

VOICE of Compassion

"Woman, you
are loosed
from your
infirmity."

Luke 13:12



You sow hope in
the lives of people
in bondage

"Woman, you are loosed from your infirmity."

Luke 13:12

Dear Friend,

There is a powerful story in the Book of Luke about a woman who was crippled. So critical was her ailment that the pain bent her over for 18 years. She could find no relief.

Then, one day, she encountered Christ—just as do so many who come to Cherry Street today. Jesus did not hesitate to reach out and touch her—just as He touches our guests. He spoke the words that resonate in the ears of all who know Him: *You are loosed!*

In this edition of *Voice of Compassion*, you'll read a modern-day story that comes straight from the pages of Luke. Chandra was addicted to heroin when God touched her through the actions of her young son. Today, she is doing well, "walking upright," loosed from the infirmity of addiction and the pain of bad decisions that followed in its wake.

On page 7 you'll read about Shawn, a former guest who's now driving truck in Texas, experiencing victory.

The success stories of Chandra and Shawn—like those of every man, woman, and child served by Cherry Street each day—are *your* success stories. By allowing God to use your time, talent, and treasure to bless hundreds of Cherry Street guests each day, you are Christ's Hand extended, His Voice declaring, *You are loosed!*

For that, we bless you. We thank you, too, for inspiring us each day to challenge in His Name the deeply rooted infirmities that cripple our guests' lives as we serve at "curb level"—at Cherry Street.

Extending refuge and changing lives,



To access Dan's video blog, *Word from the Curb*, visit www.cherrystreetmission.org.

Email: danrogers@cherrystreetmission.org | Phone: 419-242-5141 ext. 231

Photo © Jim Rohman



Dan Rogers
President and CEO

Front Cover:
*Michelle, a guest
at The Oaks, says
that working in
Cherry Street's garden
is "a labor of love."*



You helped restore this young mom's world.

Lots of heroin addicts are busted by the police.

But, in Chandra's case, her beloved grandmother and then-8-year-old son did the busting.

*"Now it's
Lord, Your will,
not mine."*

"I tried to hide my drug use from my son Nathaniel, but he saw me shoot up numerous times and he knew it wasn't right," explained Chandra, now 30. "One day when he caught me, he ran into my bedroom, grabbed the syringe from me, and ran to my Grandma's house and gave it to her. Grandma called Children Services Board."

As a result, Chandra was ordered to Family Drug Court and Nathaniel went to live with Grandma—and not for the first time. Years before, Chandra sought help for an addiction to pills and lost custody of her son. She completed rehab to get him back, but relapsed into addiction mere weeks after they were reunited.

This time, however, was different.

After six months in rehab at another transitional living facility, she came to the Sparrow's Nest. And, according to Chandra, what she discovered at the Nest, and later, at The Oaks, has made all the difference in dealing with her addiction.

"My relationship with God is the biggest difference," said Chandra, who accepted Christ as her Savior during her stay with us. "In the past, my plan didn't work. Now it's 'Lord, Your will, not mine.' Plus, now when I do have an urge to use—and it's not very often—I'll call someone to talk about it. I didn't do that before."

Among the things she liked best at Cherry Street were Bible studies, the staff, and watching other guests learn to let go and let God. "That takes practice, I know," Chandra smiled. "But it was cool watching other guests do it, little by little. I'd get so excited!" She also loved visits from her son and grandmother, both of whom she clearly adores.

In preparation for their reunion, Chandra began to put the pieces of her life together once again.

Although she'd been a hard worker since her high school days' flipping burgers, addiction had cost her a good-paying job and sidetracked her pursuit of a nursing degree. So she resumed taking classes at Owens Community College, and "by trusting God," obtained a job at Jimmy Johns.

Today, she and Nathaniel are reunited and looking forward to the future.

"I want to finish nursing school and continue to develop my relationship with God," stressed Chandra, who is grateful to Cherry Street for the role we played in her life.

"Cherry Street is a very blessed environment. I don't know where I'd be now without it."

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By supporting Cherry Street, you made certain that the help Chandra needed was there when she needed it. Thank you!

Because of You!

- The best time to deal with homelessness is *before* it happens, and your support of Cherry Street's efforts to do just that has been exemplary.
- Your ongoing response to the *Clothing Your Community* program is enabling us to give free clothing—including school clothes—to more than 500 people each month through our clothing bank.
- For families that struggle to maintain housing and pay for life's necessities, free school clothes ease the financial burden.
- And, because kids never stop growing, the need for school clothes is year-round, so we are most grateful when you continue to keep our clothing bank in mind as your own youngsters outgrow their clothes.
- Many thanks!



