

VOICE of Compassion

"But those who
hope in the
LORD will renew
their strength."

Isaiah 40:31



In giving, you'll share that
blessed hope this Easter.

“Let us therefore draw near with boldness unto the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy, and may find grace to help us in time of need.”

Hebrews 4:16

Dear Friend,

At Cherry Street, six decades of continued service to the weary and broken in our communities have taught us to be bold in our requests of God in the face of ever-increasing need. And frankly, God’s grace upon Cherry Street has never been as needed as it is right now.

In January and February, an average of 169 men and 72 women sought shelter at Cherry Street each night, and we served roughly 722 meals to the homeless and poor each day. That’s 42,598 meals in just two months—with no indication we’ll be serving fewer in the months to come.

Fortunately, God’s grace upon Cherry Street has never been as evident as it is right now—and much of that evidence rests in you. God’s grace is made manifest in the generosity of your gifts of time, treasure, and talent. It’s evident in the many—and often creative—ways in which you choose to bless our guests.

In this *Voice of Compassion*, you’ll learn about unique ways supporters are expressing God’s grace at Cherry Street. You’ll read how, during the recent *Clothing Your Community* event, throngs of people from throughout our region helped collect 85 tons of clothing, which we are continuing to distribute for free to those in need. You’ll also discover the ingenious way that a women’s club has blessed our guests. And you’ll rejoice with us as we recognize Ready For Life guests who have completed our job readiness program.

Because of your willingness to be a vessel of God’s grace, thousands of men, women, and families are today clothed, safely housed, and hungry no more. They’ve heard the Gospel. And, most important, they—and our entire community—have seen the Gospel lived out in your generosity and kindness—at Cherry Street.

Illuminating the darkness,



To learn more about Cherry Street, visit the *Voice of Rescue* at www.cherrystreetmission.org, *President’s Blog*.



Dan Rogers
President and CEO

Front Cover:
If you’d like to help us share the hope of the Gospel with guests like these on Easter, please return the enclosed meal ticket form ASAP. If you’ve already returned yours, many thanks!



With your help, Jasmine became a responsible mom

By the time Jasmine was 17, her family had moved dozens of times. She's attended upwards of 30 different schools in the Toledo area. And, because of her mother's problems with drugs, Jasmine had spent time in foster care, then been forced to live with family members who abused alcohol.

"Before the Sparrow's Nest, I didn't plan ahead."

At age 17, desperate to escape, she quit school and traveled to Elkhart, Indiana, to live with her brother. For the next three years, she bounced back and forth between Elkhart and Toledo, never staying too long in one place.

But all that stopped in March 2007, when Jasmine, seven months' pregnant, turned to her beloved grandmother in Toledo for help. Her grandmother *insisted* that she go to Cherry Street's Sparrow's Nest—and refused to take no for an answer.

"She knew I needed to go to the Nest to learn to be responsible for myself and a baby, that they could help me more than she was able to. I didn't want to go to the Nest. I was mad. I cried. But my grandmother took me there."

Jasmine was at first reluctant to leave the shelter area and "go upstairs" to join the Ready For Life program. "People said that they had a lot of rules and schedules," she said. But, with the encouragement of Nest staff, Jasmine decided to join the program.

"I took a whole lot of classes there. I didn't have problems with drugs or alcohol, but before the Nest, I didn't listen to anybody and I didn't plan

ahead," explained Jasmine. "I learned how to budget money."

She also benefited from the support of Nest staff and other guests, including a former guest-turned-volunteer named Magic. [Readers of the *Voice of Compassion* may remember Magic from our February 2007 issue: in 2006, she came to the Nest to learn to be responsible before giving birth to her baby.]

"I didn't want to keep my baby after he was born, because I was afraid that I couldn't take care of him, but then Magic talked to me," Jasmine stated. "My grandmother wanted me to keep the baby, too." So, after giving birth to son Ja-miyon on May 9, 2007, that's exactly what Jasmine did.

