

Heart of Bloomington

Your heart for our city...in action

Easter 2019

A NEWSLETTER OF WHEELER MISSION - BLOOMINGTON

Don't Miss ...

- 2 How You Restore Hope
- 3 "Wheeler showed me another way to live."
- 4 Annual Easter Campaign

A BEAUTIFUL NEW BEGINNING

Steve's life is being restored in ways he never imagined.

On Page 3: Read how your support is giving Steve a reason to celebrate this Easter!


Easter 2019
ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

Easter 2019

ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

Here's how your gift provides comfort & care over the next month!



10,259 meals to serve



4,256 nights of shelter



15 men to care for in our recovery program



351 hours of education and counseling to provide

A Message from RICK ALVIS

YOU RESTORE Hope



When we pass a person who is homeless on the street, it's often easier to avert our eyes to our phones rather than engage with that person's very real pain. That way, we don't have to hear their cries, see how broken their lives are, or feel how much they suffer.

But their pain is real, even if we look away.

On the cross, Jesus didn't look away from suffering. He endured it, fixing His eyes on "the joy set before Him." The glory of the cross is that Jesus boldly engaged with our pain. He experienced our struggles and our cries, and suffered with all of humanity. Jesus took our pain upon Himself and redeemed it.

Easter is our celebration of that new hope!

Your generous gifts demonstrate that you **turn toward** those who are hurting – and want to offer them healing and restoration through Christ's love.

Because of you, people like Steve are celebrating HUGE changes in their lives. Steve's story is on page 3, and I hope as you read, you're inspired by how your gifts can turn a life filled with pain into a beautiful new beginning.

By God's grace, and your support, many like Steve are experiencing hope restored. On behalf of each person in our care, thank you for reaching out to them with the love and kindness that helps renew lives this Easter.

Rick Alvis
President/CEO

Turning Lemonade into Life Change

Carter is proof that you're never too small to make a big difference in the lives of others! Our new friend first learned about the struggles of our homeless neighbors when he took a tour of Wheeler Mission last year with his elementary school class.

After his visit, Carter decided he wanted to do something to help – so he set up a lemonade stand to raise money for the Mission. And boy, was he successful! This budding entrepreneur sold 10 gallons of lemonade and 20 dozen cookies.

Carter has turned this into a family affair. With a little help from his grandmas, Carter made pillows, ornaments, and thank you cards for our school craft fair. He raised \$500 and can't wait to come down and deliver his check. He tells everyone who asks that Wheeler Mission needs help.

A big, big thank you goes out to Carter for your kind heart and generous spirit! We are encouraged by your actions, and hope they will inspire others in our community to help those who are less fortunate.

“ I’m not the king of my world anymore. Wheeler showed me another way to live. ”



Steve’s world was a dark and lonely place, filled with addicts and betrayal – but it was his choice to live that way. “I’d always been the king of my world,” he says.

When he started experimenting with drugs at 14, Steve never imagined they’d take over his life. “I was running around with the wrong people, and I just thought it was fun to break rules, to be the bad guy,” he says.

But, over time, his drug use escalated. He began selling to support his habit and became a powerful dealer. “I had a car, house, money. But something was missing, something wasn’t right.”

Then, one day, Steve found himself standing at a crossroads, faced with the choice of hurting someone or walking away and looking weak. That day, he walked away from his kingdom.

“I just got up, left my house, walked to downtown Indianapolis, and checked into Wheeler,” he says. “Logically, it made no sense for me to walk away, but I knew the Hebron Addiction Recovery Program existed, and I think God was telling me I needed it.”

Steve was agnostic when he first came to the Mission, but he soon encountered Christ, the “something” that was missing in his life.

“ God’s always there... if you ask Him for what you need, He’ll always provide. ”

Steve graduated from Hebron and is now training for ministry through our Equip Program, working with program and shelter guests at our Wheeler Mission - Bloomington Center for Men. “I was so self-absorbed, but the Mission is showing me there’s another way to live. I don’t have to be self-serving,” he says. “I’m not the king of my world anymore.”

This Easter, Steve will celebrate his life's beautiful new beginning – made possible by your generous support. “In the world I was in, everyone did drugs. When you’re sitting in a box full of dirt, everything looks like dirt. The Mission opened that box and helped me see beyond to a prettier view.”

Preparing for Easter...



AND WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Will you help set more places at our tables for hungry people this Easter?

**Just look at our needs this Easter season:
10,259+ meals for men, women, and children.**

And there's no way we can serve them without you!



Donate food: Please consider hosting a food drive or donating these needed items by **Friday, April 19:**

- HAMS
- BAGGED POTATOES
- CANNED GREEN BEANS
- DINNER ROLLS
- FRUIT
- HOMEMADE DESSERTS
(cookies, brownies, pies, etc.)
- SALAD
- ASSORTED CANDY
- SNACKS

Drop off donations at the Center for Men, 215 S. Westplex Ave. in Bloomington, 7 days a week. Thank you!

Don't have time to shop?
Donate now!
(812) 727-6300
WheelerMission.org



BRENT HAS A REASON TO CELEBRATE!

Meet Brent! He came to the Mission believing all hope for his life was gone. Your support provided the hot, nourishing meal that changed everything – and gave him hope for a new life in Christ.

Today, you can help more people like Brent with your gift to feed, shelter, and share God's love during our Annual Easter Campaign.

A meal is just \$2.25. The hope it provides in the lives of people who are homeless and hungry is truly a reason to celebrate!

GIVE NOW using the enclosed reply card and envelope.

GIVE ONLINE anytime at **WheelerMission.org.**

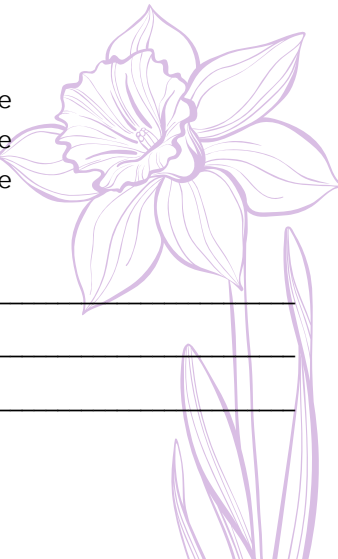
Thank you for the new hope you make possible in hurting lives!
Happy Easter!



Volunteer: You can help from now until Easter Sunday!
Contact us or visit our website: **(812) 727-6300 WheelerVolunteer.org**

Rick, I want to help my homeless neighbors find hope and new life. Here's my Easter gift to provide meals, shelter, and care:

- \$20.25 to feed and care for 9 people
- \$51.75 to feed and care for 23 people
- \$76.50 to feed and care for 34 people
- \$90.00 to feed and care for 40 people
- \$_____ to help as much as possible



NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY / STATE / ZIP _____

CHECK ENCLOSED BILL MY CREDIT CARD



CREDIT CARD # _____

EXP. DATE _____

PHONE # _____

EMAIL _____

Donate now! ☎ (812) 727-6300

WheelerMission.org

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