

# HARBOR LIGHT

Providing a  
Beacon of Hope  
Through Your  
Support!

AUGUST 2005

VOL. 5 • ISSUE 3

***YOUR GIFTS  
Change Lives  
In Our  
Community!***

***INSIDE:  
Men, women and  
children have the  
food, shelter and  
care they need.***



# THE CHILDREN OF HOMELESS PARENTS



**Carla Skoglund**  
**Executive Director**

Dear Friend,

When we think of “homelessness,” we often envision unkempt men and women huddled into a doorway, covered by a dingy blanket. Some of them have bags of “stuff” nearby—possibly holding all the possessions they own.

But if we envision homelessness in only this way, we miss a rapidly growing and very needy segment of the homeless population in West Michigan: the children of homeless parents. They’re nearly invisible. Their voices are rarely heard. Yet their needs run deep.

At the Muskegon Rescue Mission, these hurting children are extremely important to us. Because children don’t have the ability to change their circumstances the way adult men and women do, we must care for them. If their parents or guardians cannot, God has called us to step in and help.

Thanks to your gracious support, we’re able to answer God’s call in our community. We work very hard to meet any individual child’s needs. We also remain in touch with the children we’ve served and continue to reach out to them after they’ve left the Mission. And last year, alone, you helped us provide more than 40 kids with a positive summer camp experience.

The comfort and security that your gifts help provide are truly essential to children’s lives. So many of them move from place to place and have no permanent residence to call home. But God works through friends like you to give them a home with us. They have plenty of breakfast available each morning, receive new clothes as they head back to school, sleep peacefully in a warm, safe bed, and can even go out to our playground to have fun.

As we help moms and dads piece their broken lives back together, please continue to help us serve their children with all the love and compassion we can share. Thank you for your generosity and for loving the little children, just as Christ has called us to do.

In His Name,

*Carla*

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# YOU'VE GIVEN HIM HOPE FOR THE FUTURE!

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**K**evin's past is full of hardship, disappointment and harsh consequences for poor choices he's made.

If anyone could be without hope, it's him. But, thankfully, God placed in Kevin's life two men who shared God's Word with him and invited him to participate in our men's program.

When Kevin was born, he was taken from his mother, who didn't want him, and immediately placed in homes. "My family wasn't really too much into me when I was little," Kevin sadly remembers. As he was growing up, Kevin was able to visit his aunt on the weekends, but he didn't have any stability or parenting to model good decisions and behavior.

As so many kids without a consistent home life do, Kevin rebelled. He ran away, got involved in theft and eventually drugs and alcohol. When he turned 14, he was sent to a juvenile detention center to receive proper discipline. Once he got out, life was just a series of similar events. Getting into trouble. Getting caught. Getting punished.

It wasn't until Kevin was sitting in a park in Muskegon, meeting with a staff member of the Mission that he began to think of new possibilities for his life. He knew he had mostly done the wrong things in life, but as Mike shared Scriptures with him, Kevin began to see his life in a new way. Instead of thinking he would just mess up over and over again, this time, he decided to allow God to work in his life.

Kevin arrived early this past May, and is so excited to receive guidance in doing the right thing. Already, those of his family members he keeps in touch with have noticed a change in Kevin's life. "You've changed," they say," Kevin tells us. "They notice that I'm calmer and relaxed and are happy that I am here."

