

THE central union MISSION Missionary

July 2018

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*No one
should live
hungry and
homeless*

Letting God Help

by Scott E. Moore, Jr., BA

I GREW UP MIDDLE CLASS, one of five children, in Poughkeepsie, NY, in a Gold Star Family; my father died in the service of our country when I was only five years old. I was sheltered, going to private schools until high school, where I lost my way. I got around the wrong crowd and did the mischievous things. Not having a dad or a role model was tough, especially during adolescence.

It was my drug and alcohol addiction—coupled with my rebellion towards God after my mother died of cancer—that led me on a downward spiral. I hit rock-bottom when, while he was at work, I stole my roommate's TV to get drugs—a total betrayal of his trust.

Not for Me

I was still working, though. The bus to my job would often stop at 14th & R Streets. One day I asked the bus driver, "Why are the men lined up out there?" He replied, "That's the Mission." Never in a million years did I think I would end up there. Life is not without a sense of irony.

My stubborn refusal to act responsibly with my earnings landed me into homelessness. In short, I chose homelessness over paying my rent on time. It was shocking; it felt very much like falling down a rabbit hole. It's amazing how quickly your feet begin to hurt when you're going nowhere fast.

Definition of Humility

When I first came to the Mission in 2002, I thought that I was better than the rest of the men; I had just run into some bad luck. While working the prestigious intake job at the front desk, I had become restless and snappy with the homeless clients—forgetting I was homeless, too. I told Senior Chaplain Ross, "These people need to get themselves together. They are weak." He pulled me aside and said, "They are not weak. They are too strong—too strong to let go of their loads, and let God help." His words stuck with me to this day.

I left the Central Union Mission in 2004 and was transferred to the Water Street Mission in Lancaster, PA. On my own, I failed. I soon was homeless again. Even though I needed them so desperately, I was not mature enough to realize the value of the lessons I learned in the Spiritual Transformation Program (STP). So, like canned food, I had to put them on the shelf until I had grown a taste for them. (Today I often feast on what I cultured in the STP.)

Helping Others

I was determined to change my ways. With God's help and my own earnest drive towards Him, things finally



▲
Scott E. Moore, Jr., BA, credits Central Union Mission for starting him on the path to graduate school.

got better. I received my Bachelor of Arts degree on December 17, 2016, at Shippensburg University in Shippensburg, PA. I am starting a master's degree program for addiction therapy in January 2019. I hope to help people that have lost their way—people like me who looked for love and support in the wrong places.

Without Central Union Mission I would have been dead a long time ago or in prison suffering because of my addictive issues—I'm certain of it. The people who support Central Union Mission helped me transform my life. Please don't miss this chance to invest in another's humanity because the returns are out of this world. Your greatest investments may not be on Wall Street, but on Straight Street. ■

More Good News Inside!

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Issue 2

Bring Your WHY to Life

IF YOU'VE EVER SPENT TEN MINUTES with a three-year old, you can vouch for their curiosity. "Why can't I touch that?" "Why does that woman's face look so old?"

WHILE AN UNTIMELY "WHY" can cause embarrassment, asking questions are how children learn—even into adulthood. Here are several "whys" your adult children actually need to hear from you

- Have you told them WHY they mean so much to you? Some older generations rarely said "I love you." It's never too late to start.
- Have you told them WHY you embraced faith? If serving Jesus is the WHY that gets you out of bed in the morning, tell them!
- Have you told them WHY you have certain personal values? What are you passionate about? If it matters to you, it's worth sharing with them.

Many individuals turn their WHY into action by supporting a ministry or cause that aligns with their values. For instance, a Charitable Gift Annuity is a simple way to communicate your WHY to the next generation and bless Central Union Mission in the process. ■

For the full version of this article, request a FREE copy of **Make Your WHY A Way of Life** by contacting Rev. Deborah Chambers at 202-827-3078, or dchambers@missiondc.org. Bless your family today with a God-honoring Will at: www.christianwill.org/missiondc.

Our Most Valuable Result



DC'S HISTORIC CALVARY Baptist Church—the Mission's founding church—noted this in its 1914 history: "By the establishment of branches in different parts of the city, the Gospel Wagon works from May to October, and ... residents of our city, who could not be induced to enter any of our churches, have been by power Divine

transformed from lives of sin, carelessness or indifference into upright Christian citizens."

As I prepare for retirement and a greatly reduced role in the life of our 134-year-old Mission, I am pleased to report that transformed lives are still our most valuable result from all our efforts. Our donors, prayer warriors and volunteers have joined our staff in dedicating the Mission's resources toward the goal of transforming the lives of individuals and families—foremost spiritually, but also improving their physical well-being.

As I shared at our gala celebration, our two big initiatives at this time are developing programs to fully utilize our new Family Ministry Center (FMC) and to introduce the Genesis Process curriculum into our Spiritual Transformation Program for men. Through the larger FMC we envision more spiritual and educational development for our families, as well as more goods shared with more people. We also anticipate the clinical/spiritual balanced approach of the Genesis Process to increase the percentage of our graduates who enjoy victory for the long haul.

