

# THE central union MISSION Missionary

December 2018

A publication of Central Union Mission • missiondc.org

*No one  
should live  
hungry and  
homeless*

## Car Parts and a New Start

**K**HOTSO TSWAEDI'S LIFE ran off the road.

He moved to DC to get a job, go to school and live near his sister, but alcohol addiction brought a steady decline. The shame of his predicament made him leave his sister's house without even saying goodbye.



*Reverend Ron Stanley (left) congratulates Khotso Tswaedi on his employment at BMW Passport Auto.*

Khotso was used to moving around. He moved to Arizona from South Africa at age 19 before he enlisted in the U.S. Army. After he finished serving for nine years as a receiving clerk and an air traffic controller, in 2016 he moved to Washington, DC, to be near his sister, his only family member in the States. Sadly, his alcoholism left him embarrassed and hopeless.

### The Last Dollar

He wandered the streets for about a week then decided he would go to a shelter on New York Avenue. What he hadn't planned was how to get to the opposite side of the city with only one dollar in his pocket. That's how he ended up at Central Union Mission in April 2017; it was the shelter closest to where he was standing!

Today, he knows that God's hand was in that move. Khotso graduated from the Mission's Spiritual Transformation Program in November 2017, and with his Army skills, began working at the Mission as an admin-

istrative assistant for the building operations and Men's Ministry departments.

This fall, through the Mission's workforce development program and the generosity of Passport Auto Group, Khotso began a full-time job with benefits at BMW Passport Auto in Maryland. He is working in the parts shipping and receiving department. According to Passport Auto Group, "We have an ongoing commitment to develop our community; to us that means more than giving financially. It's our responsibility and passion to offer employment opportunities to the communities we serve." Passport Auto Group has been a Mission partner since 2015.

### Finding God Again

"If I hadn't come to the Mission, my life would have been horrible," states Khotso. "The Mission was not just a place to stay; it was how to find myself and get back my relationship with God again. Anything is possible with God." Amazingly, what's possible for Khotso now includes studying cybersecurity at University of Maryland University College in September 2019.

He thanks the Mission for getting him back on the road. "Central Union Mission allows men who have lost everything to become a member of this community and to go on and do great things." He adds that without the help of the Mission, he may not be alive today. With a good job and now reconciled to his sister, Khotso gratefully credits the Mission for his brand new life. ■



## More Good News Inside!

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# What's the Deal with Donor Advised Funds?

DAFs date back to the 1930s and are experiencing explosive growth. In fact, they were recently rated the number-one planned giving tool by over 400 charities across the United States. DAFs are growing in popularity for a few reasons:

- **They're simple.** DAFs let you support multiple charities from one account whenever you feel led to give.
- **They're smart.** Opening a DAF provides an immediate tax benefit, plus you'll avoid capital gains tax on contributions of long-term appreciated assets.

- **They're legacy-building.** DAFs provide a great way to teach giving to the next generation. Simply set up a DAF, and invite your kids or grandchildren to help recommend charities you want to bless, like Central Union Mission.
- **They're for everyone.** Want to give anonymously? Need the flexibility to give a large or small gift? No matter your circumstance, DAFs are a great choice for charitable giving.

We like to think of financial planning and charitable giving as acts of worship. Shouldn't the process be simple and enjoyable? ■



For the full version of this article, request a FREE copy of **The Easiest Way to Leave a Legacy** by contacting Rev. Deborah Chambers at 202-827-3078, or [dchambers@missiondc.org](mailto:dchambers@missiondc.org). Bless your family today with a God-honoring Will at [www.christianwill.org/missiondc](http://www.christianwill.org/missiondc).

## From the Executive Director Hard to Gift-Wrap, but...

WE'D LIKE THE MISSION to be a Christmas present to our city! Sure, there's no wrapping paper or bow, but the Mission is covered by the Holy Spirit and the compassion of faithful supporters like you. This little brick building, dwarfed by the office buildings surrounding it, glows with peace in December's chill, encouraging people experiencing homelessness with

the hope of a new start during the New Year.

Right now, we're preparing for **Show Some Love**, a special weekend for our guests that starts with a Christmas concert, followed by haircuts, fresh clothing, a festive meal with music and entertainment and a free health fair. This "comfort

and joy" shows homeless neighbors that we care about them, and it inspires them to trust in God and to work hard to renovate their lives.

We are so grateful for your donations because Central Union Mission is privately funded; we don't receive any government money. Your gifts lead directly to changed lives and futures. I'm praying that God will bless you and your family this Christmas in the same generous way that you care for your neighbors at Central Union Mission. ■



A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Joe".