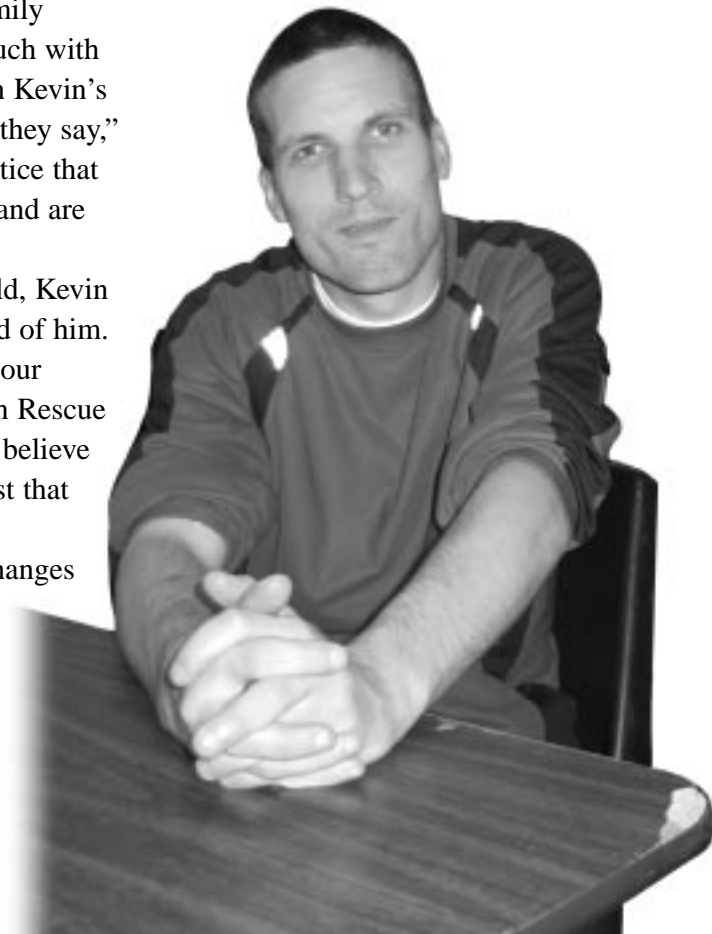
At just thirty years old, Kevin has a lot of his life ahead of him. He's very grateful that your support of the Muskegon Rescue Mission has helped him believe in himself again and trust that his life can change.

One of the biggest changes

Kevin has experienced is the ability to forgive his family for abandoning him as a child. "For the longest time, I couldn't do it," he admits. "But when I turned to God, I forgave my family.

"I think every day, 'What would I do without this place? What would I do?'" And thanks to your kindness, he doesn't have to answer that question. Please continue praying for Kevin as he grows and implements changes in his life. Your support has truly given him hope for a brand new life ahead.

**"I think every day, 'What would I do without this place? What would I do?'"  
And thanks to your kindness, Kevin doesn't have to answer that question.**



# THANKS FOR SHOWING THE HOMELESS GOD'S LOVE

*If you've ever heard of "love languages," you know that most people receive and understand love in different ways. But, time and time again, when hurting men, women and children come to the Mission, they see love displayed through your gracious gifts.*

*You help us provide them with nutritious meals, safe shelter and even life-changing experiences like summer camp for kids.*

*Thank you for demonstrating through your service and gifts that you care for our hurting friends and neighbors in West Michigan. Through you, they see the love of Jesus Christ!*



Teaching men in our recovery program the value of hard work and service is important to us. Our guests and volunteers help keep our shelves stocked and organized with canned goods which we use for meals at the Mission and distribute to families in the community.



## Summer Camp!

Camp is for summer and summer is for kids! And thanks to you, we were able to help over 60 kids from our shelter have fun at summer camp. Please pray for the children at the Mission to continue growing in their understanding of God's great love for them.



## 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. Thank you for helping!*

- Soups
- Peanut Butter
- Tuna
- Canned Fruit
- Cereal
- Undergarments (men's & women's)
- Personal Care Items (men's & women's)



As unemployment rates are rising in our community, each month, we see more men, women and children in our shelter than the last. Thanks for helping us provide them with daily shelter and meals as they get back on their feet again.

## The Beauty Within

We recently held a special luncheon for the women staying at the Mission. It was a wonderful time of celebration, as each woman wore a beautiful dress or gown, enjoyed an elegant meal, participated in meaningful worship and received an encouraging message from Rev. Yvette. What a delight to see them enjoy the day and be reminded of how very beautiful they are in God's eyes. Special thanks to Cooper-Moore for donating flowers, RTBC for donating attire and for everyone who helped make this event such a wonderful experience.



# MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- **August 11–13**

Enjoy a wonderful time of worship and fellowship at the *Unity Christian Music Festival* held at Heritage Landing in Muskegon. For more information, visit [www.aliveonthe.lakeshore.gospelcom.net](http://www.aliveonthe.lakeshore.gospelcom.net).

