



Vision

Caring for Those in Need Since 1967

A quarterly publication of the Winston-Salem Rescue Mission

Because You Gave

In 2014, you helped to provide:

90-day Program Graduates	60
1-year Program Graduates	16
Permanent Housing	30
Employment	25
Men Attending College	9
GED	1
Bed Nights	37,603
Meals Served	170,682
Salvations & Rededications	17
Clothing Closet Items	12,094
Food Pantry Meals	45,259

MISSION NEEDS

- Shelving and separating walls for 4th floor Supply Room
- Resident Room Renovations
- Food Storage Room Renovations
- Thrift Store Donations



Thrift Store

715 N. Cherry St.
Winston-Salem, NC

Call (336) 723-1848
for pickup of
your donated items!

A Second Chance



Jason Havener

My name is Jason Havener. My descent into the abyss of alcohol addiction left behind a trail of destruction that would rival any natural disaster.

As I look back over my life, I realize I had no control over my will. Alcohol is a funny thing. I knew the first time it hit my lips, it would be a part of my life forever. What I didn't know was the misery it would cause me and anyone who chose to be in my life.

At first it was something fun and dangerous to do with friends. But as the years progressed and my dependency on it progressed, it became my god. I put it before my children, marriage, family, job, friendships, and in the end, I put it before myself.

Growing up, I heard the Bible and Gospel message. I sporadically attended churches and occasionally even went to the chicken dinners and cookouts. But I never felt the happiness I saw on other people's faces. I couldn't understand why they always smiled, shook my hand, and hugged me. Honestly, it made me jealous of their joy. Why couldn't I have what they had? I found it easy to blame God for all the bad things that happened in my life: the slow decay and death of my sister, the death of my grandfather and countless friends, my failed marriage. I became so accustomed to losing people that I stopped crying at funerals, suppressing my feelings under gallons of booze. I found myself broke, jobless, homeless, and pretty much friendless. I had burnt every bridge and didn't know what to do or where to turn.

“...I learned to depend on God instead of my own strength.”

I stayed briefly at the Winston-Salem Rescue Mission but left the program shortly after entering. Although my stay was short, a seed had been planted: I started thinking about the Bible more and reading it and praying. One day, I was camping out and doing some catfishing when God convicted me. I was out of booze, out of money, and sick of running, hiding, and blaming others. There was no escaping the pull that God had on me, and at that time, I made the decision to accept Christ as my personal Saviour.

I made it back to the Mission a couple weeks later. This time things were different – I began to eat and sleep better. I started thinking of others instead of myself. As I learned to depend on God instead of my own strength, I found a new peace. I now have a relationship with my parents, my ex-wife, and most importantly, my children. The Lord has given me new opportunities and godly influences who help me instead of hinder. I'm a 31-year-old man who gave away everything I owned to please my selfish needs. But I've been given a gift worth more than anything on this earth: *my salvation and a second chance at life.*

Employment Opportunities Available

www.wsrescue.org/who-we-are/employment



From the Director

“Yielded to God’s purpose” is the only way that we can truly be used as agents of change for His glory. God’s ways and thoughts are so much higher than ours that there is no comparison (Isaiah 55:8-9). It is only when we acknowledge the sovereignty of God and submit to His higher wisdom and plans, that He can use us to accomplish His will. What an encouragement we see in the Scriptural examples of Esther, Daniel, Shadrach, Meshack, and Abed-Nego, who yielded themselves in obedience and placed God’s truth above their own well-being. God then used them to accomplish His purposes, impact lives and bring glory to Himself.



Ken Heater
Executive Director

“Yielded to God’s Purpose.”

We have many opportunities at the Mission each day to yield to God’s purpose and be used to impact men like Jason (front page) and others in our community. Please join us and let God use you for His glory. You can reach us at wsrescue.org or (336) 723-1848. Thank you for all your support and prayers!

Volunteer News

Active volunteers have been instrumental in the success of the Winston-Salem Rescue Mission (WSRM) for 48 years. The work of volunteers allows the Mission to direct more funds toward supporting the critical programs for the men in residence by using what would otherwise be needed for additional staff or outside resources.

Volunteers are a vital resource that enable the Mission to have an even greater impact on lives in our community. Many opportunities and blessings abound as we grow and coordinate a large pool of regular volunteers. The Mission has needs throughout the organization that can be best met by volunteers who are able to commit just a few hours each week. A partial list includes the Thrift Store, administration support, the community food pantry, tutoring, supporting the computer learning center, and maintenance projects.

