“And there was nothing lacking to them, neither small nor great…”
1 Samuel 30:19

Small gestures of love bring monumental redemption.
Dear Friend,

My four year old granddaughter Evie was visiting the other day and one of my tasks was to bring her some dinner on my way home. When I put a portion of fries and chicken on the plate in front of her she said: “You’re the best, grandpa!”

It’s the small things, isn’t it?

Life, in the balance of things, doesn’t usually happen in the grand gestures. No, it’s almost always the smallest of things that set us back or move us forward. On the negative side, it could be the smallest of looks from a co-worker or loved one that takes a bit of joy out of us. On the positive side, it could be a simple thank you from an unexpected source.

I’m not overlooking the catastrophic events that are huge in the way they occupy a life, like the death of a loved one. Nor am I overlooking the magnanimous events that cause us great joy over long spans of time, like the birth of a child.

Except it does seem we tend to be more inclined to the small things be they negative or positive. To be honest, a normal day around Cherry Street is full of small, sometimes nearly unseen, miracles.

Recently I received a hand written note from a gentleman who was thanking me for the one night he stayed at Cherry Street and for the two meals he received while he was in our care. The note itself was not unusual—though I’m happy each time we receive a thankful word. What was unusual about his note was that the one night and two meals he referenced were from 1953. Cherry Street meant so much to this fellow that, 62 years later he felt it was important enough to be thankful and include a financial gift to a ministry that still resonates with him to this day.

It’s the small things, isn’t it?

I hope you’ve discovered just how profound the smallest of joys can be as you follow God and enjoy your family. I hope you’ve not allowed the large, looming cares of this life to crowd out the small ways God shows up in things that propel you forward. Even in the occasional setback, He’s forever faithful.

In this edition of the Voice of Compassion you’ll read how lives have been changed, how the community has engaged in volunteerism and even about the wonderful work happening at the Life Revitalization Center (former Macomber High School).

Through all these months and years, you and your family have been so faithful to pray, to volunteer and to financially share your resources. Your great generosity is a true gift of yourself and one that we hold so dearly because it’s the gift of hope itself—hope shared for generations.

Thank you!

Dan Rogers

PS. To connect with me for a tour, or any other questions, please contact me at danrogers@cherrystreetmission.org or 419-214-3007.
Three men from distinct backgrounds, living under one roof. All three have seen struggles that include addiction, job loss and homelessness. All three have found redemption at Cherry Street. And all are United States Veterans.

When Bob, Kenny and Steve became roommates at Cherry Street’s Caleb House, a transitional home for men, they had an instant bond. Bob explains, “It’s something that’s always with you – the fellowship of being veterans, not to mention believers. We’ve been able to encourage each other a lot.”

Kenny - U.S. Army Veteran
At age 62 Kenny is the senior member of this trio. He describes his reason for joining the army when he was 24 years old, “I lost my job, I lost the woman I loved and I joined the army thinking I didn’t have anything else to lose.”

Following his medical discharge from the army Kenny held good jobs for most of his life. As a machine operator at a local manufacturer he contributed to the building of Tomahawk and MX cruise missiles and F-16 man carriers. Unfortunately, some of his coworkers were smoking crack cocaine and encouraged him to join them.

With a history of marijuana use Kenny thought crack cocaine would be manageable for him. “I didn’t have any trouble walking away from anything else in my life and I thought cocaine would be the same,” he says. “I was wrong. It didn’t take long before it had a hold on me.”

Finally tired of the battle and of living on the streets, Kenny came to Cherry Street. “It took awhile, but I finally signed up for the Ready for Life program. I’ve had classes on finances, personal growth and Bible study. I now know that Christ is my savior, I talk to him every day. And I have peace. Whatever my problem, God’s got my back and I’m going to be okay.”

Bob - U.S. Marine Corp Veteran
Bob, a 52 year-old veteran, devoted four years to the U.S. Marine Corp. “I chose the Marines because they’re the toughest,” he describes. “We have freedoms that other people don’t have and we should be grateful.”

After Bob left the Marines he became a truck driver. “I went 25 years without an accident. Then, after two accidents within a year I lost my license.” Bob says he couldn’t find a job and that began a downward spiral leading to homelessness and despair.

“My time at Cherry Street has gotten me back to Christ,” he says, “It’s helped me get my life in order. I started praying, reading the Bible and believing in myself because I know God is with me. Caleb House has helped prepare me for the transition back to life on my own.”

Bob is grateful for a new career. “I now have a job refurbishing truck brakes. I’ve been promoted already. I’ve opened a bank account and started saving to get my license back and get a car. Staying here allowed me to regroup and not worry about where I was going to sleep, what I was going to eat. And I am so grateful to Cherry Street donors for that!”

