



Changing Lives



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God is using you and your donations in miraculous ways . . .

My name is Jose. I've always been a person who played by the rules. That's why I've waited so long for my green card. I cannot work here in the United States, but one day I know God will provide a way for me. Before I arrived in this country I worked for 10 years in a bank. I studied law and I received a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics. Meanwhile, my wife and children were already here in the US. But for the time being, it's difficult for me to see my children. When I *can* see them, I try to be a good example to them as a father and as a human being. I'm a devout Christian and I also teach Sunday school. However, I had no place to stay. That's why I'm so grateful for Holland Rescue Mission. I don't know what I would do without the help of a loving God, a donor like yourself and my counselors here at the Mission.

You are so generous and I am so grateful

I'm also learning so much in the program here. I'm studying how to apply God's principles to my life. The classes are practical, and every day I'm gaining a greater understanding of how to be God's person. Many people you help at the Mission face challenges with drug and alcohol addictions. For me, I just needed to have a

"Every day, my heart rejoices in the Lord . . . because his ways are always perfect."

special place where God could restore my life. And this is all happening day by day. Sometimes I wonder if you can possibly realize how much God is using you and your donations to help us who are in such great need. Every day, my heart rejoices in the Lord, because the ways of the Lord are always perfect. May God bless you at this Easter season.

Your friend,

Jose



Name and photo have been changed to protect the privacy of our guest.

Thank you for giving me a place where God can restore my life

EASTER ISSUE 2015

Holland Rescue Mission | 356 Fairbanks Ave. | Holland, MI 49423 | 616.396.2200 | www.hollandrescue.org

Save
the
Date!

Annual Golf Event

Make sure you mark your calendars for the Annual Golf Event! Come out and help support the ministry of Holland Rescue Mission. The event will be held on Tuesday, June 9th. Please feel free to contact Rachael Neal at (616) 928-3425 or rachaeln@hollandrescue.org for more information.

Women's Spring Garden Auction

You won't want to miss this year's Garden Auction! Come support Holland Rescue Mission on March 11th at the Midtown Center. Enjoy a delicious catered lunch and bid on some beautiful items. We hope to see you there! For more information about the event, contact Teri Gabbert at (616) 928-3416 or terig@hollandrescue.org.

THANK YOU!

We are extremely grateful for you and thankful for your support! Your generous donation to Holland Rescue Mission this past holiday season blessed men, women, and families in need. We were able to serve those who were hungry, a hot, nutritious meal and share the love of Christ with them. Thank YOU for your support and partnership in ministry.



A Word of Gratitude from Darryl

Dear Friend of Holland Rescue Mission,

As we approach this Easter season, I want to thank you again for being a provider of hope and encouragement to so many who've lost their way. Your ongoing gifts of money and acts of Christian service are helping to raise people from the dead to new life in Christ. When our friends come to the doors of the Mission, most see themselves as hopeless — without the power or wisdom to make good decisions. But the message of the resurrection is that power and is available through Jesus Christ. However, our guests first must see Christ's love manifested, and that is the mandate of our staff: to be models of God's love.

The power of a risen Lord provides new life and new hope

When our guests see this love in action, it gives them the motivation to address the issues in their own lives. We cannot give them this power. That can only come through the person of Jesus Christ. Each individual must make a personal decision either to accept or reject what Jesus has to offer. The good news is once confronted with the gospel they now know they don't have to stay where they are or *live like they used to live*. They now have a risen Lord to give them the direction and the power to meet life's greatest challenges.

Thank you for helping our friends repair their broken pasts and build bridges of restoration with their families and loved ones. It's my prayer God continues to use you as a faithful servant to others. Not only through your generous support of Holland Rescue Mission, but as you reach out to your neighbors, friends and family who also need a loving touch.

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

Your servant,

Darryl Bartlett
Executive Director



"We cannot give them this power. That can only come through the person of Jesus Christ."

God bless you for being a friend to homeless people . . . and for

The old cliché has it that *behind every successful man there is a surprised mother-in-law*. While there's plenty of humor in that thought, it's true that life moves in a positive direction when the efforts of an individual and the encouragement of others come together. When it comes to Mission work, our guests learn two things: that a loving God is their *ultimate supporter*, and that the Mission staff is here to provide the ongoing encouragement needed as our friends learn to walk in the ways of the Lord. To our guests it's often surprising how quickly God turns their lives around. But after all, *this is what resurrection power is all about*.

