



HARBOR LIGHT

Providing a
Beacon of Hope
Through Your
Support!

APRIL 2006

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Your
Support
Keeps
Them
Safe!

*Thank you for rescuing men,
women, and children from the
dangers of poverty and homelessness*



A MOTHER'S HEART

Dear Friend,

A mother's love for her children is a special thing. The old joke is that if your mother is cold, she makes you put on a sweater — because a mother's constant attention is on her children's welfare. For my own children, I pray for health and stability, but most of all I pray that they'll love God first. In fact, Paul's words in Colossians echo my own heart's desire for my children.



Carla Skoglund
Executive Director

It doesn't make a difference whether the mother is rich or poor, she still prays and worries over her children the same way. Here at the Muskegon Rescue Mission, we see hundreds of mothers every year who've lived through poverty, abuse, and many things you and I can only imagine — but their main concern isn't for themselves, it's for their children. If you asked most of the women here why they've sought help, you'd get the same answer, "For my kids."

And, thanks to the Lord's provision through you, we're able to offer comprehensive care to help both mothers and children. Because you support our long-term recovery and life skills programs, the mothers here can learn how to heal from the wounds of the past and create a stable new future, breaking the cycle of poverty and addiction in their children's generation. Your compassion helps them "bear fruit in every good work," and the effects will be felt for decades to come.

Thank you for reaching out to answer the deepest desires of a mother's heart. In this issue of *Harbor Light*, you'll find the story of Tyiesha, who's building a better life for her son because you care. You'll also read about Joe, who found a brand new life at the Muskegon Rescue Mission and is now working to help others do the same! I pray that their stories will inspire you, and show you how your prayers and gifts are strengthening our community by strengthening the weak. May God bless you!

In His Name,

Carla

"...we have not stopped praying for you and asking God to fill you with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding... bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God...."

— Colossians 1:9-10

She's Not Alone Anymore —

Thanks to You!



Tyiesha has been on her own most of her life. She had little support from her family while growing up, and as you can imagine, she soon started seeking it in other places. Unfortunately, that led to a pregnancy in high school, and more disapproval from her family.

Seven years later, her son was the joy of her life, but other things weren't going so well. She'd lost her job and was struggling to keep a roof over their heads. Hoping to find a solution, she moved in with her sister, but once again found no support in her family.

This time, instead of looking to another relationship, Tyiesha decided to try something else. She'd heard that the Muskegon Rescue Mission offered shelter and care for women in her position, and she came to us.

Through the generosity of friends like you, we had a place for Tyiesha and her young son. She was expecting food and shelter — but she found so much more! “Everybody makes you feel like family,” she says. “It’s nice to know that someone cares.”

For the first time, with the help of our caring community, Tyiesha has the emotional support she needs to grow and heal. Her son is also making new friends and blossoming in the positive environment. He’s getting tutoring for school, and enjoying the love of our staff.

Tyiesha has been learning how to find the lasting support she needs through a close relationship with Jesus Christ. Her motto now is, “Let God lead the way.” Building on the stability she’s found here, she’s focusing on making a home for herself and her son. She’s searching for a new job, and will soon have her own apartment. She has also joined a church, who will be her Christian family.

By praying and giving to support the Muskegon Rescue Mission, you’re bringing new stability and hope to women like Tyiesha. As an extra blessing, you’re helping to break the cycle of homelessness by helping less fortunate moms build safe futures for their children. Thank you for reaching out to hundreds of needy families with the compassionate care that leads to new life!

Thank You for Keeping Them Safe!

For the homeless, life can be dangerous. Out on the streets, they're vulnerable to the weather and to crime. Through your support of the Muskegon Rescue Mission, we're able to bring hundreds of people in off the streets every year — and not just for one night, but forever. By giving to our recovery and life skills programs, you help them leave homelessness behind completely. Thank you for your generosity!



Since January, we've seen an increase in the number of men in our Discipleship Program! As a faithful supporter, you know that Jesus and His saving hope are the firm foundations of our outreach. Your prayers and gifts help us guide our residents towards a fuller, more abundant life in Christ.



During those frigid Michigan winter months, our Emergency Shelter was at capacity, and because of caring friends like you, we could feed and house those who came to us. Thank you for enabling us to serve over 250 meals a day... because you know, long-term recovery often begins with just one meal!