Steve - U.S. Navy Veteran
At 53 years of age Steve has not stopped learning. Seven years of service in the U.S. Navy included time on the U.S.S. Kitty Hawk and the U.S.S. Butte, with plenty of opportunities to see the world.

After an honorable discharge Steve built a successful career as a mechanical designer and architectural detailer. He was married and the father of two children when long hours at work, uncontrolled spending and alcoholism destroyed life as he knew it.

He soon found himself divorced, estranged from his children and in prison. “In prison I found out about Cherry Street,” Steve remembers. “I was trying to make plans for when I got out. Every agency I wrote to told me to go to Cherry Street. And someone at Cherry Street wrote me back and told me about the programs. I knew this was where I’d go!”

Steve, currently works two jobs, shares that through Cherry Street he has learned how to live a better life. “Not only have I received food, clothing, and shelter, but I learned the importance of having God in my life, and how to have a relationship with the Lord. I realized that God was the most important thing that was missing from my life.”

In addition to encouraging each other daily, the three men do a Bible study together. They describe an unspoken code of honor that says if any one of them was ever in any kind of trouble, the other two would be right there for him.

“We’ve fought for our country and we’ll fight for each other,” Steven concludes. “We’re grateful that Cherry Street brought us together.”
Dear Donor,

Thank you for all your donations to the Cherry Street Mission.

I am a fifty-five year old woman who became homeless in June of this year. Without your donations, I would not have been able to have a meal or a roof over my head. Thank you, Kathleen S.

Cherry Street Mission Ministries' guests have been busy putting their words of gratitude in writing. Here are some of their stories:

**From our hearts, to yours.**

"In everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

~ 1 Thessalonians 5:18

Our guests realize that the transforming programs and opportunities would not be possible without you—our faithful supporters. As the bruised and broken children of God seek healing, it is incredibly helpful that they don't have to worry about where they'll sleep, or what they'll eat. With their basic needs taken care of, Cherry Street's guests are free to stay within the shelter of our programs and focus on knowing their Redeemer and growth and healing.

It all happens because of you—and we're so thankful for your loving support.

Cherry Street Mission Ministries’ guests have been busy putting their words of gratitude in writing. Here is just a sampling...

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**Dear Donor,**

Thank you for the gifts you have bestowed upon us. Your blessings are great. I have been on the streets for many years. Now, because of your generosity, I have hope again, and look forward to a brighter future. Thank you again for your donations.

A newly respected person of the community.

---

**Dear Donor,**

Thank you for helping us through this trying time in our lives. Without your help, we would all be on the streets with no help at all. If we had given you a chance to pull ourselves up, so that we will be able to help others in the future. All of the ministries are here for us, because of all your help. You all have given more than any of us can ever repay.

So thank you for all you have given us, food, shelter, toiletries but most of all hope for a new future.

Chris B.

---

**To whom it may concern,**

Thank you for all the things you have done for us. And for giving us hope and a second chance at life!

Recurring addicts. For giving us hope done for me and other homeless and the great staff and all their help.

Dorcas S.

---

**Dear Donor,**

Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity. I am very grateful to be able to have a roof over my head and a warm place to sleep at night. There really isn't any words to describe how blessed I truly feel, and this would not have been possible without you! God B less!

Kaara

---

**To whom it may concern,**

I really think it is a true blessing from God to have a place to go out of the storm and a place to eat when you don't have nothing and nobody to turn to. God to have a place to go out of the storm and a place to eat when you don't have nothing and nobody to turn to. Thank you for all your donations to the Cherry Street Mission.

Bob, Keith and Emil of the J.M. Smucker's Manufacturing Company present Linda Cunning, former Vice President of Philanthropy, with a check for $1,900 which represents donations from team members at the Laskey Road plant. Employees also donated food items and will soon begin volunteer training at Cherry Street.

Cherry Street Mission Ministries provides training for those volunteers who want to serve as chaplains in our ministry. Recently we offered two classes and had 25 volunteers attend, yet we still need more. Chaplains play the important role of building relationships with our guests, leading Bible studies and sharing the love and the truth of God. If you'd like more information, please contact Rebecca Bowling, Director of Volunteerism, at 419-242-5141 extension 241 or rbowling@CherryStreetMission.org

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As part of their grand opening of their new fulfillment center in Luckey, Home Depot donated $5,000 worth of gift cards to Cherry Street. What a generous way to show support of their community. This donation will be used to provide some much-needed TLC to Cherry Street facilities. Thank you, Home Depot!
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A newly respected person of the community.