- **September 8, 1 p.m.**

This is a reminder that the *8th annual Muskegon Rescue Mission golf outing* will be at Grand Haven Golf Club. Many have already signed up their foursome, so don't forget to get your team together, too! To register for this fun event that helps the homeless, please call Kelly Banks at (231) 727-6090!

- **October 2, 1 p.m. registration, 2 p.m. worship, 3 p.m. walk begins**

Our annual *Crop Walk* is coming up at the beginning of October. For more information on helping to prevent hunger through the Crop Walk, please call Mary Beth Werner at (231) 755-0434!



- **October 17, 6 p.m.**

You're invited to our *Praise 99 Celebration Banquet* to kick off our 99th year of ministry. The banquet will take place at First Baptist Church at 1070 S. Quarterline. We would love to see all of our partners in ministry there! To RSVP, please call Kelly Banks at (231) 727-6090.

## A Young Generation of Servants!

Thank you to **Girl Scout Troop 64** from Oakridge Upper Elementary School who worked 14 hours on May 21 to **refresh the landscaping around our women's shelter**. The flowers, ornaments and grass brighten the shelter and look beautiful. A special thanks to Great Lakes Nursery & Soil for donating soil, wood chips and mulch to the Girl Scouts and the Muskegon Rescue Mission.



Thanks also to some very generous

6th graders and their teachers at **Nellie B. Chisholm Middle School** in Montague. Their **2005 Penny War** raised \$2,676.75 for Muskegon Rescue Mission camp scholarships. The kids had a wonderful time competing against one another and learned valuable lessons in helping the less fortunate in our community. Thanks to all the teachers who, as we hear, were wonderful "instigators" in raising money for the Penny War!

## ANNOUNCING OUR NEW STORE OPENING!

On June 1, we opened our second Rescued Treasures store in the Glenside shopping center at the corner of Sherman Ave. and Wickham Dr. in the Norton Shores area. Our new site boasts 6,000 square feet, allowing us to greatly expand our store ministry. Please visit our new location to check out our latest bargains, visit our prayer corner, and learn more about the Muskegon Rescue Mission!

# IN MEMORY

*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 February 26 to June 3, 2005)*

**Mildred K. Anderson**  
Irene Woodrow

**Terry Banta**  
Winki & Jaime Jepsen

**Jim Berghuis**  
Mrs. N. and Family

**Lavonne Blanchette**  
Gloria Corpe

**Bob Bolema**  
**Jacob & Bertha Bolema**  
Joanne Bolema & Family

**Larry R. Bolema**  
Patricia Bolema

**Mary Boot**  
Joanne Bolema & Family  
Grace DeVries  
Ethel Nobel  
Mrs. Jack R. Bolema

**Wesley DeLong**  
Minnie DeLong

**Kenneth Dodge**  
Brian & Patty Dodge

**Connie Dornbos**  
Jim & Adele Bozeman  
Della Z. Cramer  
Paul & Jean Becker  
Dan & Pam Millhisler

**Jim & June Ernvall**  
Jack & Julie Timmer

**William "Bill" Galy**  
Gary & Cindy Weberg  
Elaine Brevick

**Shirley Garazaglia**  
Marie Papanek

**Myrt Green**  
Angie Schuitema

**Marian Gundersen**  
Marie Papanek

**Goldie Harper**  
Howard & Dorrie Eggleton

**William Harris**  
Jan & Larry Dobb

**Mr. & Mrs. Abe Hartsema, Sr.**  
Mr. & Mrs. Julius Hartsema

**David Hickman**  
Ilah Hickman

**Constance "Connie" Hillstead**  
Bert & Marilyn Bowen

**Gordon Hoffman**  
James & Doris Goudzwaard

**Andeen Hollenbeck**  
Catherine Lindrup

**Cecelia Jensen**  
The Mark Bradford Family  
Bill & Mary Bradford

**Beverly J. Jessen**  
Lew & Nita Rousell  
Crystal Holtrop

**John R. Kieft**  
Gloria Corpe  
Parkside Alliance Church  
Ted & Dee Ankeny  
Werner & Barbara Meister  
Wayne & Mary Erickson  
Ronald & Dorah Braak  
Ann VanOrman