Unfortunately, many area families can't afford both the rent and groceries, but at the Mission's Food Pantry, they find encouragement and a way to stretch their paychecks. Through generous donations, we can offer nutritious food to needy families. Because you care, God uses the Food Pantry to heal and sustain more hurting lives.



Muskegon High School Freshman DeAngelo Jones is a familiar, friendly face at the Mission. He started volunteering to fulfill his school's Community Service credit, but by now, he's certainly surpassed the requirement. "I like making a difference, and it's enjoyable," DeAngelo says of his work — and he helps out with just about anything around the Mission. Thanks to all our volunteers like DeAngelo who serve as the hands and feet of Jesus!



Campfires. Hikes. Mosquitoes. Giggling. Sing-alongs.

Remember all the fun of summer camp? Those shining hot days and humid nights of sparkling stars were made for kids...but sadly, not all kids get to enjoy summer fun.

You can change that. This summer, you can give a needy child all the excitement of summer camp. With the help of friends like you, we will send more than 70 kids to camps in Western Michigan.

These kids deserve a memorable week at camp, full of fun activities and God's love. All of them either live at the Mission now or have been there in the past two years, and that means that they've lived through extreme poverty and homelessness.

Your support will not only send children to a Christian camp, it will also provide all the important camp gear. You can help make this summer the best ever by donating:

- Sleeping bags
- Beach towels
- Sturdy shoes
- Small suitcases
- Children's Bibles
- Swimsuits

If you, your church, or your business would like to donate any of these items, please drop them off at the Mission by June 9th!

Special Needs

Your gifts of day-to-day items are always appreciated. To help you in your giving, below is a list of some of our most urgent needs. Right now, we especially need items that can't be bought with food stamps:

- Cleaning products
- Paper towels
- Dish detergent
- Toilet paper
- Personal hygiene products

Fore!

Sign up now for the 9th Annual Golf with a Mission

Save the date — **September 18, 2006.** That's the day full of golf, fun, fellowship, and even some surprises. Best of all, the money raised from **Golf with a Mission** will go straight to caring for the needy in our area! Visit www.muskegonmission.org for information and registration, or call us at (231) 727-6090.

Welcoming a New Face

Please join us in welcoming Katie Williams to our staff as the new Social Worker at our Women's and Children's Shelter. Katie has a true heart to serve the homeless, and comes to us from Indianapolis where she was working with mentally ill homeless adults.

"Hope is the biggest thing we can provide to the women here; that God is there, that He loves you, and that He has a plan for you," Katie says. As you know, Jesus Christ is the true foundation for a better life, and Katie's goal is to share Christ's love with each and every woman who comes to us, no matter how long she stays. It's exciting for her to see a woman come in with no hope and no self-esteem, and then, through the programs you support, learn to be successful and self-supporting.

We're grateful to have Katie's willing heart and love of service on our staff!



Prayers & Praise

Your prayers and praise to God are greatly appreciated by all of us at the Mission. Please keep the following requests wherever you pray. Thanks for interceding on behalf of those in need!

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- the kids we will send to summer camp
- God to provide for our summer finances
- all the men and women who are staying in our shelters right now

PRaise GOD FOR:

- the increased number of men in our Discipleship Program
- the men, women, and children staying with us who heard of Jesus' sacrifice for them at Easter

Our Prayer & Praise time is each Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. Everyone is encouraged to join us!

MEMORIAL &

Our heartfelt sympathy and prayers are with the family and friends of those remembered below. These gifts are a special legacy offering hope to those in need.

IN MEMORY OF:

(gifts received 12/14/2005 — 3/3/2006)

Cleo Anderson

Elsie Mattison
James & Doris Goudzwaard

Carol Augustin

David & Barbara Klug

Mary Ann Bisson

St. Jean's Class of 1950:
Rose Sesselman
Pat Panyard
Marian Neumann
Nancy & Terry Ross
Peg McCabe