To whom it may concern,
I really think it is a true blessing from God to have a place to go out of the storm and a place to eat when you don’t have nothing and nobody to turn to but God. So his Christian ministries are here for us, to clothe us, feed us, give us guidance in life, Bible study to open our hearts for others as you donors have done for us.
Thank you for all the things you have done for me and other homeless and recurring addicts. For giving us hope and a second chance at Life! God bless you all. Thank you.
Dorcas S.

I’m grateful to Cherry Street Mission for food, clothing, shelter, for KeyTrain, and the great staff and all their help.
Terry S.
Bridging the Gap at the Life Revitalization Center

The Life Revitalization Center is about building a bridge for people who have experienced God’s restoration and transformation to return home and be financially self-sustaining.

Collaboration with other community organizations like Penta Career Center is vital. Our education center allows guests to earn their GED and participate in KeyTrain which is the first step toward vocation and career training. Our new vocational training and certification programs are the next step for those who have completed KeyTrain and will provide opportunities to secure well-paying jobs. Our Auto Tech and STNA program classes will be underway in the beginning of January and soon thereafter our Call Center Training Program will launch.

It’s all so exciting because it is the very real beginning of complete redemption and life transformation—from homeless and broken to home and healed. From joblessness to a new, self-supporting career.

Won’t you join us? Stop in for a tour. See how you can be a part of this important work of God.

When Munn Wealth Management came to us with the idea of hosting an ice cream soiree along with tours of the Life Revitalization Center, we thought it was a cool idea! More than 30 of Munn Wealth’s clients came for the event and had the opportunity to see just how much is going on inside the former Macomber High School building.

Attendees were shown the auto tech shop, education center and restored gymnasium. The focus of the evening (Besides the ice cream, of course!) was the new kitchen and Culinary Arts program. What a wonderful way to raise awareness of the bridge being built by Cherry Street and our community partners. We’re grateful for friends and partners like you, Munn Wealth Management!

Senator Randy Gardner was one of 5 dignitaries that spoke at the press conference regarding the partnership of Feed Lucas County Children and Cherry Street Mission Ministries. This partnership will provide 1.5 million meals for our community members as well as give people an opportunity to lift themselves out of poverty by way of vocational training in a new state-of-the-art kitchen and other programs offered at the Life Revitalization Center.

Cherry Street Mission Ministries and Feed Lucas County Children announced a collaborative partnership that will provide opportunities to lift people in our region out of poverty by creating an alliance that focuses on shared resources and increasing community impact.

Within the first year:
- Over 1.5 million meals will be provided to children, as well as adults.
- Funds will be focused on a new state-of-the-art kitchen that will be shared by both parties and constructed at the Life Revitalization Center. (Construction is scheduled to begin January of 2016!)
- Those receiving meals will have the opportunity to participate in various educational and vocational programs that are at Cherry Street’s Life Revitalization Center (adult vocational school).

Thanks to Fifth Third Bank and Pomeroy IT Solutions our Life Revitalization Center computer lab now has 22 new computers — setup, networked and ready for use in our KeyTrain program. Our first KeyTrain class started on June 29th. We’ve served 175 guests who have logged over 1,000 hours time to-date. Also, special thanks to Virtual Technology Group for assisting with the networking of these computers.

(l-r) Andy Ramm and David Lange from Virtual Technology Group, Bob Dove and Melissa Overton of Fifth Third Bank, Linda Cunning and Dan Rogers of Cherry Street.
To Memorialize and Honor Your Loved Ones

To give a gift in memory of a loved one, or to honor a special person or occasion, please use the enclosed envelope to list the name(s) of the person(s) being remembered or honored, and mail it along with your gift. We'll send a special card to the honoree or the family of the person(s) being remembered, to give them a record of your special and life-changing gift.

In Memory of:

Mr. Oliver H. Dodge
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Plath
Ms. Linda Jeanne Carleski
Ms. Cinda Zuccarell
Mr. and Mrs. Burton Blue
Mr. Jack Brink
Mr. Christopher Bragg
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Mr. and Mrs. Robin Ubrup
Mr. David Sheets
Events

Race For a Cause Funds Sparrow’s Nest.

The 5th annual Race for a Cause is a special 5K hosted in September by the University of Toledo Physician Assistant student organization, SAAAPA. This year all proceeds went to support the Sparrow’s Nest, Cherry Street Mission Ministries’ women’s facility. This year’s race brought twice as many participants—and double the funds of last year’s! Thank you, SAAAPA!

Attention: Snow Birds and Winter Travelers—Let’s Meet up!

