

Lighthouse

Spring 2025

Changing lives in western Pennsylvania since 1911



God's Timing is Always Perfect

One of the most comforting aspects of God's timing is His ability to provide exactly what we need, precisely when we need it. Time and again, the Bible showcases stories of God's provision coming just in time. Consider the Israelites wandering in the desert. When they needed food, God sent manna from Heaven daily, meeting their needs without fail. Similarly, Elijah, during a drought, was sustained by ravens bringing him food and a widow whose supply of flour and oil miraculously never ran out. These moments remind us that God is never late; His provision is always timely.

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From the President and CEO's Pen

His Plan Always Perfect, His Timing Never Late

When God's timing arrives, it often exceeds our expectations. The doors that open, the connections that form, and the opportunities that arise all come together seamlessly. What's more, the waiting period often equips us with the strength, character, and wisdom needed to step into the blessings fully prepared.

Joseph's story in the Bible is a powerful example. Sold into slavery by his brothers and later imprisoned, Joseph endured years of hardship. Yet, through it all, God was aligning circumstances to elevate him to a position of leadership in Egypt. At the right time, Joseph's trials made sense, and he could look back and see God's hand in every step of the journey. The same is true for the

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missionaries serving here at the City Rescue Mission. Their work often involves moments of waiting, trusting, and enduring challenges. Yet, through their dedication and faith, they witness God's divine alignment in the lives they touch and in the impact of their service. Their perseverance and trust in God's timing remind us that every effort made in love and faith has a purpose in His greater plan.

As you read about the completion of our new Advantage Stay Program Dormitory, it is just another example of God's greater plan. God aligned the funding, the contractors, the resources and space to make it all happen over a one-year span. We continue to see the puzzle assembled by God as we collaborate with local manufacturers to help our men obtain employment through our Job Readiness Program, a model that is working so well that we will be presenting the plan to other gospel rescue missions from across the nation at the Citygate Network Annual Conference in May 2025. Our Community Bridges initiative, a collaboration of agencies designed to support the development of meaningful connections among guests of the Mission and the broader community, is another great example since its inception in late 2022. What started with biweekly visits from a mobile medical unit grew into expanding our street outreach, to the formation of a county homeless taskforce, and most recently the formation of a taskforce with the City of New Castle to focus on joint street outreach starting in the spring of 2025. What an amazing example that we need to continue to trust God's process as he built those connections over the years.

One of the greatest challenges in waiting on God's timing to arrive is the temptation to rush ahead of His timing. However, trusting divine timing requires surrendering control and believing

that God knows what is best. Patience and faith are vital in the process. Waiting for God to align things can be challenging, but it is also an opportunity to grow in faith, patience, and trust. Rest assured that when the time is right, everything will come together in ways that exceed our expectations.

Thank you for supporting the City Rescue Mission. I pray that through

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the years you too have seen how God continues to align things for us to serve Him in ways that exceed expectations. I would like to encourage you once again this year to continue

to support us by giving generously during our Matching Gift Challenge, with our goal to reach a match of \$150,000. Annually, this challenge has provided the resources needed to fund our ministries throughout the summer months. As we continue to navigate through this ministry together, seeing God continue to build connections and opportunities for ministry, let's continue to hold on to hope, knowing that God's plan is always perfect, and His timing is never late.

Jack H. Lynn,
President & CEO

Continued from the cover

At the City Rescue Mission, we once again witnessed God's perfect timing with the renovation of our new Advantage Stay Program dormitory this past November. The Advantage Stay Program is an extended stay program for those men sheltering at the Mission who have employment, with the intention to not only help them save up money to move into independent living, but also receive training, instruction and mentorship through our Job Readiness Program to sustain such employment long-term.



Thanks to a generous grant from the Ellwood City Community Health Foundation, the project was completed right when it was most needed as it provided an additional twelve beds just in time for the cold winter months. This experience reaffirmed that God's hand is in every detail, guiding and providing.

God's timing not only blessed the project's completion but also expanded our ability to serve. The new dormitory also opened up twelve beds in our Crossroads Emergency Shelter, which previously also sheltered our Advantage Stay Program men, allowing us to provide shelter to more homeless men, meeting a growing need in our community. Our Crossroads Emergency Shelter offers a safe, Godly place for men to receive temporary shelter from the streets, access to three hot meals a day and the opportunity to hear of the hope found in a personal relationship with Jesus

Christ. As temperatures dropped to dangerously cold levels during January, more men now had the opportunity to come in off the streets and find a safe and warm place to sleep. This tangible expression of God's provision continues to inspire us to trust in His perfect plan.

We are grateful for God's perfect timing here at the City Rescue Mission. We are also thankful to those who continue to support us not only through financial gifts or through volunteering their time, but who are prayer warriors praying for God's continued provisions. We thank God for providing the tools needed to serve and trust He will continue to do so into the future with perfect timing. As we navigate the call to serve, may we rest in the assurance that God's timing is flawless. His plans are good, His love is unchanging, and His timing—though often mysterious—is always perfect.

Faith and Family

Expanding Your Family Circle

Social worker Alan Naiman worked with families in crisis, served as a foster parent, and was the main caregiver for his developmentally disabled brother. When he died in 2018, Alan left \$11 million to charities that directly meet children's needs.*

Music teacher Jane Kesson left a gift in her will to the Philadelphia Orchestra, an organization she supported for many years. They use that gift to fund teacher workshops and concerts for schoolchildren in honor of Jane.**

Neither Alan nor Jane ever married or had children of their own, which affected the way they approached their estate plans. Without spouses or heirs, they expanded the definition of family to include causes that were important to them—and left legacies that are impacting many beyond their lifetimes.