Eventually, she and her son—whom she clearly adores—moved into their own apartment. Today, Jasmine works part-time and attends school, where she is studying medical billing. She's also active at Greater St. John Church on Sylvania Avenue.

"Without the Nest, I probably wouldn't have tried for my GED or be working," said Jasmine. "The support system at the Nest was great, and I loved the staff."

And, thanks, to you, they were there when she and her precious little boy needed them most.

Because of You!

• At a time of need unprecedented in Cherry Street's history, we are humbled by your willingness to help the ever-increasing number of men, women, and children who seek our help each day. • Thanks to you, Cherry Street sheltered an average of 169 men and 72 women each night in January and February, compared to an average of 165 men and 64 women each night in 2009, and 157 men and 46 women in 2008. • You helped us serve roughly 722 meals each day during the first two months of 2010, compared to our 2009 daily average of 684, and 2008 daily average of 646. • With your help, we'll be able to serve the physical needs of our guests and present the Easter message of hope to them as well. • We are deeply grateful for your support and encouraged by your continued faithfulness.



▲ **Job well done!** Hearty congratulations go to (L to R) Mike, David, Thomas, Elden, and Willie (not pictured), Cherry Street guests who recently completed the job readiness program through our Education Services. Congratulations, guys!



▲ **Shining Stars.** As part of their community outreach programs, the area Pride of Composites, a chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, collected and donated over 50 pounds of hygiene items. What a blessing to our guests. Thanks!



▲ **Heard of Elks?** If so, you know that this particular breed of civic-minded individuals supports its community. So we were pleased, but not surprised, to learn that the Women's Elks Club in Maumee was selling discount coupons for Elder-Beerman, with all proceeds designated to Cherry Street. The Maumee Elks were the second-highest fundraiser in this Elder-Beerman promotion, raising \$1,000 to benefit our guests. Many thanks, Maumee Elks! (Above) Honey Hutchison; Linda Miller, president; and Angie Lashley, our director of Women's Ministry.

If you're interested in donating supplies, please contact our office at 419-242-5141 or csmm@cherrystreetmission.org.

If you're interested in volunteering, please contact Brenda Torres at 419-242-5141 ext. 228 or btorres@cherrystreetmission.org.

Thanks for Clothing Your Community!



▲ **A ton of work, times 85.** Dedicated volunteers began the sorting process as soon as the first truck arrived and continue to sort through the 85 tons of clothing donated to *Clothing Your Community*.



▲ **Now serving Number 4,135.** Maurice (left) was one of the 2,000 individuals who were assisted by "personal shoppers" like volunteer Deke Ludwig during the first *Clothing your Community* distribution days held February 12-14 at Cherry Street's LifeBridge Center. In total, through the 2,000 individuals who shopped, 4,135 men, women, and children received much-needed clothing.

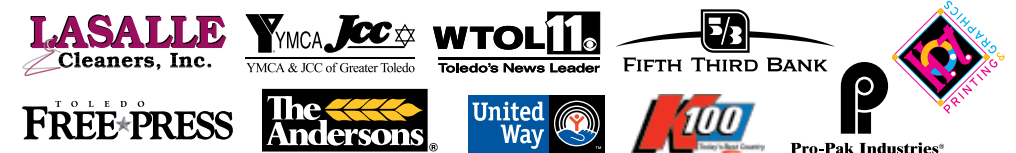
Between December 28 and January 24, good folks like you donated a whopping 85 tons of clothing to *Clothing Your Community*, a community-wide clothing drive and the brainchild of Gary Resnick of Lasalle Cleaners. [FYI: 85 tons is roughly the combined weight of 12 adult male elephants!]

Donated clothing is being distributed free of charge at Cherry Street's LifeBridge Center three days a week. To kick this off, we held a distribution event on February 12-14; we gave clothing to 2,000 people representing 4,135 individuals. That's a lot of clothing, but we still have literally tons and tons left to sort and organize for ongoing distribution days.

