

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ANNUAL THANKSGIVING BANQUET!

Imagine what it's like to experience homelessness along the Wasatch Front, especially during the Thanksgiving and holiday season.

It's cold and lonely. You can't afford a meal, let alone a place to stay. Businesses do not let you come inside to get warm, even for a few minutes. People walk by and barely notice or avoid you all together. Today, the rising cost of life's essentials means more people are facing homelessness and isolation.

The journey of healing and restoration often begins with a meal, or a good night's sleep, at the Rescue Mission — and that's why your gift to support our annual Thanksgiving Banquet is so critical. As a private, faith-based charity, we depend on support from friends like you to help our neighbors in critical need.

Beyond a hot, nourishing Thanksgiving meal, your support today help provides:

- **Shelter, clothing, and education**
- **Job training and mentoring**
- **A home for the holidays**
- **A pathway off the streets**

For over 65 years, the Rescue Mission has cared for the people in greatest need in our community, providing nourishing food, shelter, and warm clothing. In our long-term programs, we help hurting men and women address the root causes of their homelessness. Through education, job training, Bible studies, and other services, we give them the tools to rebuild their lives, and become the men and women God truly intends them to be — and stay off the streets permanently. Please give today by using the card included with this newsletter or scan the QR code in this newsletter. You can also call our finance office at 801.746.1006 for secure credit card donations over the phone, or visit OgdenRescue.org to donate through our website!

Please help today!



Our homeless friends and low-income families line up for our annual Thanksgiving Banquet, which is a true blessing to so many. We don't want anyone going hungry this Thanksgiving!



RESTORED LIVES

The bimonthly newsletter of the Ogden Rescue Mission



Raedawn Tucker is sober and has a good job. After living on the streets, she has her social security card and driver's license back and serves as the house mother at the Ogden Rescue Mission as well. She is preparing for life outside the Mission in a place of her own where she can live with and support her daughter.

As a life-long Northern Utahan, I never thought I would need help from a homeless shelter like the Ogden Rescue Mission.

But at 24 years old, I began a relationship with a man who led me into drug abuse. I started using opioid pills and eventually became addicted to meth for 10 years. During the pandemic I was arrested several times and spent months in jail.

I had burnt bridges because of my addiction so the last time I was released from jail in 2023 I didn't have anywhere to go. The Ogden Rescue Mission was my only resort, the one place that would give me a chance and it saved my life.

I had never had a personal relationship with Jesus before, but after one month at the Rescue Mission I began a relationship with Jesus. I started attending the Juniper Tree Church in Clearfield. The people there are so welcoming and anytime I miss church I receive multiple texts from my church family letting me know they missed

Please see Raedawn on page 3

SEASON CHANGE AND MEALS CAN CHANGE LIVES

Recently I was hiking with my family, enjoying the changing season and fall colors.

It was a difficult hike. At times we rested in the shade. We took water breaks. At one point we talked about turning back, which some of us did. Others hiked on and enjoyed lunch overlooking the valley. It was a difficult, yet blessed time for our family.



The hike and season change reminded me about our work at the Rescue Mission to help people do difficult things to experience a changed life. It also brought to mind how Jesus' disciples experienced radical change in their lives. Jesus knew he faced death

on the cross. He knew he was about to die, raise to new life, and gift the Holy Spirit to His disciples shortly thereafter. Jesus had to keep His "Band of Brothers and Sisters" together during this very difficult time of immense change.

Amid this change, the apostle Peter and some others returned to their old way of life and went fishing. Jesus would have nothing of this. Their fishing efforts failed and Jesus watched them struggle. But to help, Jesus provided fish. The resurrected Jesus cooked breakfast for His struggling and discouraged disciples, who seemed to want to return their old way of life. In the midst of Jesus cooking breakfast, He called to his hurting friends and asked them how they were doing, and taught them how to be successful at fishing on the other side of the boat.

I share my family's story and this part of the Bible to note that life change can happen around season change and food, which are both key parts of our ministry at the Rescue Mission. Almost everyone who comes through our door is hungry and in need of food. People also often come through our door when they are experiencing a season change in their life. While hunger brings many people to our door, the help people really need is radical spiritual change. It's a change as profound as a green leaf turning yellow, red, or orange. Just like any hike we may go on to see God's fall colors, the journey may be hard (and some may even turn back) but it is worth it.

Every day at the Rescue Mission we ask hurting people to keep going and embrace change by God's grace. We encourage them to welcome the difficult and become the person God is molding them to be. The initial invitation might be as simple as to join us for a meal or a short walk around the block, but the purpose is to change the life of a hurting person who is struggling and desperately wants the hope we can provide through God's awesome and life-changing power.

Thank you for enabling us to help those in our community who want help, but are struggling to find it,

God bless you,

Chris D. Croswite

Executive Director

Raedawn: Continued from the Front Page

me and want to make sure I am OK. This is the kind of accountability I need and want and makes me feel like I matter and a part of a true community.

Today I am grateful to be sober for over a year. I have done so well that I was removed from probation early. The New Life Program helped me understand the reasons I was using drugs. I came to understand the past hurts I was masking through drug abuse. This understanding, along with my relationship with Jesus, has helped me to stay sober for the past year.

Today I have a great job at a local convenience store, which is not the career job I ultimately desire but is a job I feel blessed to have and believe God has provided me with and wants me to stay in for now. This job has supplied me with money to pay the fines I owed and get back on my feet again. I have paid almost all my fines and have been able to save money to prepare for having a house or apartment of my own again. Beyond paying off my debts I have also gained my driver's license and got my social security card back.

I have been blessed to maintain good relationships with my family. My father, for example, has let me use a car he owns to get to work. My aunt and uncle have also supported me by taking custody of my daughter, who is 14. While I maintain a good relationship with my daughter, I realized several years ago that I was not the mother I needed to be. I could not take care of her in the way I should have and in the way she deserved. I

am so thankful that my extended family has stepped up to support her when I couldn't.

As I share my life story, my daughter is in student body leadership at her school and is trying out for the volleyball team. I am saving money and when I graduate from the New Life Program I hope to have a place where my daughter and I can live together.

In addition to my job at the convenience store, I also serve as the volunteer house mother at the Rescue Mission. This job allows me to give back to the homeless community and help them. There are many homeless women who come to the Mission and are in desperate situations. I am able to help them understand the New Life Program, share how the program changed my life, and explain how the program can help them.

It is awesome to help people who are in the same difficult situation I was once in. Thank you so much for supporting the Ogden Rescue Mission. Your support has helped me so much and blessed my family.

HOW YOUR GIFT HELPS: OUR YTD STATS THROUGH AUGUST



Professions of Faith

154



Meals

52,771



Family Food Boxes

468



Nights of Shelter

11,235



Clothing

7,168



Hygiene Items

15,660



Day Service

1,157



Jobs Obtained

7



Housing Obtained

5



WEB, SOCIAL, & EMAIL

OgdenRescueMission.org

[Facebook/OgdenRescue](https://www.facebook.com/OgdenRescue)

[Instagram@ogden_rescue_mission](https://www.instagram.com/ogden_rescue_mission)

Email: info@OgdenRescue.org

SCAN OUR QR CODE TO QUICKLY DONATE TODAY



PHONE, MAIL, & VOLUNTEERS

Main – 801.621.4360

Donor Relations – 801.746.1006

Mail: PO Box 1431 Salt Lake City Utah 84110-1431

Volunteer: Email Volunteer@RescueSaltLake.org

Physical Address: 2775 Wall Avenue, Ogden, Utah