

# THE MISSION Bell

"All that is broken can be made whole again"

The best Christmas  
gift there is...

*Tracey*  
has a new life,  
thanks to you!

For information about our Holiday Community Meals visit  
[RESCUEMISSIONGA.COM/NEWS](https://RESCUEMISSIONGA.COM/NEWS)



“ I hold my head high.”

There were never enough hours in the day for Tracey. She worked and took care of her two children alone. She made sure the bills were paid and that her kids had everything they needed, but she had no time for herself.

A family member suggested she try methamphetamines for a little extra boost of energy to get through the day and get everything done. Before long, Tracey was hooked. But instead of helping, the drugs started to take over.

**“The more I worked, the more I fell behind financially,”** she says. “I was more worried about the drugs than my other responsibilities.”

Eventually, Tracey lost her home and got into legal trouble. Her children went to live with relatives.

While sitting in jail, Tracey hit rock bottom. She knew she’d let her kids down. **But when the court ordered Tracey to be released to the Rescue Mission of Middle Georgia, she got a second chance.**

The Mission welcomed her with open arms. “Everyone was so nice. They made sure that I was okay and had everything I needed,” she says.

Tracey began to heal – then thrive – through the Mission’s biblically-based classes and counseling sessions. She joined the recovery program and started working at the Mission’s thrift store. And she opened her

heart to the Lord.

“I’d turned my back on God a long time ago. I was broken. I didn’t want to be on earth anymore,” Tracey explains. “But the Mission supported my spiritual healing, too.”

Tracey knows she has a lot of work to do to repair her relationship with her family, but she’s ready for it. The Mission has helped her set aside her old negative beliefs and focus instead on God’s Word.

“ Now I know I’m loved. I didn’t really know what love was before I came here.”



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“I look at myself in the mirror every day and smile. I hold my head high. I know I’m worthy. I don’t have to hide anymore,” she says.

**Tracey is excited to celebrate the restored hope she has been given this Christmas – and wants YOU to know just how grateful she is.** “I couldn’t ask for a better place. If you want to change and better yourself, this is where you need to be.”

From the  
PRESIDENT'S DESK

## The JOY that Comes from Christ

Don't you just love the words of John 1:14? "The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."

As we rejoice over the birth of our Savior, it's such a blessing to know that God's faithfulness sustains us through every circumstance. His grace offers renewal in our lives... as well as in the lives of those we serve.

In this season of giving and receiving, I'm so grateful for friends like you who give so generously to meet the needs of our hurting neighbors during the holidays. Your support of our holiday donation drives provides over 1,000 cold weather items and hygiene kits. Your gifts also allow us to provide gift cards to "love on" our guests during the holidays. We are called to "love well" those that God has put in our life, and because of your generosity, that's taking place here at the Rescue Mission of Middle Georgia. We also believe that Thanksgiving and Christmas meals can be that "spark" that initiates life change.

Thanks to your friendship, we're able to share the "good tidings of great joy for all people" during the holidays and throughout the year. Your fervent prayers and ongoing support help restore lives – and wrap local men, women, and children in God's loving embrace.

Just like Tracey, whose story we've shared on page 3, God still works miracles in the lives of people all around us.

This Christmas, I hope your heart overflows with peace, joy, and love as your blessings abound.

God Bless,

Pat Chastain,  
President/CEO



## SHARE A CHRISTMAS MEAL...

You can help make this Christmas a time of celebration for our neighbors who are hurting and struggling. With so many obstacles to overcome during this season of hardship, they need a helping hand and to experience God's love!



**\$2.57**

for 1 hot meal



**\$18.00**

for 1 night of safe housing

**CAN GIVE SOMEONE**



**Please Send Your Christmas Gift Today!**

## Support Our Holiday Donation Drives!

NOW THROUGH DECEMBER 20

The holidays are such a special time of the year. But with cooler weather comes new challenges for our hurting neighbors. That's why your support of our holiday donation drives are so important. We'd be so grateful if you'd give one or more of the following items to help make our holiday outreach activities possible:



**COLD WEATHER WEAR:** New or gently used coats for children and adults, blankets, hats, and gloves



**HYGIENE KITS FOR THE HOMELESS:** Trial-sized soap, shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, wet wipes, hand sanitizer, lotion, razors, Q-tips, and quart & gallon Ziploc bags



**STOCKING STUFFERS:** ChapStick, journals, combs, K-cups, large candy bars, large candy canes, packs of nuts, beef jerky, nail kits, pens, large packs of gum, packs of mints, nail polish, scented lotion, and lip gloss



**GIFT CARDS:** Walmart, Kroger, Target, Amazon, Sam's Club, and Uber

**HOLIDAY MEALS:** Hams, turkeys, boxed stuffing mix, canned corn, green beans, yams, mac & cheese, instant mashed potatoes, sugar, coffee, family-sized tea bags, and paper towels

Donations can be delivered or mailed to 6601 Zebulon Road, Macon, GA 31220. Deliveries will be received in the Admin Office, Monday through Saturday, 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

For more information contact Karen Kinsler **(478) 743-5445, ext. 404** or **karen@rescuemissionga.com**.

**Thank you, and Merry Christmas!**

# re·cov·er·y

*transformation to a positive state of mind, strength, and spirit*