We at Cherry Street thank Gary, the event's sponsors (see their logos, below), and everyone who volunteered their time and/or clothing to make this one of the most successful drives ever in our area. You are amazing!

PS. We'll hold a back-to-school *Clothing Your Community* drive for school uniforms and clothing in June. Watch for more information!

Event Sponsors:



▲ **Y? Because she cares.** Bobbie Kehlmeier (right) of the YMCA helped Valerie shop for her son and herself. Bobbie was also one of our gold-star volunteers: throughout the drive, she dedicated her evenings to oversee the sorting process. Thanks, Bobbi for your dedication and partnership.

If you or someone you know needs clothes, dial 2-1-1 for an appointment to shop at LifeBridge Center. To volunteer: 419-242-5141, ext. 100.

To Memorialize and Honor

To give a gift in memory of a loved one who has passed away or to honor a special occasion, please use the enclosed envelope to list the name of the person(s) being remembered or honored, and mail it with your gift. We will send a special card to the honoree or the family of the deceased to let them know about your gift.

In Memory of:

(gifts received from Sept. 30, 2009 – Feb. 15, 2010) *A memorial gift to Cherry Street Mission Ministries offers hope to the needy in the name of a dear friend or member of your family. Our deepest sympathies are with those who have lost their loved ones listed here.*

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Ms. Jennifer Wysowaty

Mr. Jerome Turner
Ms. Jennifer Wysowaty

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Ms. Sharon Georgopoulos

Mr. and Mrs. Bob and Lucille Vanderbusche
Mrs. Rose Marie Vandenbusche

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Ms. Audrey Waller
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Ms. Audry Walton
Mr. and Mrs. Chad Walton

Mr. Donald Ward
Mrs. Lynn Jasin

Ms. Annie Washer
Ms. Darlene Loughner

Mr. Dean Watkins
Mr. Thomas Hambleton

Mr. Jim Watts
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Mr. and Mrs. Max and Delana Weaver
Ms. Dianne Beers

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Mr. Jeffrey Whicker

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In Honor of:
[gifts received from Sept. 30, 2009 – Feb. 15, 2010] *A gift to Cherry Street Mission Ministries is a great way both to say "I Care" and to remember a birthday, anniversary, or other special occasion!*

Don and Dorothy
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Belville

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Ms. Marsha Welch

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Mrs. Cheryl Whipple

Ms. Atison Awendt and the Total Rehab Leadership Team
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Martin

70th Wedding Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. John Bacon
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Ms. Joan Barrett
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Ms. Margaret Schwalm

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Mr. Robin Biggins
Ms. Sharon Biggins

Ms. Kristin Bill
Sister Barbara Vano and Lourdes College

Ms. Bonnie Bond
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Veitch

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert and Margaret Bouyaek
Ms. Rosalie Moyer

Your care and dedication to our children and many others.