**Joe Mettimano**  
executive director

# Want to End this Year Right?

## WORKING TOGETHER ▼

You and your colleagues may want to sponsor a winter coat, "Fresh Start" box or canned food drive to keep our community warm, clean and well-fed this winter. See [missiondc.org/ways-to-give/current-drives/](http://missiondc.org/ways-to-give/current-drives/) to learn how to organize a goods drive.



As well, your office may have a matching fund program that will double your contribution to the Mission. You can also select Central Union Mission as your United Way (No. 9617) or Combined Federal Campaign (No. 85786) designee.

## ONLINE OPPORTUNITIES ▼

Doing any Internet Christmas shopping? You can visit [Smile.Amazon.com](http://Smile.Amazon.com) to shop and make a contribution to Central Union Mission at the same time.

Are you considering blessing the Mission through your Will? Check our planned giving information at [christianwill.org/missiondc](http://christianwill.org/missiondc). ▶▶▶



You can encourage a guest at our Show Some Love Christmas event ([missiondc.org/givesomelove](http://missiondc.org/givesomelove)) by sponsoring him for a shave and a haircut or a seat at the table.

Last, remember you can donate your year-end gift up until midnight on December 31 at [missiondc.org/donate](http://missiondc.org/donate).

## CLOSE TO HOME ▼

Do you have usable household items, furniture, appliances, clothes or food to help needy families? Please bring your donations to our shelter at 65 Massachusetts Ave., NW, or to the Family Ministry Center at 3194 B Bladensburg Rd., NE.

Even your old car, truck, motorcycle, RV or boat can make a difference; visit [missiondc.org/ways-to-give/other-ways/donate-your-vehicle/](http://missiondc.org/ways-to-give/other-ways/donate-your-vehicle/) to find out how.

Are you making decisions about your investments? We can help you make gifts of real estate, stocks and bonds and charitable gift annuities. Please contact Rev. Deborah Chambers at 202-827-3078, or [dchambers@missiondc.org](mailto:dchambers@missiondc.org).



Create a special honor or memorialize a loved one in our publications with a Tribute Gift of any amount. To create this recognition, please contact Dené Chinn at 202-745-7118, ext. 255, or [dchinn@missiondc.org](mailto:dchinn@missiondc.org).

**As 2018 closes, you can bless homeless and hungry people in Washington, DC, and also impact your tax return. Please remember Central Union Mission with your year-end gift. ■**



# New This Year!

## SHOW SOME LOVE

# Weekend



## For Those Experiencing Homelessness...

Christmas can be a painful reminder of family separation, poverty and failure. That is why on December 13-15, 2018, we are hosting Show Some Love, a weekend intended to boost the emotional health of hungry and hurting neighbors and to encourage men to enter one of the Mission's transformation programs. We believe if we show them that we care, they will start to care about themselves.

## Events



### December 13 at 7:00 pm

Capital City Symphony performs an inspiring Christmas concert

### December 14, starting at 1:00 pm

Men are offered haircuts, shaves, manicures and fresh clothes from the Mission Haberdashery, then the Mission serves an elegant dinner with live

music and a special appearance by popular Christian comedian E-Boogie.

### December 15 at 10:00 am

An onsite health fair offers free medical testing and information for those who may not have access to any other health care.

### Thanks to our Generous Sponsors

Passport Auto Group • Amerigroup • Hard Rock Café  
Amtrak • Chef Jamie Gadson • Fourk'd, catering  
The Pinkston Group • Stephen Hurd, musician  
Chris McDaniel and Atperfection, barbers

**You can help as an individual, family, office or church group. Please join us as a Show Some Love sponsor.**

- \$10** sponsor one gift card for a homeless man's gift bag
- \$25** sponsor a haircut and beard trim
- \$50** sponsor one homeless man to enjoy an inspiring evening
- \$100** sponsor mental health support to encourage one homeless guest
- \$250** sponsor a barber for the afternoon so guests can be refreshed

You can visit [missiondc.org/givesomelove](http://missiondc.org/givesomelove) to learn more today!



*Phase One included painting and landscaping.*

# Home Depot Renovates Camp Dorm

its 50 plus years, it served as a home for men working at Camp Bennett (a summer camp for needy children), as well as a residence for troubled teen boys. It later became part of the Mission's Spiritual Transformation Program, offering men a place for peaceful retreats and training. Because of Home Depot's generosity, veterans and others in the Mission's recovery programs anticipate returning to Hanlon House. ■

To Home Depot, giving back "is a core value for associates best demonstrated when they step out of the aisles and into their community."