▲ Leydi (left) and her friend Adriana (with daughter Jacqueline) were among the hundreds of parents who “shopped” for free school clothes this year at our clothing bank at the LifeBridge Center. “Right now, with no job, it helps a lot and allows me to purchase other school items,” Leydi said.



▲ **Golden Ore.** Some great junior high kids from Ore Creek Church in Michigan spent two days with us in August, serving a meal at the Sparrow's Nest and sorting clothing donations at LifeBridge Center. The group first came to Cherry Street in Summer 2010, deciding to return this year because they had such a positive experience blessing our guests! You're welcome back anytime, Ore!



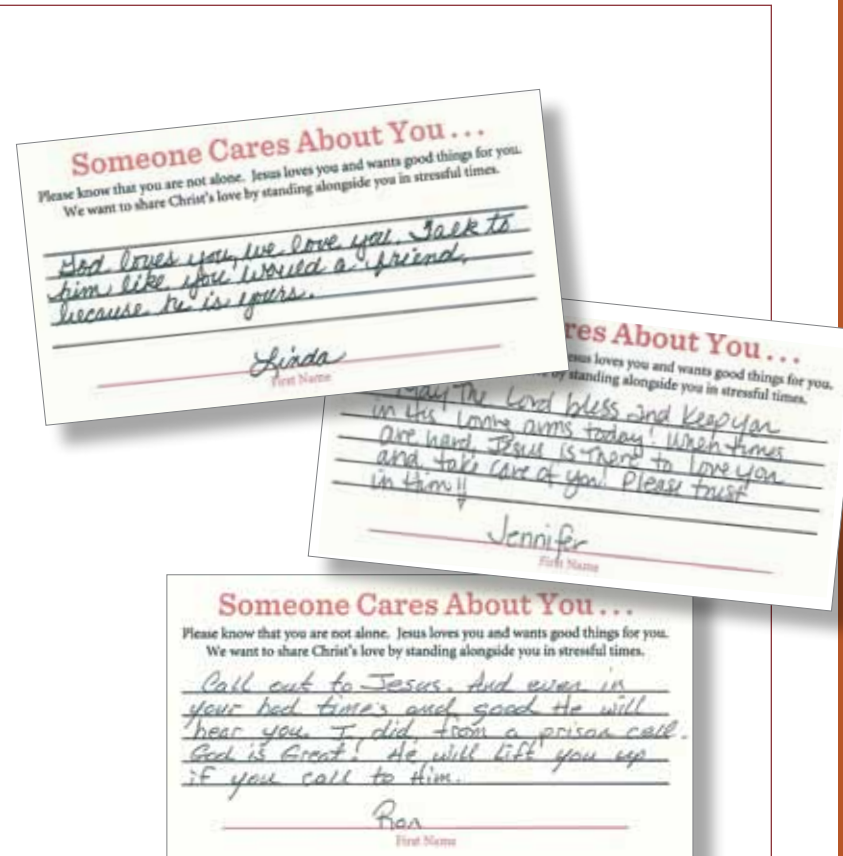
▲ **3 by 3 by 3.** Three young men from Michigan (from left, John, Shane, and Steve) concluded their three-week “Mission for the King” with a three-day Urban Mission Immersion experience at Cherry Street, the sixth ministry at which they'd volunteered during their trek. These selfless young men said that the Urban Mission Immersion—eating, sleeping, talking, and simply living life alongside our guests—made their time at Cherry Street different than other stops on their trip. (If you're interested in Urban Mission Immersion, visit www.cherrystreetmission.org/how-you-can-help/volunteer/.)



▲ **Saying YES to H2O.** When temperatures soared this past Summer, YES-FM knew that our guests would need water, so they donated 63 cases of bottled water to Cherry Street. Then the station did an on-air interview with our President and CEO, Dan Rogers, who talked about the effect of the heat wave on the homeless, who lack the basic options to cope with heat that most of us take for granted—even access to water. Way to go on the H2O, YES! (Above) Mia, a YES-FM employee, with cases of bottled water donated by the station.



▲ **Kudos, ConAgra.** When ConAgra in Archbold shut down its assembly line for a week this Spring, Becky Donald, the company's engagement leader, contacted Cherry Street about volunteer opportunities for interested employees. As a result, a dozen ConAgra workers prepared and served lunch to guests at our Madison Street Food Service and Community Center on May 27—and it wasn't the first time this community-minded company and its employees have lent us their help. Thanks to ConAgra and its great employees!