Your gift means more to our guests than you might imagine

The good news is your prayers, influence and financial support are what give us the

My hand was already on the phone ready to call a divorce lawyer . . .

We are the Boynton family. I was ready for a divorce lawyer. Our marriage was in serious trouble and I saw divorce as the only way out. As I was about to make that call to the lawyer, Charles sent me a Facebook message with his phone number. I called the number, and Charles and I set up a time for breakfast together. I'm glad I called Charles and *not the lawyer* . . . because God is now restoring our marriage and bringing hope to our family. We had been at the Mission before, but we broke some of the rules. We were rude, and did not appreciate all that was being offered to us. But by the grace of God and the goodness of the hearts of the people at Holland Rescue Mission,

“If you had seen us before and compare what you see today, you would see an entirely different family.”

we have been allowed to return. Our attitudes are different, and we now know how much we are blessed by being here. Charles is in the Life Applications program and I am studying culinary arts. If you had seen us before and compare what you see today, you would see an entirely different family. We are even paying off past debts and saving money for an apartment. Once we leave the Mission we don't plan to return, except to pay our friends a visit . . . *and once again to say thank you.*

Thank you for keeping the doors of the Mission open for a family like ours

Our faith has never been stronger than it is today

Charles and I both thank you for everything you provide for us: the food, the clothing, the safe shelter and the wonderful Christian environment for our daughter. Our faith has never been stronger and our relationship with each other has never been greater. We are thankful every day of the year for your kindness, but we're especially grateful at this Easter season as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord. God bless you and thank you for caring so much.

Sincerely,

*Charles and
Phyllis Boynton*



celebrating Resurrection Day with our Mission guests

opportunity to minister to the whole person — body, soul and spirit. Your involvement in this ministry is doing more good than you could ever imagine.

It's hardly headline news that it's always a challenge for the Mission to meet its financial obligations. But with God's help and your continued generosity, the Lord always provides for our needs. To send your Easter donation today, please use the enclosed remit slip. You may also give your special gift on our secure website, www.hollandrescuemission.org. Thank you for being a partner in caring for the needy during the coming Easter season and throughout the year. Our entire Mission staff thanks you for your kindness to so many in need.

“Thank you for being a partner in caring for people in need during the Easter season and throughout the year.”

All Eyes on Deck

A young naval officer's first task was to safely steer a ship away from a wharf for a voyage. He carefully went through the proper procedures; confident he hadn't forgotten a single thing. As the ship glided smoothly out to sea, a call came from the captain, congratulating the officer on his textbook disembarkation. "There is just one thing you've forgotten" the Captain added, "next time make sure I'm on board the ship before you leave!" (Illustration by Pastor John Perry)



Like the young officer, it can be easy to feel like we're the ones in charge or are responsible for our own successes — but Jesus said apart from Him we can do nothing. All that we have — and every sunrise we enjoy — is because a loving God provides for us. So how can we bless him in return? By being good stewards of the things He's entrusted to us.

We can do this in a variety of ways each day: loving others well, exercising wisdom in financial decisions, giving generously of our money and talents, and taking good care of our bodies, material possessions, and the environment. And what about planning for tomorrow? An up-to-date Will or Estate Plan is not only good stewardship, it can be a form of worship. Having a Will that provides for your family, reflects your love for the Lord and blesses ministries you appreciate like Holland Rescue Mission, brings honor to God and leaves a powerful legacy for generations to come. It can punctuate your life with a statement of gratitude — pointing others to Christ, and creating an opportunity for them to meet Him.

For the full version of this article, ask for a FREE copy of "Live Well in Two Simple Steps" by contacting Rachael Neal from Holland Rescue Mission at (616) 396-2200 ext. 425 or rachaeln@hollandrescue.org — or bless your family today with a God-honoring Will at www.christianwill.org/hrm



Grant Provides NEW Intake Unit

Our Family Hope Ministry Center has undergone construction recently due to the new Intake Unit. Thanks to the Holland/Zeeland Community Foundation, Holland Rescue Mission was awarded a grant of \$30,000 to be put towards purchasing hygienic equipment. Not only will this addition to the building allow new residents to complete their intake process all within the same location, it will also keep out unwanted bugs!



My Easter Gift

YES, Darryl . . .
you can count on my continued support of the Mission at this Easter 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 "Live Well in Two Simple Steps"

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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 Easter gift, or donate online at www.hollandrescue.org. Your gift is tax deductible as allowed by law. You will receive a receipt.