Mrs. Maureen Brady
Mr. and Mrs. James Ravas

- Mr. Jack Briner**
Mr. Lynn Olman
- Mr. and Mrs. Tim and Carol Brock**
Ms. Geraldine Brock
- Mr. and Mrs. Tony Calvis**
Mrs. Marilyn Coehrs
- Mr. and Mrs. Abe Camacho**
Ms. Cecilia Dionisio
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- Mr. and Mrs. Craig and Dawn Campbell**
Mr. and Mrs. Tim Brown
- Ms. Deanna Cedargren**
Ms. Mildred Rothert
- Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Cervantes and Family**
Ms. Leah Heimbeck
- Mr. George Chapman**
Mr. Lynn Olman
- Dr. and Mrs. Elden Cipling**
Ms. Brenda Gates
- Merry Christmas**
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Mrs. Carolyn Cleveland
- Mr. and Mrs. Larry Coffelt**
Ms. Jessica Franzini
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Ms. Lorna Doremus
- Mr. Jeff Czerwinski**
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- Miss Jennie Davis**
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- Mr. Jessie Davis**
Ms. Joan Davis-Horner
- Mr. Zack Davis**
Ms. Joan Davis-Horner
- Miss Krystine Davis**
Ms. Joan Davis-Horner
- Mr. Nick Davis**
Ms. Joan Davis-Horner
- A Christmas Gift**
- Ms. Mariann Del Signore**
Mr. and Mrs. David Del Signore
- Ms. Dawn Delker**
Mr. Norman Niedermeier
- Mr. and Mrs. Ramon Dionisio**
Ms. Cecilia Dionisio
- Dr. and Mrs. Nabil Ebraheim**
Mr. Lynn Olman
- Mr. Aaron Estes**
Ms. Patti Knight
- Mr. and Mrs. Rick Farnol**
Mr. Lynn Olman
- Mr. and Mrs. John Fedderke**
Mr. Lynn Olman
- Ms. Madonna Fong**
Ms. Lynn Dunn
- Happy Birthday**
- Ms. Dorothy Forsyth**
Mr. Douglas Forsyth
- Wedding Anniversary**
- Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fox**
Ms. June Treuhart
- Mr. David Fox**
Mr. G Welles
- Franciscan's of St. Joseph Green Springs**
Mr. Andrew Good
- Mr. and Mrs. Tim Fry**
Mr. Lynn Olman
- Mrs. Cynthia Garza and Family**
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hatas
- Mr. and Mrs. A.J. and Lisa Geiner**
Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Geiner
- Happy Birthday**
- Ms. Bernice Gibson**
Mr. William Zahs
- Ms. Patsy Glass**
Mr. and Mrs. Randy Bruce
- Valentine's Day Gift**
- Mrs. Donna Augustine Glinka**
Dr. Michael Glinka
- Ms. Cheryl Goodnough**
Mr. and Mrs. Roy Heinz
- Happy 39th Birthday**
- Ms. Julie Graf**
Ms. Mary McCall
- Ms. Nau Hagermeyer**
Ms. Margot Reichert
- Mr. and Mrs. Andy Hall**
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hatas
- Ms. Evelyn Hanneman**
Mr. Marc Hanneman
- Mr. Merle Harder**
Ms. Kimberly Danes
- Mr. Ray Hayes**
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrie Earnest
- Mr. Richard Helminiak**
Mr. Lynn Olman
- Your care and dedication to our children and many others.**
- Mrs. Kathy Henry**
Mr. and Mrs. James Ravas
- Mr. and Mrs. John and Grace Hinesman**
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bernardo
- Wedding Congratulations**
- Mr. and Mrs. George Hochmuth, Sr.**
Mr. and Mrs. Rickie Feeback
- Mr. Scott Holland**
Mr. Marc Holland
- Ms. Maggie Howard**
Ms. Lisa Cielinski
- Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Huber**
Mr. Keith Spaulding
- Mr. Christian Ingerslev**
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Sanderson
- Mr. and Mrs. Sam and Charlee Irmren**
Mr. Mike Irmren and Ms. Shannon Tupper
- Mr. and Mrs. Reg Jackson**
Mr. Lynn Olman
- In lieu of a Christmas Present**
- Mr. Jordon Johnson**
Ms. Patricia Johnson
- Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Johnson, Sr.**
Mr. Robert Johnson
- Ms. Bonnie Kaminski**
Seagate Transportation
- Ms. Jean Knudel**
Ms. Cecilia Dionisio
- Mr. Kim Kohlenberg**
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- Ms. Penny Kohlenberg**
K&W Distributing Employees
- Mr. Walter Kohlenberg**
K&W Distributing Employees
- Merry Christmas**
- Mr. and Mrs. Tom Levis**
Mr. and Mrs. Philip Williams
- Your care and dedication to our children and many others.**
- Mrs. Diane Leyland**
Mr. and Mrs. James Ravas
- Mr. Paul Lyseck**
Seagate Transportation
- Mr. Jerry MacDougal**
Seagate Transportation
- Mr. Henry Maier**