▲ When we asked supporters like you to pen notes of encouragement to our guests who receive food boxes, we were overwhelmed by the response. So far this year, you've provided 772 food boxes to those who are struggling.



*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.*



Growth in technology. Cherry Street's Urban Garden Project has added vertical hydroponics to its repertoire, courtesy of funding by a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' grant obtained by U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D., Toledo) and being managed by Mercy St. Vincent Medical Center. Cherry Street is embracing vertical hydroponic gardening because it produces more vegetables in a smaller space and uses water more efficiently than traditional soil gardening. (When the top pot drains, it waters the plants below.) Volunteer Julie Majo (above) stands by plants being grown hydroponically behind Caleb House.



A plethora of pickles. What do you do when life—or a generous donor—hands you 55 gallons of cucumbers? If you're Cherry Street chef John Kusner, you teach volunteers to make pickles—which guests like Paul (above) enjoyed with hot dogs the next day.



Harvest of hope. (From left) Lauren Reginald and Megan McKinnon are among a group of University of Toledo Medical Center nursing students who decided to give the vegetables produced in their garden to us after nursing instructor Kathleen Ahonen brought them to Cherry Street for a tour and clinical with our resident "angel of mercy," nurse Martha Pituch. This is the second year running that Kathleen's students have donated their vegetables—which they start from seeds—to feed our guests. God bless them!

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 July 14 – Aug. 19, 2011) *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.*

Mr. Russell Allan
Ms. Eleanor Sonntag

Mr. Sal Altenburger
Progressive Therapy Alternatives

Ms. Helen Bast
Mr. Thomas Bast
Mr. Bob McNett
Mr. and Mrs. Willis Michelsen
Ms. Karen Vaughn

Mr. Lonnie James Bingham
Mrs. Carolyn Bingham

Mrs. Virginia Binkley
Mr. Jerry Binkley
Mr. Robert Binkley
Ms. Ruth Kolwitz
Miller, Gardner & Company LLC
Ms. Julia Mockensturm
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis St. Johns
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Stickroth
Mrs. Jean Voegeli
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Yeager

Mr. Donald Blank
Mr. and Mrs. Nick Skiver

Mr. Herb Bolduan
Mrs. Virginia Bolduan

Mr. Jack Bolduan
Mrs. Virginia Bolduan

Ms. Nancy Breivik
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Churchill
Ms. Margaret Eikost
Ms. Connie Farrell
Mrs. Delphine Fodor
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Mr. William Masters
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Mr. and Mrs. John Nowacki
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Page
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Sloan
Toth Industries Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Tuttle
Village At Woodstream Farms
Homeowners Association
Weber & Sterling, LLC Attorneys
At Law
Mr. and Mrs. Steven Weiss

Mr. Ted Brenskelle
Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Gillespie

Ms. Theresa Cole
Ms. Phyllis Stanford

Ms. Donna R. Collum
Mr. Harry Collum

Mr. James Devenny
Mr. and Mrs. Hossein Elgafy

Ms. Kathryn Dille
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Dille

Mr. Virgil C. Dixon
Mrs. JoAnn Dixon

Ms. Dawn Drahiem
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Downey

Wife Audrie Drum's Birthday and Our 70th Wedding Anniversary
Mr. Lawrence Drum

Mr. Matt Dugan
Ms. Cynthia Dugan

Mr. Wesley W. Eash
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Duvendack

Mr. James F. Edgeworth, Sr.
Mrs. Mary Edgeworth

Mr. Bill Ehrsam
Mr. and Mrs. John Hansen

Mr. Ernie Fisher
Mr. and Mrs. Lee Buhrow

Mr. & Mrs. Albert P. & Virginia A. Fogel
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Losek

Mr. Charles Gergich
Ms. Cora Gergich

Grandchildren
Mrs. Joan Davis-Horner

Mr. Doug Guest's Birthday
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Guest

The Helmick Family
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Helmick

Mr. William Hessebein, III
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Reinhardt

Ms. Alice Horgrove
Wagner Family Reunion

Mr. Richard Horner, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Cole

Dr. Lloyd Kavanagh
Mrs. Kathleen Kavanagh

Mr. Lawrence Kelly, Jr.
Mrs. Lillian Steinbeck

Ms. Alice Koproski
Ms. Leona Cooper

Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Lucio
Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Hale

Mr. & Mrs. Sal Marchitelli
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Martin

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Martin
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Martin

