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A Publication of Bridgeport Rescue Mission

Ruben is celebrating Easter with JOY -

because of you!



Thank you for showing him that new life is possible.



Don't miss...

- 2 The Promises of Easter
- 3 "Now I'm on the right track."
- 4 Our Commitment to You





A Message from LARRY FULLERTON

THE PROMISES OF **EASTER**

Have you ever seen the realization cross someone's face the first time they understand the gravity of Christ's death and resurrection? It's one of my favorite things about Easter at Bridgeport Rescue Mission. It's a privilege to be a small part of their story, as our guests celebrate the promises of joy and hope this season brings.

You too are a part of our guests' stories, as you share God's love with them by providing nutritious meals, safe housing and other services to change their lives.

Your faithful prayers and generosity help hurting men, women and children in our community find a home through our doors. They also find HOPE – hope for their future, and hope in the promises we celebrate at Easter.

Thank you for showing our hurting neighbors in need that you care about them – in their present circumstances, for their future and for eternity. You show them they are loved. You help restore their dignity, and ignite in them a desire to change their circumstances.

Together with God's faithfulness, you help turn stories of pain into promises of new life in Christ.

Thank you... happy Easter... and God bless!





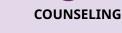
GIVE MONTHLY. SAVE LIVES ALL YEAR!

You can make a lasting difference in our community when you become a monthly partner!

These days, it costs more than ever to provide the life-changing care our hurting neighbors at Bridgeport Rescue Mission need... By becoming a Monthly Giving Partner, you can help save lives with your monthly gift to provide:











HOUSING

JOB TRAINING

Start giving monthly now to help provide the building blocks our residents need for a better life!







SHARE JOY THIS EASTER

Help meet the needs of our hurting neighbors!

With Easter coming early this year, we need your help to welcome every man, woman and child who comes to our doors! YOU can help meet their needs and fill hearts with joy...





4,200 nights of safe housing



Christ-centered care & healing in our lifechanging programs!



■ Give now using the enclosed reply card and envelope.

→ Give online anytime at **BridgeportRescueMission.org.**



Throughout his adult years, Ruben struggled with negativity and self-degradation, the source of which he never understood.

"I was never thinking positive," he says. "By always doubting myself, I didn't allow myself to look forward. I thought I was gonna always be at the bottom."

His self-defeating attitude led to broken relationships, substance abuse, struggles with employment and even bouts of homelessness. Finally, one day, as he saw his gaunt reflection in a cracked and dusty mirror, he heard a still, small voice inside his heart say, "This isn't who you really are."

"Then I thought about my family – my children and grandchildren – and how they wanted me to change. So I made a decision: enough is enough. I've got to get help."

With his loved ones' encouragement, he joined our New Life Program.

"My way of thinking was cloudy in the past, and when I came here it was like a ray of sunshine," Ruben says, describing how guests and staff alike welcome, care for and uplift one another. "If you have doubts and feel like you're alone, you're not. There's always someone to guide you back onto the right track." Life-skills classes and tasks in our kitchen are helping build his self-esteem and hone his workplace skills. But most important is the relationship he's forging with the Lord. "I knew God before, but wasn't following Him like I am now."

Today, secure in the knowledge of God's guidance,

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At the Mission, they've given me hope and faith that I can make it. I have to put my faith in God and it's possible to get back on top.

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Ruben has a positive outlook and plans for the future. "I'm going to go back to work, enjoy time with my family, stay on the right path and start a whole new life."

Thank you for sharing God's love with Ruben this Easter. His life has been renewed through the joy and hope of the Gospel! "I'm happy and I have a lot I'm looking forward to. The Mission helped me become the person I am today."



Our Commitment to YOU

At Easter, and all year, you can count on Bridgeport Rescue Mission to follow Christ's example of serving our neighbors in need... especially those who don't know where their next meal will come from, where they'll sleep at night or how they'll overcome impossible situations.

The generosity of dedicated friends like YOU makes it possible to continue our ministries!

So we want to share our commitment to you, to the guests we serve and to our community:

- We will **honor and thank God** for His abundant blessings and share His provisions with our guests. Regardless of their struggles, each is made in God's image and worthy of dignity, compassion and love.
- 2. We will **boldly share the hope of the Gospel and extend Christ's love** to each person we serve.
- 3. We will **invite our supporters, volunteers and friends to help** meet the needs of our community throughout the year, asking only for what we know our neighbors truly need.



YOU changed lives last year!

Throughout 2023, friends like you joined together to make an incredible impact for our homeless, hurting neighbors...



1,000,000 meals filled hungry bellies



45,645 nights of safe housing kept people safe



And your compassion opened the door to other life-changing

services, like classes, faith-based guidance and job skills training.

Thank you.
What a blessing you are!



God's Promise of Joy

"If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love... These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full." - John 15:10-11