Curtis Bolema

Sharon J. Bolema

Larry R. Bolema

Patricia Bolema

Harold J. Bond

Marianne Kempf

Mr. & Mrs. Harold W. Bond

Marianne Kempf

Wesley Borgeson

Tim & Anne Erickson

Edna Brown

Janice Agard

Marilyn Byrnes

Albert & Doris Cwiakala

Margaretha "Peg" Campbell

Norman & Maureen Campbell

Rev. David O. Carlson

Robert & Gloria Carlson

Larry Carroll

Brian & Patty Dodge

Marjorie E. Castonia

Douglas & Kathy Harris

Richard Close

Bernice Daniels

Robert Collinge

Donna Collinge Martens

R. Stuart Cooper

Judy & Joel Schuitema
Anne Pelon
David & Barbara Klug
Vern & Ruth Meeuwenberg
Donnelise Benjamin

Jean W. Coston

Marianne & George Swick
Tom & Loretta Sieffert
Paul & Elaine Carsok
Carol Workman
Fred & Jane Kruse
James & Marie Austin
Marsha Marek
Margaret Alexander
Bette Vanderwerp
Muskegon Heights Educational Assoc.

Harold Deur

Minnie Barding

Fred & Erma DeVries

Dave & Donna Kooi

Elfreda Dodge

Brian & Patty Dodge

Connie Dornbos

David & Barbara Klug

Myra J. Douglas

Jim & Bonnie Watson
Iva Watson
Arland & Jean Schultz
The Hornacek Family
Betty Herrin
Ed & Kathy Sanka
Paul & Penny Carlson
Bob & Bert Cain
Lew & Nita Rousell
Charles D. Hammond Lodge 99
F.O.P.
Alma Evoy
Frank & Susan Bednarek
Bessie & Edgar Phifer
Marcia Watson
Wilma & Al Mau
Nelle Jean Derington
Jim & Joan Deters
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Albright
Don & Mary Ann Wallace
The Crafton Family

Ottillie Eckoff

Carolyn Bickmeyer

Amy Archer Ferris

Sally Seifers

Bill Galy

Joe & Sandy Galy

John M. Gawron

Gary & Mary Jeanne Silvis
Pat & Julie Mason
Charles & Rosemary Cleveland
David & Marguerite Gawron
Bob & Brenda Huizenga

Jean Gleason

Margaret Pressey

Geneva H. Grandjean

Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Williams & Family
Bill & Carole Tripp
Jan & Jim Thornton
Mark & Jodie Pulsipher
Joe & Nancy Kimble
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Hammitt
Wallace & Angie Genter
Larry & Diane Ferguson
Jim & Sandy Fuller
Darcy & Ben Fekken
Beverly Bos
Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Boersema
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Boersema & Family
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Black & Family
Mr. & Mrs. Dave Armon & Family
Robert & Clarise Scanlon
Carol L. Cole
Richard & Donna Stevens

Helen A. Grevel

Marie Bouwman
Regina (Jean) Butler
Don & Margaret Cook
Dan & Darleen Houle
Jacque & Pat Crevier
Katie DeYoung
Thelma & Jim Duff
Mark & Nick DykemaWayne & Eve Funderburg
Mr. & Mrs. W. Genter
Harriet Hamm
Alex & Arloa Hoeker
Dave Kieft
Ralph & Judy Kotecki
The Lauterberg Family

continued...

