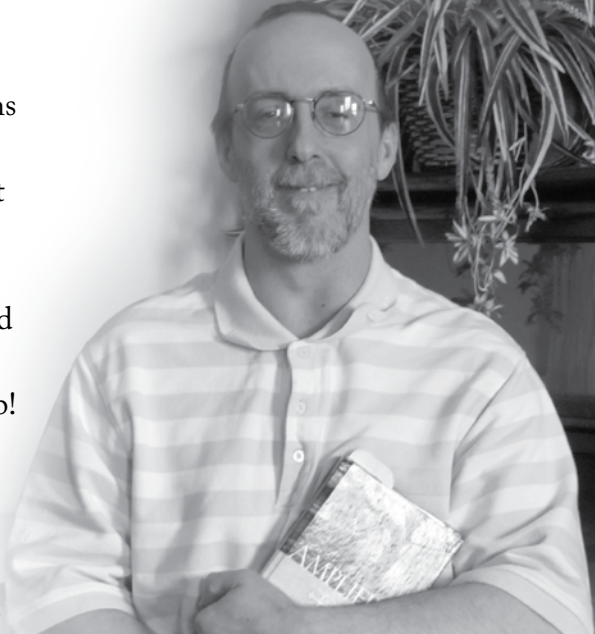
Allen found work. But six months later, the company had tax problems and shut down without paying their employees.

Fortunately, Allen still had the Mission to help him out. And we did more than provide a bed and meals... we offered him a job! While Allen continued to look for outside work, he worked here at the Mission wherever he was needed most. And while he was here, he began hearing about our Christian Life Program... one of the most successful live-in recovery programs in the community.

“I thank God every day...”

The decision to enter the program was not an easy one. But with urging of staff and other residents and an “inner voice,” Allen applied and was accepted.

“One Scripture that was stuck in my head really helped me get started here: I Corinthians 13:1. ‘When I was a child, I acted as a child...when I became a man, I put away childish things.’”



“Now I know that even when I was younger, the Lord was working in me...preparing me for something. When I grew to be a teenager, I wandered off the path into using alcohol and a failed marriage.”

Allen thanks God every day for the Mission and our Christian Life Program. “I looked as if I’d crawled out from under a bridge. But I’ve come to understand that this program is a manifestation of God’s work. I just thank God every day for allowing me to come here to learn and grow.”

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A Message from Ronald K. Fox



It is hard to believe 2010 is almost finished! Many of us are finishing up our last minute holiday planning, baking, decorating, and shopping before our friends and family arrive.

We are also preparing for holiday celebrations, and we anticipate that many who are in need of assistance will be coming to our doors. Whether they need a hot meal, a place to lay their head down for the night, some warm clothing or just a place to call "home" for just a few hours from living on the streets, the Open Door Mission will be here for them.

On behalf of the individuals the Mission serves, thank you for caring. Thank you for sharing. Thank you for expressing compassion with your gifts of financial support. Thank you for the warm clothing. Thank you for the supplies needed to keep the Mission open....

May you be blessed for assisting us in the cause to
Restore Hope....
to Change Lives!

Ronald K. Fox
Executive Director

Christmas Shoe Box Gifts

Here's What You Do.....

Fill a shoe box with travel size personal hygiene items such as deodorant, toothpaste, soap, razors, shampoo, lotion, etc. You may also include a new pair of tube socks, gloves, mittens, a hat or scarf.

The items should be for a man, woman or child. Wrap the box and



label it accordingly. Please deliver shoe boxes to: the Caring Center, 156 N. Plymouth Ave., by Dec. 10th.

For more information call (585) 454-6696 or visit www.OpenDoorMission.com.

Open Door Mission Stuff-A-Bus '10

Friday, November 19th thru Sunday, November 21st

First Student Transit Company and WBEE 92.5 FM are delighted to team up for the 12th Annual Stuff-A-Bus Food & Clothing Drive. Please make a financial gift or help us fill a school bus with new and gently used men's,

women's and children's clothing, coats and winter outerwear, paper products and non-perishable foods.

Visit OpenDoorMission.com for location details. Thank you in advance for your support!

Warm Coats & Warm Hearts Drive

November 1st thru January 14th

Here's a great opportunity to help the Open Door Mission and the community: hold a coat drive!

Collect all sizes of "clean, gently used" coats and warm clothing for men, women and children, including hats, gloves, mittens and boots.

Please drop them off at your local Burlington Coat Factory. They will do the rest.

For more information, please call Mike Thaxton at (585) 454-6696, ext. 126.



Home for the Holidays

You Make It Happen!

How does the old song go? "Oh, there's no place like home for the holidays..."

For many people here in the Rochester area, that home is going to be the Mission. And we're going to make it the best place we possibly can!

There will be decorations. Bountiful, home-cooked holiday dinners. Some small gifts. And most of all, Christian love and acceptance. Because that's the best gift of all for people who have nowhere else to

turn ...no family or friends to turn to.

This year, there will be "room at the inn." A home for the holidays! It's so much better than homeless for the holidays, and you have the power to make it happen.

Please use the enclosed holiday gift card to provide meals, shelter and other loving care this holiday season. Or, go online to OpenDoorMission.com and make a gift right now.

God bless you during this holy season!

“I See God”

These days, when Kenneth works around the Mission, he sees people he used to know on the streets. And they see the change in him!

