

A Message From Mike

Easter's Deepest Meaning

Easter should always remind us of God's tremendous mercy and love for all of us. His resurrection offers every person a chance for a relationship with Him – a fresh start – a chance to start over.

It's no coincidence that Jesus' last meal was with his closest friends. And it was a meal that symbolized His ultimate sacrifice for all of us.

That's how we see our guests at Easter. The world may have forgotten them, but to us they are our closest friends. And so we share our meal with them. And we all sacrifice for them; staff, volunteers, donors; so together we can offer them a chance to have a relationship with Him – a fresh start – a chance to start over.

I hope this Easter you will take time to reflect on what Jesus did for each of us, and how he loves every one of us – especially those who have been forgotten.

May He bless you this Easter,

Mike

Mike Johnson
Executive Director

Easter Meals Just \$2.02!

Share Easter's Promise of a New Life!
With every meal comes a chance of restoration...

Easter is a time for renewal. And there is no better way of building a relationship and encouraging someone to start over than sharing a meal.

Thousands of people will be coming to us during the Easter season. We'll be serving over 1,000 on Easter Sunday alone. We would never want to turn anyone away.

You can make sure we feed and care for everyone who comes to our door simply by providing meals. Each meal costs only \$2.02.

Your gift today could be the one that changes or even saves a life.

YOU can make an eternal difference in someone's life! Please join others in our community by making your gift for meals today.

You can go online to www.TRM.org to help right now!

YOUR GIVING OPTIONS. Please fill in all information below and sign. Thank you!

☐ CREDIT CARD
☐ DEBIT CARD
☐ CHECKING ACCOUNT (check marked VOID enclosed)

IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ IN MEMORY OF IN HONOR OF

Recipient name and address if you would like us to send a card:

☐ MONTHLY ☐ ONE-TIME ONLY GIFT BEGIN TRANSFERS IN MONTH

CARD # EXP DATE SECURITY CODE

CARDHOLDER NAME (please print)

SIGNATURE (required for authorization)

OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU
We make every effort to use your gift as specified. If a particular project becomes overfunded, we use those funds where needed most to serve the needs of homeless, hurting people.

Rescue Mission
HELP • HOPE • HEALING
P.O. Box 1912 | Tacoma, WA 98401-1912

HELP HOPE HEALING

THE TACOMA RESCUE MISSION NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2017

Michelle's addiction got its start in the second grade!

And that was just the beginning . . .

Easter means so much to Michelle. Why? Because she understands more than most of us what a restored life means.

When she was in just the second grade, Michelle entered the foster care system, because both her mom and dad were using drugs. It didn't help that her foster mother was also using, and so Michelle began life surrounded by the drug culture.

She started taking drugs on her own when she was twelve, and by the time she turned fifteen she was addicted and pregnant. From there, her life went downhill . . .

"I thought I could stop and I couldn't stop. It just kept going. Then, the more I thought about it, the more I would do it."

Continued inside . . .

INSIDE:

Easter is for Children, Too!
Stopping the Holiday Trigger.
A Message from Mike: Easter's Deepest Meaning.

HELP • HOPE • HEALING
THE TACOMA RESCUE MISSION NEWSLETTER

Connect with The Rescue Mission: myrescuemission [RescueMissionUS](https://www.facebook.com/RescueMissionUS) [RescueMissionUS](https://www.instagram.com/RescueMissionUS)

OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

The entire staff of the Tacoma Rescue Mission pledges to do everything possible to help the hurting and homeless. It was our commitment when our work began in 1912 and it continues to drive us today.

We pledge to offer help, hope, and healing to as many people as possible through food, shelter, clothing, education, career coaching, work opportunities, transitional housing, and more.

P.O. Box 1912 | Tacoma, Washington 98401-1912 | (253) 383-4493 | www.trm.org

In 2015 86¢ of every dollar went directly to services and facilities for the homeless.

Michelle finds a new life.

Michelle's Story Continued

As she grew into adulthood, her life spiraled out of control. When the father of her youngest son was deported – and then murdered – she went over the edge. Her addiction took over her life. She lost her children and ended up on the streets. Her family thought she was dead. In eight years, she was only clean for 48 days - having washed out of four drug programs in one year.

When she finally came to us last Easter, she hadn't had a meal in days.

But Michelle is no longer dwelling on the past, she's looking to the new life she has found in Christ. Her life began to change almost instantly!
"What those other programs didn't offer was God. That's what I needed. I really think that if I would not have gotten in this program, I would be dead right now."

Today, Michelle has been sober for eight months. God has totally changed her life. She's reconnected with the family who thought she was dead. And best of all, she's becoming a mother to her children once again.

"I told Alex I was getting baptized because God is my Savior and I'm giving my life to Christ. He told me that he wanted to do the same. He's like, "I love God and we can just get baptized together and start a new life."

That's the transformative power of Easter: the chance at a new life, free from the bondage of addiction and suffering. Michelle well understands the true meaning of Easter,
"I just love Jesus telling us that he loves us at our darkest because I lived many years in a dark, dark world. Just to know that he is there and he loves me that much. Because of this program, He really changed my life. It saved my life. I'm so grateful to be here today. Yeah, I'm a new Christian and it's thanks to this program."

Michelle has Jesus – and you – to thank!



Michelle and her son Alex are thriving in the New Life Program

Help restore lives for just \$2.02!

Did You know?

Stopping the Holiday Trigger

For men staying at the mission while recovering from addictions, holidays like Easter can be a big trigger for relapse. Why? Loneliness. Many have broken family relationships that have not yet been restored; others are living too far away from their family. So instead of being by themselves on Easter and facing that relapse trigger, they are invited into the homes of volunteer families from local churches. We pair two or three men in our New Life Program with a host family, who graciously open their homes and share holiday traditions with them.

The men experience a holiday in a way they've never seen before, and each family is blessed knowing they've made an impact in the lives of hurting men.



New Life Program Participants enjoying a holiday meal in a volunteers home.

Easter is for Children, Too!

Easter isn't just important to adults – it's a time for celebration for our kids, too! This Easter, we'll be having our annual Easter egg hunt at both our Tyler and Adams facilities. Churches and volunteers will be providing Easter baskets, sharing the Easter story of Jesus and giving the children a day to just be kids!



Children at our Adams St. Family Shelter enjoying a visit from the Easter Bunny!



Adams St. Family Campus, 2016 Egg Hunt!

Help us be ready for Easter! Critical Needs List

- Weekday kitchen volunteers
- Easter baskets for the children
- Fresh hams
- Jackets of all sizes
- Blankets & Sleeping bags
- Backpacks for adults
- Coffee & Hot chocolate mix

Our Easter Prayer Requests

Easter is a special time at the Mission - it's one of our biggest service days of the year. Please help us by praying for these special needs:

- Pray that the children at our family facilities will respond to the story of Jesus.
- Pray for those in our recovery programs that are feeling lonely.
- Pray that our outreach will encourage many to seek change.
- Pray for our kitchen staff and volunteers

To join our Prayer Team and receive updates email info@TRM.org!

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www.trm.org

VERSE OF THE MONTH

" Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live . . . " – John 11:25