



# Changing Lives



**A Word of Gratitude from Darryl**  
page 2



**At the Mission I'm discovering what life is really all about . . .**  
page 3



**Much more than a drop in the bucket . . .**  
page 2

I am now hopeful for my future . . .

## *because I know God has great plans for my life*

**M**y name is Jane. I'm discovering life can be a joy when things are done the right way. But doing it the right way is not always easy. Unlike some of the men and women at the Mission, I am not addicted to drugs and alcohol. My addiction is shopping. *I'm a shopaholic.* On any given day you could find me in some store spending my life away. I was a dental technician for 22 years, so I had money. Trouble was that my money kept burning holes in my pockets. But after I lost my job, became homeless for three years, and had nowhere to go and no money for shopping, I knew I needed help. I'm grateful for the day that God directed my steps to Holland Rescue Mission.

### **God and this Mission are helping me become spiritually stronger**

Here I'm learning how to get closer to God and to serve Him. Everything about my classes is so practical. And nothing is more practical than the Word of God. The biggest change in my life, I believe, is how I think. My attitude is better, and I'm certainly spiritually stronger. The freedom I have in Christ

is setting me free from my past. If you asked me what my poorest choices in life have been, I would have to say there are so many I would not be able to tell you. There were so many. But I can tell you the best choice I ever made was to come to Holland Rescue Mission, where I'm finally allowing God to take control of my life.

Thank you for the food, clothing, counseling and safe shelter I receive here.

I don't think the Mission could survive without the generosity of someone like you. It's my prayer that you and your family will enjoy a wonderful holiday season.

Sincerely,

*Jane*



**"I am not addicted to drugs and alcohol. My addiction is shopping. I'm a shopaholic."**

*Thank you for helping me become the woman God designed me to be*

## Much More Than a Drop In The Bucket



From his usual hiding place, a police officer was amazed one particular day when everyone was under the speed limit. A little investigating quickly uncovered a 10-year-old boy who was standing on the side of the road with a huge hand-painted sign that said, "Radar Trap Ahead." A second boy stood about 100 yards beyond the radar trap with another sign reading, "TIPS" and a bucket at his feet full of change. (Story adapted from Clem Kaddiddle-Hopper)

What if you could support your favorite Christian charity like Holland Rescue Mission, which is changing lives, and receive an income for life? You can do just that with a Charitable Gift Annuity. Like the bucket at the second boy's feet, you'll be happy with the payout, while also supporting a ministry you care about long after you're gone. Charitable Gift Annuities also allow you to truly reflect the truth of Luke 12:34: "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." How would you like to position your "bucket" for success while giving a gift straight from the heart?

For the full version of this article, ask for a FREE copy of "Your One-Way Ticket to

Continued on page 4



## A Word of Gratitude from Darryl

Dear Friend of Holland Rescue Mission,

Where would you and I be without Bethlehem? Where would we be without a Savior? Where would the residents at Holland Rescue Mission find themselves today were it not for a living Lord who gives them purpose and direction for their lives? Aren't you glad there was a Bethlehem, an event we highlight this time of year, but one we celebrate every day here at the Mission?

Because God gave us His greatest, most precious gift, is it not our responsibility to give our best in service to others? That's why we can say at Holland Rescue Mission *we are the enemy of the average*. If we cannot do it right, we will not do it. If we can't bring honor to our Lord in everything we do, we will hit the pause button until we put our hearts in tune as fitting vessels for the Master's service. That is our commitment to God, to our residents, and to you who expect the best from us.

**The past is prologue to an even more exciting year that lies ahead**

A Christmas heart is a giving heart, and every gift you give, large or small, to help those in need shows the depth of your compassion toward those who need some help from their friends. I don't have the words to thank you for your support of the Mission during this past year. But past achievement is only prologue to an even more exciting year of ministry that lies ahead. So I thank you in advance for standing alongside us in the New Year. God bless you for giving the gift of love — a gift that never stops giving. May our Lord bless you and your family richly during the coming season.

Until the next time, God bless you and keep you always.

Your servant,

Darryl Bartlett  
Executive Director



**"God bless you for giving the gift of love — a gift that never stops giving."**

## During the holiday season, the poor and the

During this joyous holiday season, you once again have the opportunity to show your concern for others by helping us at Holland Rescue Mission continue to open doors of opportunity to those in need — people who are homeless, who have had little or no food to eat, who have no real friends, who are sick and who hold little hope of a future. For most, a happy Christmas is little more than a dream. The good news is that your gift today helps make this dream a reality for those who come to the Mission at this time. And as a faithful supporter of this ministry of rescue, you already know the joy you give to others always comes back to you.

# At the Mission I'm discovering what life is really all about . . . and it's about God, not about me

**M**y name is Mannie. Before I share my testimony, I want to say your donations and acts of service have helped to save my life. When you give to Holland Rescue Mission, you become a part of someone that will live forever. That means I will always remember you and your great kindness.