**H**OME DEPOT'S CHARITY ARM Team Depot renovated the Hanlon House on the Mission's Camp Bennett campus during their October Celebration of Service program.

Twenty-five employees representing eight local stores volunteered their time and skills to honor veterans, plus they mentored a dozen veterans and others experiencing homelessness by teaching new renovation skills. Home Depot donated all of the materials.

In Phase One, Team Depot associates painted the exterior, replaced the windows and doors with new energy-efficient models and landscaped the grounds. Phase Two will include replacing and repairing walls, fixing a collapsed ceiling and renovating a bathroom damaged by a water leak.

Hanlon House, named after Mission Executive Director Tom Hanlon, was built in 1967. During



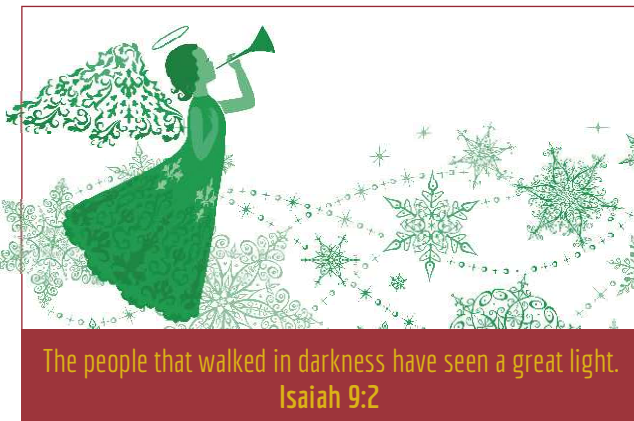
*Home Depot donated and installed the Hanlon House's new energy efficient windows and doors.*



# Bringing Light and Hope

PSALM 27:1 SAYS, "The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear?" This is exactly what the hungry, homeless and hurting people who come to Central Union Mission need to hear. The Christmas season is such a lonely time for these folks—a time when their hearts are primed to hear God's voice.

That is why we want to reach out to hundreds of people experiencing homelessness in a way that demonstrates His love and shows them we care. Will you please help show God's love at Christmas-time? ■



central union  
MISSION

# THE Missionary

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CHRISTIAN CAMP  
& CONFERENCE  
ASSOCIATION

project bridges  
Empowering Ministries To Transform Communities

PASSPORT AUTO  
NISSAN INFINITI MINI HONDA TOYOTA



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.

## Senior Fellowships

December 21, 2018 and  
January 18, 2019

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

December 28, 2018 and  
January 25, 2019, in Spanish

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Volunteer to visit with and help distribute food bags to our seniors. Register with showard@missiondc.org.

## Show Some Love

December 13, 2018

7:00 PM

Capital City Symphony inspires our guests with a Christmas concert.

December 14, 2018

3:00 - 8:00 PM

Show your compassion by sponsoring guests for today's event with haircuts and fresh clothes, as well as a festive meal, music and entertainment at missiondc.org/givesomelove.

December 15, 2018

10:00 AM

This health fair offers free ▶▶▶

# Join Us!

medical testing for Mission guests.

## Operation Christmas Miracle

December 15, 2018

9:00 AM and 12:00 PM

Volunteer at the Family Ministry Center to help distribute gifts for needy children. To register, contact tduncan@missiondc.org.

## Christmas Day

December 25, 2018

12:00 PM

Help serve a festive Christmas meal to our guests.

## Super Bowl Party

February 3, 2019

6:00 PM

Our friends enjoy the big game with all the snacks. Please help us host this football party.

Unless otherwise noted, please register at [missiondc.org/get-involved/volunteer](http://missiondc.org/get-involved/volunteer).

The shelter is at 65 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20001.

## Yes, I want to show God's love at Christmas-time.

Please use my donation of:

- ☐ \$20.90 to feed and encourage ten guests
- ☐ \$62.70 for three tables or 30 guests
- ☐ \$104.50 for five tables or 40 guests
- ☐ \$146.30 for seven tables or 70 guests
- ☐ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to help as many as possible

Please make checks payable to "Central Union Mission." To donate by credit card, please see our website at [missiondc.org](http://missiondc.org), or visit Facebook at "Central Union Mission, DC."

Central Union Mission

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Washington, DC 20090-6763

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God bless you for caring!



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Name \_\_\_\_\_

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