**Kerrill King**  
Janice Agard

**Joseph & Cora Lager**  
**Norman Lager**  
Joanne Bolema & Family

**Shirley Larson**  
Thomas Montambo

**Henrietta Lewis**  
Catherine Butterfield

**Henry J. Lohman**  
Harold & Sharon Bluhm  
Betty Hall Family  
Kathleen Murphy  
Lee & Molly Smith  
Eleanor & Chris Donley  
Kathleen Neal

**Ella Martin**  
Nancy Ellen Legatz  
Peggy Jensen  
Gerald Nehra  
Dolores Millis

**John McGee**  
Ruth Anderson

**Robert "Bob" McCartney**  
Bill & Mary Jane Cook  
Sue McIntyre

**Rose McNarland**  
Nancy Johnston

**John Medendorp**  
Minnie DeLong

**Mary M. Miller**  
Bob & Peg Forrester  
Etta Bell

**Howard B. Morris**  
Park & Kacey Kersman

**Carol Mullally**  
Jack & Eva Ortuquist  
Tom & Kay Anderson  
Jim & Doris Goudzwaard  
Catherine Lindrup  
Ben & Penny Loeb

Tom & Cheryl Lohman  
Neil & Diane Mullally  
Ron & Linda Wabel

**James R. Newald**  
Charles & Beverly Baker  
Randall & Sally Seifers, Jr.  
Howard & Carol Burgess

**Angie Palsrok**  
Harvey & Lois Wierenga

**Susan Ritter Puls**  
Carl & Sharlynn Fuller  
Jessica Puls

**Lester Radel**  
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Webber

**Larry Radke**  
Thomas Montambo

**Carol Rasey**  
Catherine Lindrup

**Dr. Maynard Roat**  
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Poulson  
Harvey & Elizabeth Waite  
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Roat  
Barbara Hale  
Raymond & Madelyn Hanslits

**Elaine Roberson**  
Janice Agard

**Joyce Rodrigues**  
Greg & Vicki McPherson

**Joe Schurino**  
Mr. & Mrs. Roy Symons

**Johanna Scofield**  
Bernadine Woods

**Donald Seislove**  
Irvin & Janet Holdgreve

**Orin Sheffield**  
Claude & Ella Karel

**Monica Shetterly**  
Edward Shetterly

**Agnes M. Shoup**  
Lew & Nita Rousell

**Judy Slezak**  
Marie Papanek

**Donald A. Smith**  
Harold & Donna Seeger  
Grand Children & Great Grandchildren  
Dale & Margaret Wright  
Larry & Sally Butler  
Frank & Vera Wikander  
Sheri Olson  
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Foley  
Lawrence & Georgia Buteyn  
Eugene & Daughn Butler  
Mrs. Charles DeWald, Sr.  
Margaret Elenbaas  
Dick & Pat Flickema  
Dave & Barb Kendall  
Evelyn Malmstrom  
Estelle Plichta  
Alberta Studier  
Frank & Jeanne Wainwright  
Roger & Dorris Zwart

**Marjorie Stenholm**  
Lew & Nita Rousell

**Henry Sugarbaker**  
Ethel Nobel  
Richard Sieplinga

**Al Swartz**  
Don & Millie Roelofs

**Lorraine Temple**  
Jim & Darlene Temple

**Charles Toppen**  
Ethel Nobel  
Marguerite Wells  
Bill & Patty Tilton  
George Gimakas  
Nancy Bunks

**Grace K. Urcavich**  
Kainay Comm. Church  
Tues. Night Men's Group  
Steve & Kathy Calaway  
Craig & Pamela Charlier  
Kerry & Karen Gille  
Jim & Rhonda Halron  
Aaron & Linde Kampman  
Frank & Char Meshigaud  
Joe & Arlis Urcavich  
Tom & Nancy Spaman  
Simmi Mosier  
Jackie Stark  
Rollie & Bea Smith  
Tracy & Marcia Pastoor  
Tom & Renee Pastoor  
Todd Pastoor  
Tim & Cindy Pastoor  
Terry Pastoor  
Ted & Gail Pastoor  
Art & Delores Burkall  
Marvin & Bonnie Lund