“They ask why I look different, why I’m always smiling. I tell them it’s because I see God. Then I sit down with them and pull out the Bible and show them the verses that I read regularly. I talk to them about praying. And I say, ‘Don’t get discouraged...it’s a lot of work but if you want it, you got to do it!’”

Kenneth today is a far cry from the man who wandered into our Soup Kitchen on West Main. “I had lost my job and got evicted from my apartment. I was doing drugs and I was out on the streets doing crazy stuff.”

“I broke down and cried.”

Kenneth believes the loss of his job and his homelessness were God’s way of “bringing me to Him.” “I was doing a lot of unrighteous things. God took that away from me so I could come to Him.”

Brother Harry, the supervisor at Samaritan House, was instrumental in getting Kenneth into our Christian Life Program.

“He started talking to me and telling me about God. One day, I just broke down and cried. I told him I was tired of being messed up. Tired of being depressed. Tired of the anger. But I didn’t know how to get out of it. I didn’t know what to do.”

“Harry told me about the program and how I would be away from the temptations of the world and able to grow with God. I didn’t



know how to go about that because I didn’t have the foundation of what Christ was...the steps I needed to apply to my life.”

“The only way is through God.”

Today, Kenneth knows he can go to God with his troubles. “I was an addict. I’d get paid on Friday and be broke by Saturday. I worked in a grocery store and couldn’t afford to buy groceries!”

Being in a safe, Christian environment has been a true life-saver for Kenneth. “Everything they do here is from God. Everyone here is saved. I can go to somebody when I’m weak and there are role models for me.”

Kenneth had always hidden the worst part of his addiction from his mother. “She didn’t think I needed the program. She knew I was getting high, but she spoiled me with clothes and haircuts. The outside was looking good, but I was destroyed on the inside. Now, she sees the difference.”

Mark Your Calendar!

The Open Door Mission’s **31st Annual Friendship Banquet** is coming!

On Friday, April 15, 2011, we will host our annual banquet



at the Burgundy Basin Inn. This is a great

opportunity to learn about the Mission, hear stories of changed lives and have some fun!

Tickets are free, but donations are appreciated. Sign up now to make your reservation to join us for a night of fellowship, food and fun. The doors will open at 5:00pm and dinner will be served at 6:00pm.

Holiday Volunteers Needed!

Looking for a way to get involved this holiday season? Become a volunteer!



We need volunteers to help at our holiday gift wrapping table at Barnes & Noble in Webster. Just a few hours of your time can make a huge difference. For details, call Chris Scribani at (585) 454-6696 x108 or e-mail cscribani@odmmail.com.

Day of Hope - 24 Hour Food & Clothing Drive



WLGZ 102.7 FM will host the annual **Day of Hope 24-Hour Food & Clothing Drive** from Thurs., Dec. 9th at 5 PM through Fri., Dec. 10th at 5 PM to benefit the Open Door Mission!

Please join us as we help the homeless and needy by bringing your donation of food and clothing. Visit OpenDoorMission.com for location details.

ODM Online

Have you visited www.OpenDoorMission.com lately? This is the best way to learn about what's going on at the Mission 24/7.

You can read about how our programs are helping change lives, read Ronald's blog, learn about



volunteer opportunities, share prayer requests and link to our Facebook and YouTube pages.

You can also save us administrative costs by donating securely through our website. With the cost of nearly everything increasing, this is the most cost-effective way to support our ministry.

Go Green! Save Green! Go Paperless!

No more paper or postage expenses ... please! Save the Mission green by going green! You can receive our letters and newsletters via e-mail instead. Send your e-mail address to cscribani@odmmail.com and we'll convert you to our paperless database. (Please allow 60 days for a complete conversion.) Or you can donate and receive receipts from our secure website at OpenDoorMission.com.

Holiday Needs List

Baked hams
Canned yams
Homemade cookies,
cakes, pies
Lettuce
Celery
Carrots
Onions
Sweet breads
Croutons
Dinner rolls
Cucumbers
Tomatoes

Sweet & dill pickles
Green & black olives
Instant potatoes
Chicken soup base
Instant drink mixes
Juices
2% milk
Eggs
Coffee
Creamer
Sugar
Butter
Mayonnaise

Italian salad dressing
Disposable iodized salt
& pepper shakers
Liquid dish soap
55 gallon trash bags
Paper towels
Bathroom tissue
Bleach
8 oz. styrofoam cups
9 in. styrofoam plates
Dessert bowls
Copy paper

Donations are gladly accepted anytime at our Caring Center, 156 N. Plymouth Ave. For more information, please call (585) 454-6696 or visit www.OpenDoorMission.com.

What a Joy!

... it was to visit Camp Seneca Lake this summer! A team from the Mission was invited to attend a fundraiser by Joy Neuman, a Judaic educator at the camp run by Rochester's own Jewish Community Center!

We were so blessed that a group of 3rd to 6th graders decorated and filled dozens of paper bags filled with hygiene items for the homeless! These bags were surely a heartfelt hit with the men who received them!

Cindy McTammany, our Volunteer co-Coordinator and



Mike Sicola, a recent graduate from our Addiction Recovery Program, addressed the kids about the needs of the homeless and the blessing their gifts would provide.

Many thanks, Joy! Can't wait for our next visit!