Mr. Paul Nikolakos
Mr. Matthew Scherer

Mr. Danny Lee Noe
Ms. Merriann Noe

Ms. Julia Marie Patterson
Ms. Cassandra Allison

Ms. Mary Jane Patterson
Ms. Cassandra Allison

Mr. Nathaniel Patterson, Sr.
Ms. Cassandra Allison

The Perse Family
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Helmick

Ms. Anna Pfeiffer
Mr. and Mrs. Donald DeVault

Ms. Nancy F. Rayfield
Ms. Mary Nopper

Mr. James "Jim" Renner
Ms. Jean Gregory

Mr. Fernando (Chico) Roa
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Taylor

Mr. Robert Sieler
Ms. Lois Sieler

Mrs. Liz Simon's Mom
Mr. Ken Leslie

Ms. Sharon Stebbins
Mr. and Mrs. Sbrocchi

Mr. James Steinbeck
Mrs. Lillian Steinbeck

Mr. Charles Supinski
Ms. Irene Supinski

Mr. Marvin Waidelich
Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Frey

Mr. Greg Wolczak
Mr. Drew Hanna

Mr. Donald Young
Mr. Fred Bostleman

Mary and Eugene Zychowicz
Ms. Elizabeth Pietrowski

My Loved Ones
Ms. Laura Nagel

In Honor of:

(gifts received from July 14 – Aug. 19, 2011) *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!*

Thanks & Happy Birthday
Mr. and Mrs. Printy Arthur
Ms. Laura Stewart

Diana Eby & Nanette Richards
Ms. Jacquelyn Richards

Mr. and Mrs. Randy Gerritsen
Mr. and Mrs. Brian Winter

David Hansen & James Cooper
Ms. Sally Harms

Islamic Center of Greater Toledo
Dr. and Mrs. Bahu Shaikh

Jesus
Mr. Matthew Reihing

Pastor Denny Lauman
Ms. Sally Carstensen

60th Birthday

Mr. Leslie Lipski
Mr. and Mrs. Rollie Abel
Mr. and Mrs. David Achen Jr.
Mr. Barry Alcock
Mr. and Mrs. Craig Bachner
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Beach
Mr. and Mrs. James Black, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Duane Boes
Mr. Dennis Brudzinski
Mr. John Chalfin
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Corrigan
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Cummings
Mr. Victor DeFilippis
Mrs. Loretta Eisenmann
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Ermie
Ms. Obdenago Grajeda
Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Greene
Mr. and Mrs. Arman Habegger
Mr. and Mrs. Cris Hastin, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Hellmann
Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Hill
Mr. and Mrs. J. Hoefflinger
Mr. and Mrs. William Janna
Ms. Cathy Javaras
Mr. and Mrs. Terry Johnson
Mr. Mitsuhsa Koboshi
Mr. and Mrs. William Koutsis
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Kranz
Mr. and Mrs. Dan Kronfield
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Krueger
Mr. and Mrs. Todd Krukemyer
Drs. David and Jean Lehman
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Libbe
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Lucki
Mr. and Mrs. William McIntyre
Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Mifsud
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Napierala
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffery Normand
Ms. Patricia Nycz
Mr. Timothy Paul
Mrs. Carol Phillips
Ms. Carol Poolman
Mr. and Mrs. John Reing
Mr. John Roberts
Mr. and Mrs. Brian Roe
Rogi Enterprises Inc.
Ms. Emily Sanchez
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Shepherd
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Short
Mr. and Mrs. Don Smucker
Ms. Janice Sweress
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Thayer
Mr. Alan Thompson
Ms. Louis Udell
Mr. and Mrs. Roy Virost
Mr. David Walbom -
State Farm Agent
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Walker
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Wilson
Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Zmuda

Happy 18th Anniversary to my Wife Lisa
Mr. Steven Pursel

Cheri Rabb
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Rabb
Ms. Helen Patrisso

Ordination of Deacons
Mr. John Walters
Ms. Marjorie Thomas

Mr. and Mrs. Gregg Weaner
Ms. Sandra Michelsen

Honor my children and grandchildren
Ms. Darla Culberson

Saints Jude and Joseph and Blessed Virgin Mary
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hornyak



MEN ON THE MOVE

Your support of Cherry Street is transforming men's lives.

Driven to succeed, God's way

The road that led Shawn to Cherry Street was paved with anger and pride.

"I was an extremely angry person," said the Marine combat veteran and Purple Heart recipient. "I cared about materialistic things and thought that success meant having a good job, having a nice house, and having nice things."