Why not plan to meet up with other Cherry Street supporters in Florida in March of 2016? Snow Birds for Cherry Street will be flocking together to share the warmth of a common passion. There will be good food and plenty of sharing about the wonderful things that are happening at Cherry Street. Come get the latest updates and opportunities regarding the Life Revitalization Center, vocational training programs and other life-impacting work of Cherry Street?

If you’re interested in attending this free event, please contact Ann Ebbert at 419-214-3007 or aebbert@cherrystreetmission.org.

Annual Christmas Concert – December 13th!

For the third consecutive year, the Owens Community College Concert Band will give an amazing performance on behalf of Cherry Street. This year during the concert, Tony Geftos from 13abc will narrate “The Night Before Christmas”. There is no charge for the concert. A free-will offering will be taken. Complimentary refreshments will be served following the concert.

Join us Sunday, December 13th at 2:30 p.m. You won’t want to miss this fun and festive Christmas Concert!

Owens Community College
Center for Performing Arts Theater
30335 Oregon Road • Perrysburg, OH 43551

Thanksgiving Day Family Fun Run/Walk.

Presented by Dave’s Running Shop, WTOL 11 and Fox Toledo, Dave’s Turkey Chase will take place on Thanksgiving Day with a 9am start at WTOL 11, 730 North Summit Street. The race benefits Cherry Street Mission Ministries and Hannah’s Socks. If you’d like to join us in the race, you’ll find details and registration at: DavesRaces.com. And we also have several volunteer opportunities, just visit our website: CherryStreetMission.org

Voice of Compassion is a publication of:

CHERRY ST. MISSION MINISTRIES
105 17th Street • Toledo, OH 43604-6785

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For more information about Cherry Street or the Voice of Compassion, contact Amy Ambrose at aambrose@cherrystreetmission.org or 419-214-3410.
In Honor of:

(gifts received from August 15 – October 31, 2015)

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!

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Ms. Peggy Zydel

Janet
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Katy
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My parents, Geno and Bonjovi
Mr. Michael Zeigler

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Mr. and Mrs. Eugene and Mary Zychowicz
Ms. Elizabeth Pietryowski
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Katy
Ms. Bernadette Weir

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Ms. Rose Best
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Swartzell

Mr. John Bognar
Ms. Anna Bognar

Cancer Patients Alive and Passed
Mr. Joseph Bohland

All Who are Battling Addictions
Mr. and Mrs. Keith Bosch
Mr. Perry Campbell
Mr. Johnny Diamond-Vice
Mr. Robert Fisher

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley and Sophie Jakubowski
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The Lord Jesus
Ms. Emma Jamerson

Mr. and Mrs. Ryan Randolph

Mrs. Rose Lapointe

Mr. and Mrs. Raleigh Taylor

Mr. Fred M. McSurley
Ms. Deborah McSurley

Mr. and Mrs. Marc Medina, Wedding

Mr. and Mrs. Bill and Ruth Miller
Ms. Susan Holland

St J ohn XXIII Parish, Perrysburg
Mr. and Mrs. Keith Neiling

Mr. and Mrs.鹬 Silvina Melnik
Ms. Heather White

Ms. Loretta Pasker

Mr. Robert Pasker J r.

Mr. V.H. Shaw
Mr. Atul Shah

Mrs Bernice Sprow
Ms. Diane Threens

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander and Courtney Stechschulte

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Weiss

Volunteers at Cherry Street
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Swanson Sr.
Mr. Bryan Weber

Volunteers at Cherry Street

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hornyak

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Stein
Ms. Dolores Stein

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Weber
Our September 24th *It’s All About Hope* Fall Fundraising Banquet was attended by 86 people. The event was generously hosted by St. John’s Christian Church in Archbold.

Dan Rogers shared updates on the services and stories of transformation and outlined plans for the new Life Revitalization Center, Cherry Street’s adult vocation center.

Following Dan’s presentation was the personal testimony of Cherry Street guest, Steve. He spoke about the spiritual counseling, Bible studies, classes, and guidance he received at Cherry Street Mission Ministries. Steve gave thanks to God for transforming his life through Cherry Street. And he pointed out that none of this would have been possible without our donors.

Hope cards provide a special way to honor a loved one at Christmas.

This Christmas, give more to the people on your list. Give honor, express your love, and give hope to others at the same time. When you make a gift to Cherry Street Mission Ministries in honor of your friends and family, you’ll be honoring them in a very special way. We’ll send a Hope Card to each one, letting them know that a gift of hope was made to Cherry Street in their honor. What a great gift to give help and hope at the same time! To send a Hope Card, simply fill out the enclosed response card and send it in with your donation, or give securely online at CherryStreetMission.org.