I'm at the Mission because of a series of bad choices. In my younger days I had great aspirations as an athlete. But drugs messed me up. I looked forward to a career in football. But I blew all my university scholarships. I was always expected to do well. Instead,

**"I'm understanding I don't have to be a tough guy to get what I need in life."**

I started partying and I stopped studying, both of which put me out on the streets and ultimately behind bars from 2006 to 2009.

## **Thank you for my second chance at life**

As I look back on my life, I now see it was the drugs that were doing the talking. But even in my mess I was developing a good work ethic. The trouble was I'd be up at the wee hours working at being a *better, more effective drug dealer*. But what a difference God makes. Now that I have God in my life, I'm learning I don't have to be a tough guy to get what I need. Now

*I am finally learning to become a godly man . . .  
thanks to so many who care about me*

my desire is to be a man of God. My counselors here are helping me see my potential. But I don't want to make the mistake of living life on my own. I must continue to have God as my center if I'm ever going to make it. I now realize you can gain the whole world and still lose your own soul. God bless you for all you are doing to give me a second chance at life. Thank you.

Your friend,

*Mannie*



## **needy need to know how much you care**

### **Thank you for being a special friend to those in need**

Because you continue to show compassion for the physical and spiritual needs of folks like Jane and Mannie, all who come to Holland Rescue Mission during the long holiday season are enjoying bountiful meals, safe shelter, counseling and other expressions of God's love, all provided with hearts eager to serve. Right now, to show your tangible concern for the homeless during this time of year, we invite you to use the remit slip enclosed to send your gift of any amount. Also feel free to make your donation on our secure website [www.hollandrescue.org](http://www.hollandrescue.org). God bless you for helping us to share the message of the birth of Jesus with our friends, and how a commitment to the Savior promises to bring peace and joy to their lives.

**". . . the joy you  
give to others  
always comes  
back to you."**



# Restoration Update

In the May newsletter, you read about our new and exciting Restoration building campaign — plans to develop the old Menard’s building into a super recycling, thrift and auto center, all designed to train men and women with real life work experience.

Since that update, glaring space and functionality needs surfaced at the old recycling center, which caused us to push up our move to the new building sooner than expected. Our staff and clients spent the summer working to move our recycling operation to the new building. Now, our long-term program men are working daily in our recycling center, meeting goals and gaining experience for employment outside of our ministry. This change has produced a vigor and excitement in our program men, and here’s what some of them have been experiencing . . .

**“While doing maintenance tasks, Steve has consistently held a positive outlook on how he does his work. This attitude has allowed him to be a great leader among the other men.”**

**“This summer there have been two big pushes to have all four balers in operation to complete a shipment of clothing bales. Both times the program men have rallied around the effort and accomplished the goal! The pride they take in that is evident!”**

**“Some of our program men have gone above and beyond what was expected and volunteered their time to come in on Saturdays. This shows great leadership!”**

**“Conversations that occur in the break area have been very redemptive. A woman, volunteering from the Emergency Shelter, shared her story with the group of how the Lord was intervening in her life and drawing her back to a relationship with Him. Her story was celebrated within the group and encouraged others.”**

It’s apparent that God is already using this new facility to instill a good work ethic among our program residents, pride in their work accomplishments and the desire to honor the Lord in their daily work. For more updates on our Restoration campaign, visit [www.hollandrescue.org/restoration](http://www.hollandrescue.org/restoration) or get real-time updates on our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/NewLifeRestorationCenter](http://www.facebook.com/NewLifeRestorationCenter)



## My Holiday Gift

**YES, Darryl . . .**

you can count on me to help give the homeless food, clothing and safe shelter during the holiday season.

**Here’s my donation of:**

- \$20.50** to provide **10** meals and other assistance
- \$30.75** to provide **15** meals and other assistance
- \$61.50** to provide **30** meals and other assistance
- \$\_\_\_\_\_ provide as many meals and care as possible
- Please bill my credit card:  VISA  MC  Discover
- Please send me a free copy of “Your One-Way Ticket to Blessing”

ACCOUNT NO. \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY / STATE / ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

### Holland Rescue Mission

Mr. Darryl Bartlett

356 Fairbanks Ave.

Holland, MI 49423-3718

► Please mail this completed form with your generous holiday gift, or donate online at [www.hollandrescue.org](http://www.hollandrescue.org). Your gift is tax deductible as allowed by law. You will receive a receipt.

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1015 S. Beacon Blvd.

\*Coupon must be present at time of purchase. Limit one coupon per customer. (Expires 12/31/14)

### Much More Than a Drop In The Bucket

*Continued from page 2*

*Blessing” by simply checking the box on the enclosed reply card or by contacting Rachael Neal from Holland Rescue Mission at (616) 396-2200 ext. 425 or [rachaeln@hollandrescue.org](mailto:rachaeln@hollandrescue.org) — or bless your family today with a God-honoring will at [www.christianwill.org/hrm](http://www.christianwill.org/hrm)*