**David VanBlargan**  
Linda D. Brenning

**Irvin VanderMeiden**  
Richard & Diane VanderMeiden  
Robert & Nancy Tysman  
Vernon & Jean Pouch  
Lorraine Porenta  
Frank Holtrop  
George W. Hansen  
Anonymous

**Marjorie VanDuinen**  
Randy & Rhonda Crawford

**Amert Varner**  
Joe & Sandy Galy

**Ajax "Rudy" Vartanian**  
Thomas R. Wright  
Wes & Connie Wiethoff  
Mike & Ann Siakel

**Joe Vledder**  
Clarence & Jo Ann Ritsema

**Arthur Wattrick**  
Ida Schecter  
Cleomae Koekkoek

**Bud Westgate**  
Ace Heating & Cooling

**Clarence Workman**  
Ruth Workman

*Do you have a relative or friend you would like to honor? A gift to the 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 February 26 to June 3, 2005)*

**Elsie Beebe**  
Paul & Penny Carlson

**Jack & Mary Butterick**  
(Friendship Appreciation)  
Bob & Joan Jansma

**Mrs. Henrietta Cochran's 95<sup>th</sup> Birthday**  
Rodger & Joan Nelson  
Paul & Karen Bolhuis

**Jane Timmer Foupht**  
(Mother's Day)  
Jack & Julie Timmer

**Barbara Pettis**  
(Secretary's Day)  
Oakview Elementary School

**Arnold & Pearl Vanderlaan's Wedding Anniversary**  
Norman & Nella Boeve

## PRAYER & PRAISE

**We are grateful for your prayers, which lift this ministry up and help us meet many needs!**

### PLEASE PRAY:

- For the Women's and Men's Discipleship Program
- For all of our guests staying with us at this time
- For all the processes involved in getting our new store open and running
- For Precious (our Muskegon High School student intern) as she graduates, that she will be surrounded by those who love the Lord

### PRAISE GOD:

- For our Children's Ministry summer intern
- For Wayne Blanchette and his healthy recovery

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

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

# She Always Knew Your Help Was Here!

**M**ichelle grew up in Muskegon and knew about the Muskegon Rescue Mission. She thought of it as a place people go when they need help, but never envisioned she would be the one who needed to go. But when Michelle was seven months pregnant with her youngest of three sons and her boyfriend ran off with her money, the plans she had of building a family and living in their newly rented home were ruined.

Michelle didn't have any family members who could help her either. Her mom had passed away when she was just eleven and she didn't know where her father was. So Michelle and her boys, 11, 9 and her newborn, moved from place to place, staying with friends who were kind enough to open their home to her family.

As you can imagine, it was quite difficult for Michelle to move her family around time and time again. Finally, she didn't have any other options aside from coming

to the Muskegon Rescue Mission. And we're glad she did.

God's provision through your generous support ensures that we are open for women like Michelle who need a temporary place to get their lives in order and provide stability for their family.

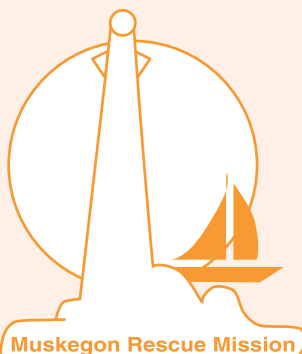
Michelle's sons are fed each day and they can sleep in the same bed

night after night here as Michelle recovers from the financial and emotional hardships she's faced. You've given her a place where she can focus on looking for permanent employment and also find affordable housing for her family.

Since Michelle has arrived, she has found both! A friend offered Michelle a position at her new daycare center, where she can also take her children for the day. Plus, she found an apartment next door to work. She says, "It's as if God had it waiting there just for me."

As Michelle shares, "The Mission has helped me have peace with my situation." At a time when she was looking for help, the Mission she always knew about, but never thought she'd need, was here.

On behalf of the families your compassion supports, thank you. It's a joy to serve our community with you and help women like Michelle get back on their feet again!



## Muskegon Rescue Mission

1691 Peck Street  
Muskegon, MI 49441

TEL (231) 727-6090  
FAX (231) 722-7030

[www.muskegonmission.org](http://www.muskegonmission.org)  
[rescue@muskegonmission.org](mailto:rescue@muskegonmission.org)



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