IN HONOR OF GIFTS

- Nellie Luhman
Christian Women's Golf League
Bill & Sharon Sanders & Family
Bill & Jean Sanders
Grevel Grandchildren & Great-grandchildren
Jan & Jim Thornton
Mr. & Mrs. Al Savickas
Craig & Coreen Porter
Della Cramer
Mr. & Mrs. Michael A. Savickas
Jack H. & Mary Jo Grevel
Walter & Peggy Goetz
Peter & Nancy Bozeman
Mary & Charlie Barker
Paul & Jean Becker
Mr. & Mrs. James Bozeman
Walter & Peggy Goetz
- Doris Griffith**
Grace Community Baptist Church
- Gladys Gust**
Janice Agard
- Anna Gustafson**
Jim & Gerry Collins
Rich & Carla Skoglund
Ronald & Florence Carlson
Ruth & Harold Workman
Robert Sterritt
LaBelle Pothoff
- LaVina Hansen**
Bob & Shirley Mergan
Jim & Gerry Collins
Rich & Carla Skoglund
- David Hickman**
Ilah Hickman
- Evelyn Hoebeke**
Beverly Walhout
Shirley VanHees
Lillian VandenBerg
Dorothea Ruitter
Tom Holtrop
Phil & Marie Holtrop
Crystal Holtrop
George & Elaine Harper
Willie & Donna Bishop
Jackie Stark
- Mr. & Mrs. Henry Hoebeke**
Wilma Jeanne Swartz
- Barb Homan**
Douglas & Kathy Harris
- Dr. Ronald Hunt**
David & Nancy Price
- Roger Hutchins**
Jordis Hutchins
- Kathryn Johnson**
Undine Bassett
- Martha Johnson**
Ellen Rockwood
Clavera VanderWall
- Robert H. Johnson**
Jim & Jo Vander Weele
- Christine, John & Sam Kadelsik**
John Kadelsik, Jr.
- Norman Koenigseker**
Mr. & Mrs. Irvin Holdgreve
- Jean Huizenga Korndorfer**
Ole & Dolores Olsen
- Jack Lamb**
Joe & Sandy Galy
- Helen Lauterberg**
Joyce Gervais
- Walter J. Lucken**
Maureen Hall
- William J. Luhman**
Marsha Marek
- Robert L. Lutz**
Thomas Montambo
- Sylvia Maatman**
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Doug & Deb Teuling
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- Sonia Pajian**
Marie Papanek
- Lillian Percy**
Patricia & Robert Evans
- John Pelon**
Anne Pelon
- Roger Peterson**
Mildred Peterson
- Henrietta Porter**
Janice Agard
- Donald Ritter, Sr.**
Jim & Doris Goudzwaard
- Martin Russo, Sr.**
Friends & Colleagues at Hackley Community Care Center
Robin Hepler
Diane Anderson
Nancy Weller
- Lynn R. Sanderson**
Harlan & Joyce Hansen
- James A. Schillaci**
Henry & Judi Schillaci
Jim & Sue Launstein
Louis & Terrie Philip
Howmet Corp. Plant 3 Wax Dept.
George Drost
Dick & Doug Davies
Ronard & Carol Schaadt
Briekley DeLong, PLC
White Lake Golf Club
Steve Kutches
- Peter F. Schuitema**
Linda VanDyke
Elaine VanderWier
XYZ c/o James Bos
Larry & Bonnie Vanderlaan
Jean Vandenberg
Dan & Carol Springstead
Mel & Eunice Meeuwenberg
Cal & Joyce Vanderlaan
Markie Mellema
Anonymous
Vern & Ruth Meeuwenberg
Al & Elaine McCulloch
Jacquelyn Kocher
- Art & Linda Katz
Ken & Jill Craigie
Max & Jennifer Gamble
Gerald & Joyce Hazekamp
Charles Hazekamp
Bruce & Ruth Ann Field
Tim & Darae Erickson
Gerald & Agnes Duiser
Bill & Rachel DeBoer
Frank & Hermie DeBoer
Bob & Mary Buit
Jim & Gen Bos
Jerry & Betty Heykoop
- Ray Schutter**
Kent & Shari Schutter
- Regina Scott**
Ken & Ruth Chaney
- D. Slocum**
Marie Papanek
- Irma St. Amour**
Ray & Lois St. Amour
Dorothy St. Amour
Gayle St. Amour
Pam St. Amour-Rogoski
Cheryl Arter
Karen Schulz
Marilyn & Jack Brown
Julie Vanderboegh
Motor Coach Industries, Inc.
- Ernest G. Stel**
Dolores Millis
- Allan Swartz**
Wilma J. Swartz
- Henry "Clay" Tellman**
Marjorie Horness
- Andy Terres**
Bette Vanderwerp
- Geraldine Veverica**
Ann Balcom
Marie Papanek
- Harry Vledder**
Gayle, John, Lindsay & Nick Jones
- Henry Walcott**
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Niemeyer
- Louise Weesies**
Jim & Pam Kortman
- Evelyn D. Wilke**
Douglas & Kathy Harris
- Maxine Wolters**
Tom & Joy Wolters
- Robert Carlson**
Bette Carlson
- NancyEllen Legatz**
Marcia Hovey-Wright
- Tom Shepherd**
Mark & Tina Root
- Gerald Westgate**
Employees of Wesco, Inc.
- Mike & Maranda Woolf**
Ron & Jean Vellenga
- Mr. & Mrs. Donald Ulrich**
- Mr. & Mrs. Steve Garvey**
- Mr. & Mrs. Robert Lee**
Dolores Anderson
- Katherine Holwerda**
Grandchildren Todd, Laura, Megan, Nathan & Matthew
- Barbara Pettis**
Teachers at Oakview School
- Muskegon Rescue Mission Staff**
Leila Reynolds
- Anniversary**
- Ernie & Joanne Webber**
Tom & Cynthia Johnson
- Harold & Shirley VanEtten**
Denise Erickson
- Birthdays**
- Bette Carlson**
Robert & Gloria Carlson
- Tina Grove**
Sandy Hosko