Thank you for all your support, time and prayers for these last 20 years. My family and I are grateful for the opportunity to serve the Lord at the Mission. Our staff and Board join me in saluting all of you who enable us to share the joy of one transformed life at a time. ■

Blessings,



David Treadwell

From the
Executive Director

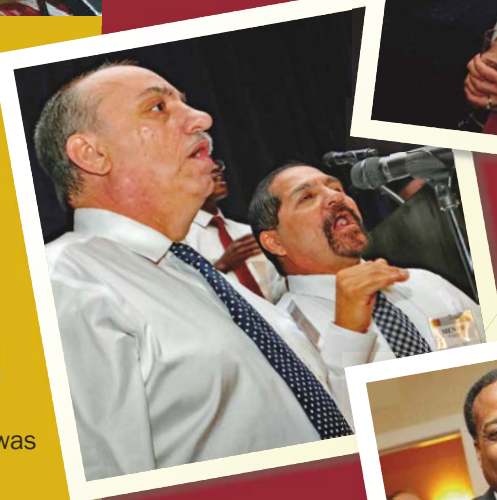
Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will reward them for what they have done.

Proverbs 19:17

◀ Out-going Executive Director David Treadwell shared remembrances and thanks with an audience of nearly 700 friends.

Mission Board member René Fonseca (right) with his wife Deborah (center) and guest ▶

The Mission Men of Valor brought down the house with their Gospel songs ▼



NBC4's Leon Harris served as moderator for the night's program ▶

Grateful to our guests who attended the VIP reception ▼



Mission Celebrates Service Since 1884

IT'S BEEN 134 YEARS since Central Union Mission was founded by Douglass Latham and a group of local churches and pastors to help care for homeless Civil War veterans wandering Pennsylvania Avenue. The city's first social service agency, Central Union Mission continues to adapt to the changing needs of homeless and hungry people in the nation's capital—just as the horse-drawn Gospel Wagon evolved into the Mission Muffins' food truck.

At our Legacy Gala in May, the Mission celebrated its supporters, thanking them for helping us to provide food and services for homeless men, families, women, children and seniors. We also are grateful to David Treadwell, our executive director, for devoting 20 years to caring for our needy neighbors, and we pray and expect a fruitful retirement for him.

NBC4 host Leon Harris welcomed nearly 700 guests, who enjoyed ministry updates and special music by the Mission Men of Valor and Dr. Cheryl Cook-Posley, the Mission's new director of education and employment. Generous attendees contributed over \$330,000 toward general operations for 2018 and thanked David for his commitment to helping poor people in Washington, DC. If you'd like to acknowledge this legacy event with your own monetary contribution, please contact Rev. Deborah Chambers at dchambers@missiondc.org or 202-827-3078. ■



Calling the Faithful

WHEN THE SUMMER HEAT makes street life dangerous, Central Union Mission is ready to save lives. Because of your meaningful donation, the Mission can provide cold water, cool air, nutritious food and a clean bed. With God's help, refreshed men can begin to restore their lives.

Summer is a slow donation time for the Mission. Please continue your faithful support today. Thanks so much for your compassion. ■



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I want to help save a life this summer.

Please use my donation of:

- ☐ \$15 to feed, care and cool 7 guests
- ☐ \$30 for 14 guests
- ☐ \$50 for 24 guests
- ☐ \$150 for 72 guests
- ☐ \$ _____ to serve as many as possible

Please make checks payable to "Central Union Mission." To donate by credit card, please see our website at missiondc.org, or visit Facebook at "Central Union Mission, DC."

Camp Bennett

June 25 to August 10, 2018

Seven weeks of summer camp for inner-city children at Camp Bennett, in Brookeville, MD.

STP Graduation

July 15, 2018

5:00 PM

Join us in congratulating our new Spiritual Transformation Program graduates.

Operation Backpack Donations Deadline

August 16, 2018

Please bring new backpacks and school supplies to a local drop-off location (missiondc.org/OperationBackpack).

Operation Backpack Open House

August 17, 2018

11:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Please help distribute backpacks full of school supplies to neighborhood children.

Join Us!

Senior Fellowship Field Trip

August 24, 2018

9:00 AM to 9:00 PM

Our seniors enjoy a bus trip to visit *Sight & Sound Theater* in Lancaster, PA.

Taste of the Mission Donor Appreciation Events

Thursday, September 13 and Friday, November 2

12:00 PM to 2:00 PM and 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Contact Rev. Deborah Chambers to RSVP at 202-827-3078 or tasteandsee@missiondc.org.

Please register at missiondc.org/get-involved/volunteer to volunteer an event.

Unless otherwise noted, photos are from Adobe Stock. A copy of Central Union Mission's current financial report is available upon request by writing to 6811 Kenilworth Ave, 600-B, Riverdale, MD 20737 or by calling 202-745-7118. In Maryland, copies of documents and information submitted by Central Union Mission are available for the cost of copies and postage from the Secretary of State, Statehouse, Annapolis, MD 21410, 401-974-5534. In Virginia, a financial statement for the most recent fiscal year is available upon request from the State Division of Consumer Affairs, P.O. Box 1163, Richmond, VA 23209, 804-786-1343.



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God bless you for caring!

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