To better coordinate and grow this effort, the Bridge of Hope Club has been established for committed volunteers who embrace the mission of WSRM. The Club has five objectives:

- **Educate** – Familiarize volunteers about the Mission’s history, mission statement, core objectives, and organizational structure.
- **Inform** – Establish a channel for disseminating information to Club members
- **Engage** – Establish a forum for sharing ideas
- **Develop** – Prepare volunteers for speaking to their church and community about the Mission and roll of volunteers
- **Organize** – Assist in matching volunteer skills and interests with Mission needs.



Volunteers

If you would like to experience the blessing of helping the Mission to meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of hurting people so that we might proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ and bring glory to God, please consider being a part of the Bridge of Hope Club. Together we can make a difference. Contact **Billie Holley** at volunteer@wsrescue.org or (336) 723-1848, ext. 116 to learn more.

New Life Center Computer Lab

The Winston-Salem Rescue Mission was recently given a donation that enabled the New Life Center learning center to obtain all new Google Chrome computers. Residents are now able to view and complete their assignments online. The Learning Center coordinator can now create tasks online, check the students' progress, and view completed assignments. The new functions make scorekeeping more accurate and enable the students to see their results faster, thus increasing their levels of motivation. The new machines give residents access to Google Apps, Microsoft Office apps and many other typing and vocabulary programs.



When entering the program, students are given a series of assessments to determine their skill levels in word pronunciation, reading comprehension, math, and memory recall. Their educational needs and goals are evaluated, an individualized plan of study is designed, and volunteer tutors are made available on a weekly basis. Students who have already obtained their high school diploma or GED are given the opportunity to brush up on their basic academic skills and are encouraged to pursue further educational opportunities at Forsyth Technical Community College or other local colleges. Last year nine men attended college. Education is an important ingredient for a successful recovery. The Learning Center provides every New Life Center resident with the opportunity to both set and attain educational goals, and thus instills within them hope for the future.

Alpha Acres

A Place of New Beginnings
Christian Recovery Program for Men

Transformation at Alpha Acres



Bible Study at Alpha Acres

The addiction recovery program at Alpha Acres is about more than just recovery—it's about transformation. If a person struggling with addiction only gets back to where they were before addiction, they will likely repeat the same patterns that took them into addiction in the first place. (See *Matthew 12:43-45* and *Luke 11:24-26*.) By far the most powerful resource for transforming a human mind and life is the Word of God. That's why Bible classes are at the core of the program at Alpha Acres.

In addition to regular church services, daily devotions, and Scripture memorization, residents are engaged in at least five hours of formal classes each week. Staff members teach most of the classes, while experienced pastors and Christian servants contribute on a regular basis. Some of the courses are Bible-specific, while some deal with life-skills and addiction issues, but all of the courses are taught with a focus on getting a biblical perspective on the issues and applying biblical principles in dealing with real-life issues.

Two of the Bible courses (each involving about 35 hours of class time) give the residents a panoramic view of the Bible from different perspectives. These courses provide both a clear understanding of the message of the Bible as well as a basis upon which the student can build a lifetime of effective personal Bible study. Other courses deal with evidences for the trustworthiness of Scripture. Two other courses (dealing with the human brain and the "Seven Habits") focus on dealing with the challenges of life and victory over addiction, but with special insights and God-given resources found only in the Bible. The goal of it all is that each resident will *"be transformed by the renewing of his mind."*





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SPRING 2015

Winston Salem Rescue Mission

*9th Annual Golf
 Tournament*

Thursday, April 30, 2015

9 a.m. Shotgun Start

Register by April 24, 2015

For sponsorship opportunities
 or additional information,
 visit WSRescue.org



Food Pantry

Our client-choice food pantry provides groceries to the Triad community throughout the week.

Our pantry is constantly in need of the following items: cereal, rice, grits, pasta, box dinners, bagged beans, potato flakes, crackers, flour, sugar, peanut butter, and canned meats.

Why not plan a food drive for the Winston-Salem Rescue Mission? Contact **Bob Gilgunn** by e-mail at bob.gilgunn@wsrescue.org or call **(336) 723-1848 ext. 106** for more information.

Thrift Store Donations
704 Oak St. NW, Winston-Salem

As spring rolls in and you begin going through your pantry, closets and drawers, consider allowing us to “rescue” your unwanted treasures. Your donations lead to changed lives and give hope to the men we serve.



For more information regarding our pickup service or drop off locations call **(336) 723-1848 ext. 101**.

Consider Including Winston-Salem Rescue Mission in Your Will

To bless your family with a God-honoring Will, go to www.christianwill.org/wsrsm or for more information, contact **Ken Heater** at **(336) 723-1848 Ext. 112**.