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sugg
- Mr. and Mrs. S. Maier**
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sugg
- Mr. Rob Majewski**
Mrs. Francelia Majewski
- 60th Wedding Anniversary**
- Mr. and Mrs. Donald and Betty Marsh**
Mr. Jeffrey Marsh
- Mr. Kevin Martin**
Mr. Lynn Olman
- In lieu of a Christmas Gift**
- Mr. John McClelland**
Ms. Connie Nicolen
- 68th Birthday**
- Mr. Sam Meek**
Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Frushe
- Mr. Phillip Mendel**
Mr. Lynn Olman
- 40th Wedding Anniversary**
- Mr. and Mrs. James Michaelis**
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kohring
- Mr. and Mrs. Jim Milton**
Mr. Lynn Olman
- 25th Wedding Anniversary**
- Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Minck**
Mr. Joseph Minck
- Mr. Rod Monnis and Family**
Mr. David Fox
- Mr. and Mrs. John Morava**
Mr. and Mrs. John Morava
- My Lord and Savior Jesus Christ**
Ms. Joanne Lehman
- My Parents**
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Georgevich
- Mrs. Rebecca Oduloa**
Ms. Jean Gregory
- Our military men and women who serve in Iraq and Afghanistan**
Mr. and Mrs. Stefan Fatzinger
- Ms. Pam Pauwels**
Ms. Janis Schindler-Sheldrick
- Ms. Donna Perino**
Mr. and Mrs. Rich Perino
- Ms. Martha Pituch**
Ms. Anne Trincherio
- Merry Christmas**
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Mr. Dennis Pritscher
- Ms. Patty Pruss**
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Veitch
- Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Purinton**
Promedica Health System Inc.
- Rev. George Reed**
Ms. Patricia Schaffner
- Referring Physicians**
Harbor Light
- Your care and dedication to our children and many others.**
- Mrs. Emily Rodriguez**
Mr. and Mrs. James Ravas
- Ms. Shirley A Roeger**
Ms. Mary Spencer
- Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Rudski**
Ms. Carol Schwartz
- Dr. and Mrs. Steve Saddemi**
Mr. Lynn Olman
- For a speedy recovery from illness**
- Ms. Barbara Saman**
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- Mr. and Mrs. Ron Shipley**
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- Your care and dedication to our children and many others.**
- Ms. Shannon Springer**
Mr. and Mrs. James Ravas
- Baby Xavier Sprouse**
Ms. Barbara Rodriguez
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Mrs. Nancy Stearns
- In lieu of a Christmas Present**
- Mr. and Mrs. Joe and Pam Szmania & Family**
Ms. Melissa Glover
- Mr. Patrick Szozda**
Mr. Lynn Olman
- Mr. William Takacs**
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- Mr. and Mrs. Richard Teiper**
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- Merry Christmas from Mom and Dad**
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Mr. and Mrs. R. Teufel
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- The Holy Bible**
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- The Students of Fountain City Christian School**
Fountain City Christian School
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Ms. Janice Darah
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- Micah and Katie Vogt**
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- Mr. and Mrs. Mike Wilcox**
Mr. Lynn Olman
- Ms. Pat Williamson**
Ms. Amy Stephan
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- Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Hefner**
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Holt
- Ms. Helen Patrisso**
- Prayers Answered**
- Saints Jude and Joseph**
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hornyak
- Nikki and Jason**
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Illuminating the Darkness

spring banquet 2010

Thursday, April 22 ♦ 6:30 p.m.

Gladieux Meadows | 4480 Heatherdowns Blvd. | Toledo

Tickets \$10 each | Reservation Deadline: April 9

2 simple ways to make a reservation:

1. Go to the Special Events page on our website,
www.cherrystreetmission.org, print out the form, and mail it in;

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