Do you have a relative or friend you would like to honor? A gift to Muskegon Rescue Mission is an ideal way to remember a birthday, anniversary or other special occasion, or to acknowledge a loved one while at the same time helping those in need.

IN HONOR OF:

(gifts received 9/9/2005 — 12/9/2005)

- Christmas**
- Fran & Pat Reminder**
Children & Grandchildren
- Robert & Kathy Cloutier**
Robert & Alice Cloutier
- Vicki Broge**
Lyle & Ann Smith
Monique VanEpps
Penny Loeb
- John & Sue Sytsema**
Employees of Sytsema Funeral Homes
- Tim & Melody Thielbar**
Doug & Carole Fuhr
- Kevin Hudson**
Kids & Grandkids
- Myra J. Douglas**
Billy & Constance Crafton

When you send your memorial or in honor of gift to the Muskegon Rescue Mission, you will receive a tax-deductible receipt and a card will be mailed promptly to the bereaved family or the friend being honored, telling them of your gift.

Please mail your memorial and in honor of gifts to:

Muskegon Rescue Mission
1691 Peck Street
Muskegon, MI 49441



Mark Your Calendar!

Phillips, Craig & Dean Concert to Benefit the Mission, April 20

On April 20, Dove Award-winning singers

Phillips, Craig & Dean will give a benefit concert for the Muskegon Rescue Mission at the Muskegon Frauenthal Theater. There's still time to purchase your tickets (\$15-\$20 each) by visiting any StarticketsPlus location, including Hage's Christian Supplies and most Meijer locations, or by visiting the Frauenthal box office. You can also purchase tickets online through our website, www.muskegonmission.org. We'd love to see you there!

Your Support Takes Men from

Despair to Hope!



“If you had told me 18 years ago that instead of being in jail, I’d be teaching Bible studies at the Rescue Mission, I wouldn’t have believed you.”

Joe’s first experience with jail was from the inside. At first, alcohol was recreation, a drink or two now and then. Later, it was a necessity; drinking every day was a normal way of life. By the mid-80’s, it was an obsession, and he began getting in trouble with the law for being drunk and disorderly.

Realizing he needed real help, Joe came to the Muskegon Rescue Mission on October 29, 1988. “Here I am,” he said to himself, “it’s my 40th birthday, and I’m at a Mission.” But while most people would think of that as the end of the road, Joe took the opportunity our recovery programs offered and turned his life around completely.

Today, Joe is an ordained minister, and pastor of a small church. He is also our Director of Men’s Ministry and Facilities, and his special calling is to help men struggling with addiction as he once did.

When Joe first came to us, most of the men at the Muskegon Rescue Mission were older and dealing with alcoholism. Now, we see young men fresh out of high school with their lives already torn apart by hard drugs like crack cocaine. Our hearts break for them. “They have their whole lives ahead of them,” Joe says. “I talk one on one with each guy that comes in. I can relate to these guys. I know what it’s like to sleep in cars and walk the streets.”

Most of the men who turn to us for help say, “I never thought I’d end up in a Rescue Mission.”

Because Joe has been in their shoes, he’s able to say, “I thought the same thing, but this could turn your life around. God turned my life around.” The verse he most likes to share with them is Romans 8:28, “And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose” (NIV).

Since 1907, caring community partners like you have given thousands of men like Joe the opportunity for new life at the Muskegon Rescue Mission. And as you can see, it’s made a lasting difference, as the men not only experience change in their own lives, but go on to share what they’ve learned with others. Thank you for generously supporting the programs and services we provide, and making a difference every day!



Muskegon Rescue Mission

Redeem. Restore. Rebuild.



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Muskegon, MI 49441

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FAX (231) 722-7030

www.muskegonmission.org
rescue@muskegonmission.org

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