Married or single, parent or not, you can leave a lasting inheritance through a simple concept known as "Child Called Charity"—adding a ministry you're deeply connected with to your estate plan as one of your heirs. Expand your family circle to make a difference for years to come.

*Source: CNN

**Source: Associated Press



Spring 2025 Wish List

Practical Ways You Can Help

We welcome your donations of the items listed below. Please call **724-652-4321** for drop off instructions and/or directions. Our immediate needs include:

FAMILY CARE MINISTRY

- Canned Meat (Tuna, Chicken, Pork, Beef)
- Soup
- Boxed Mashed Potatoes
- Mac & Cheese
- Canned Pasta
- Rice

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

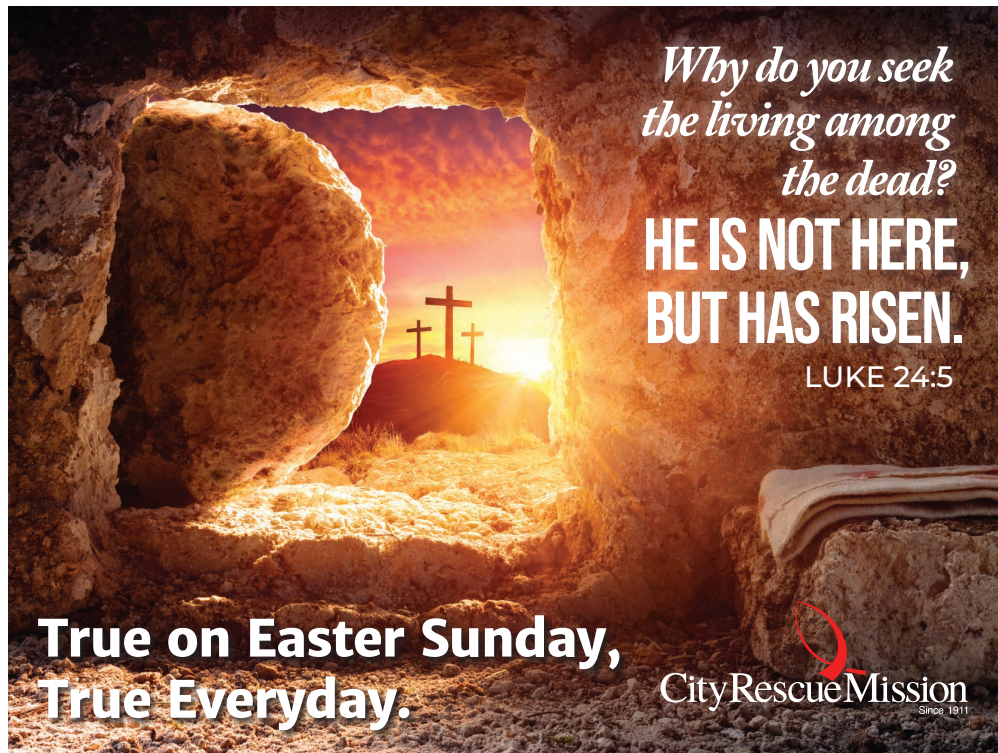
- Various Storage Bags (Freezer, Sandwich, Storage, Etc.)
- Hair Brushes
- Women's Underwear (Sizes 5-8, New)
- Women's Pajamas (M, L, XL)
- Kitchen & Bathroom Cleaner
- Women's Shower Shoes
- Colored Pencils, Markers, Crayons
- AA/AAA Batteries
- Baking Soda

MEN'S MINISTRY

- Jeans (waist 32-40)
- Belts
- Underwear/Boxer Briefs (New and Unopened Size M/L)
- Long Sleeve Shirts
- Sweatshirts
- New/Slightly Used Shoes
- Shower Shoes/Flip-Flops
- Pasta/Noodles (any kind)
- Pasta Sauce
- Ketchup
- Canned Beans
- Canned Fruit
- Cereal
- Bottled Water
- Rice
- \$5 Gift Cards for Men's Recovery Program (Dunkin, Burger King, etc.)

YOUTH MINISTRY

- Capri Sun
- Chips



*Why do you seek
the living among
the dead?*

**HE IS NOT HERE,
BUT HAS RISEN.**

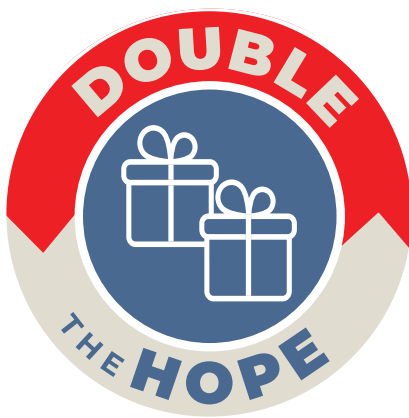
LUKE 24:5

**True on Easter Sunday,
True Everyday.**

City Rescue Mission
Since 1911

\$150,000 Matching Gift Challenge

*In recognition of the Mission's dedication to serving the community,
generous friends have offered to match all gifts received between April 15
through May 31, 2025, dollar for dollar, up to \$150,000!
Help us meet this challenge by donating today!*



Don't Wait. Every dollar
you give will be doubled
to feed and shelter
the homeless.

DONATE NOW and
DOUBLE the **HOPE!**



Physical Address: 319 S. Croton Avenue • New Castle, PA 16101

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 965 • New Castle, PA 16103-0965

724.652.4321 • crm@CityRescueMission.org • Follow us    



The City Rescue Mission is supported by private donations and faithfully demonstrates compliance with ECFA established standards for financial accountability, fundraising and board governance.

The official registration and financial information of the City Rescue Mission of New Castle may be obtained from the PA Department of State by calling toll-free within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

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