**EASTER ISSUE 2024** 



# **RESCUE NEWS**

### - ESCAMBIA AND SANTA ROSA COUNTIES

## Kevin and Jennifer are celebrating Easter with JOY – because of you!

Thank you for helping their son find new life in Christ.



DON'T MISS ....

**2** The Promises of Easter

2 Celebrating 75 Years!

"Our son found the light of Jesus."



#### A Message from FREDRICK HENDERSON

## 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 Waterfront 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 help through our doors. They also find HOPE – hope for their future, and hope in the promises we celebrate at Easter.

<u>Thank you for showing our hurting neighbors in need that you care</u> <u>about them – in their present circumstances, for their future, and for</u> <u>eternity</u>. 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!

Sail A & Handson 2

Fredrick Henderson Director of Pensacola Mission



Join us in celebrating our anniversary this year!

For 75 years, Waterfront Rescue Mission has reached out, in the name of Jesus Christ, to offer hope and healing to our neighbors devastated by hunger, homelessness, and addiction.

Everyone who walks through our doors immediately sees a sign: "If you don't have a friend in the world, you'll find one here."

Over the years, your support has enabled Waterfront to reach out in the spirit of that love and friendship, to offer nutritious meals, safe housing, and long-term, biblically-based programs that empower men to grow personally and professionally as they discover new life in Jesus.

Yet, as we celebrate throughout the coming year, we remember that the celebration also belongs to caring, compassionate supporters like you. It's your financial gifts, prayers, and volunteer service that make our work possible, bringing healing, hope, and the love of Christ to those in need.

Thank you!



# 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...





5,000 nights of safe housing for an overnight guest



Christ-centered care & healing in our life-changing programs!

Give now using the enclosed reply card and envelope.  $\Rightarrow 4$  Give online anytime at waterfrontmission.org.



# "OUR SON FOUND THE LIGHT OF JESUS AT WATERFRONT."

Kevin and Jennifer were at their son's bedside as he lay dying from his addiction. "We both promised Mitch that we would tell his story of what the Mission and God had done for him," Kevin says. "He wanted people to know."

It wasn't the story they'd expected to be telling about their son's life. He'd been raised in a loving, Christian home and even volunteered with his church to serve meals here at Waterfront. But when he was a teenager, Mitch began experimenting with drugs and developed an addiction that led him down a dark road, far from the Lord.

"At the height of his addiction, he was living in a homeless camp and told us that he looked evil in the face there and was terrified," Jennifer says. "He wanted to go somewhere where he could find the light of Jesus to drown out the darkness, and the only place he knew was Waterfront."

That's when Mitch came to the Mission, and through our LifeBuilder Recovery Program, found his way back to the Lord. "He had his Bible with him **"We're** all the time and was constantly watching preachers and listening to Christian music," Kevin says. "He was happy and smiling again."

But before Mitch could graduate, the pandemic hit and forced us to shut down the program. And though we found him a sober living program and his parents supported him in every way they could, eventually Mitch relapsed and passed away.

"The good news is that, because of all the love and teaching that was poured into him at the Mission, we know that he had a relationship with Jesus Christ and that he's now in heaven, waiting for us," Jennifer says.

#### "We're going to see him again someday."

Thank you for sharing God's love with Mitch. His life was renewed through the joy and hope of the Gospel! "It's the best success story ever, knowing that our son is with his Savior."

## **Take a Tour** Walk the halls where YOU help change lives

Schedule a tour of Waterfront and get an inside look at how your support is changing lives through the Mission's programs and services, including our:



- Housing for overnight guests
- Day Services, including meals and access to showers and clothing
- LifeBuilder Recovery Program
- Veterans Care, Working Homeless, and Work Training programs
- Recuperation Dorm for those in need of physical healing after hospital discharge
- Community Health of Northwest Florida Clinic

Join us to see how your generosity is helping save and transform the lives of the lost and broken in our community.

To schedule a tour, call **(888) 853-8655** or go to **waterfrontmission.org/** contact.

We hope to see you soon!





#### 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

## 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 Waterfront Rescue Mission need... By becoming a Monthly Miracle Partner, you can help save lives with your monthly gift to provide:

<b>U</b>	
MEALS	







HOUSING FOR AN OVERNIGHT GUEST



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

Start giving monthly now!