During his stay with us, Shawn spent much of his time in what he calls "soul searching." In the process, he drew near to Christ, allowing His power to touch the deepest parts of his heart. "I surrendered myself to Him," Shawn recalled. "I started facing my anger issues. I started to forgive myself. And I started asking others for forgiveness." He also took part in our *Ready For Life* program.

A native of Toledo and Macomber High graduate, Shawn moved to Indianapolis after fulfilling his military commitment. There he spent 15 years working various jobs before moving back to Toledo in 2006. For the next five years, he moved from job to job and bad relationship to bad relationship, and on several occasions was arrested for domestic violence. Eventually, he had nowhere to go but the streets—or a shelter.

In April, Shawn attended the C.R. England truck-driving school in Texas. Shawn recently graduated and is now a C.R. England employee. Because of your support, this newly-minted truck driver is traveling a very different road than the one that led him to Cherry Street.

"I have changed my way of measuring success," he stressed. "Success is accepting that you've done all you can do for the purpose that you're living for."

"I thought staying in a homeless shelter meant I was giving up," Shawn explained. As a result, he spent many nights on the street before he finally swallowed his pride and came to Cherry Street at the end of February.

GOOD NEWS ABOUT MEN'S MISSION GUESTS:

- On a hot evening in late July, 26 men gave their lives to Christ during an impromptu praise-and-worship service in our parking lot.
- Tony is working at Cousino's Steak House on Woodville Road.
- Kevin works part-time for a temp service, as needed.
- Ronald picked up work with a landscaper.
- Darrel takes care of his aunt during the day and also works at St. Mark's Bike Co-op.
- Randy gave his heart to the Lord three weeks ago and was baptized two weeks ago.

Diligence rewarded.

Mark, a Cherry Street guest who was extremely faithful in his search for work, finally landed a temporary data entry job at UPS in early August, filling in for someone on sick leave. When that person surprised everyone by returning to work after just six days, Mark was out of a job—but he didn't give up. On August 29, he started a full-time job as an inspector at Electro Prime in Rossford, in large part because of the great reference UPS gave him. Mark is very grateful to God: "He rescued me and now got me a new job."





Linda (right) was among the 423 people who received a Thanksgiving food box last year. Gloria (left) was one of the 85 volunteers who helped assemble and deliver them.

You can put the "thanks" in Thanksgiving for our neighbors in need.

With Thanksgiving just around the corner—and Christmas not far behind—we're hoping that you'll help us continue Cherry Street's wonderful tradition of helping people who might otherwise have little to celebrate.

When it comes to brightening an individual's or family's holidays, you have a number of options. You can provide needed food-box items (see below). Volunteer to assemble and deliver food boxes Thanksgiving week. "Adopt" our guests' children and provide them Christmas gifts. Or volunteer to prepare and serve meals at Madison Food Service & Community Service throughout the holiday season. But whichever you choose, you'll be Christ's hand extended to people in need this holiday season.

To donate a food box:

■ **Purchase the following items** and bring them to Madison Food Service & Community Center, 1919 Madison Street, November 11– 18 between 7 am and 7 pm:

- 12-pound frozen turkey
- 2 boxes stuffing mix
- 1 large can chicken broth
- 2 15-oz cans corn
- 2 15-oz cans green beans
- 1 box cake mix
- 1 can of frosting
- 1 box instant mashed potatoes
- 2 boxes macaroni and cheese
- 2 15-oz cans of yams or sweet potatoes
- 1 15-oz can cranberry sauce
- 1 8-oz can gravy mix
- 1 2-liter beverage
- Fresh fruit (apples, oranges, etc.)

OR

■ **Donate \$45 by November 11** and we'll shop for you. (If you prefer, you can donate \$15 to provide a turkey only.) Give online at cherrystreetmission.org, write a check to *Cherry Street Mission Ministries Food Services*, or donate a grocery-store gift card. Mail checks and cards to the address below.

To volunteer or "adopt" a guest's children

■ Contact Brenda Torres, volunteer coordinator, at btorres@cherrystreetmission.org or 419-242-5141 ext 228.



To sign up for our e-updates, go to www.cherrystreetmission.org/news or scan the QR code. E-updates keep you informed of the exciting things happening at Cherry Street Mission Ministries and alert you of the latest *Word from the Curb* video blog by Dan Rogers, Cherry Street's President and CEO.



Voice of Compassion is a publication of:

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For more information about Cherry Street or the *Voice of Compassion*, contact Amy Ambrose at aambrose@cherrystreetmission.org or 419-242-5141 ext. 220.