

This Thanksgiving, Everett's heart is filled with gratitude

How a meal you provided dramatically changed the course of his life

Everett is not exaggerating when he says a meal literally saved his life.

“I was taking insulin four times a day to control my diabetes,” he recalls. “My kidneys were failing. I had high blood pressure. My knees were shot. And I had a bad back. My life was a wreck.”

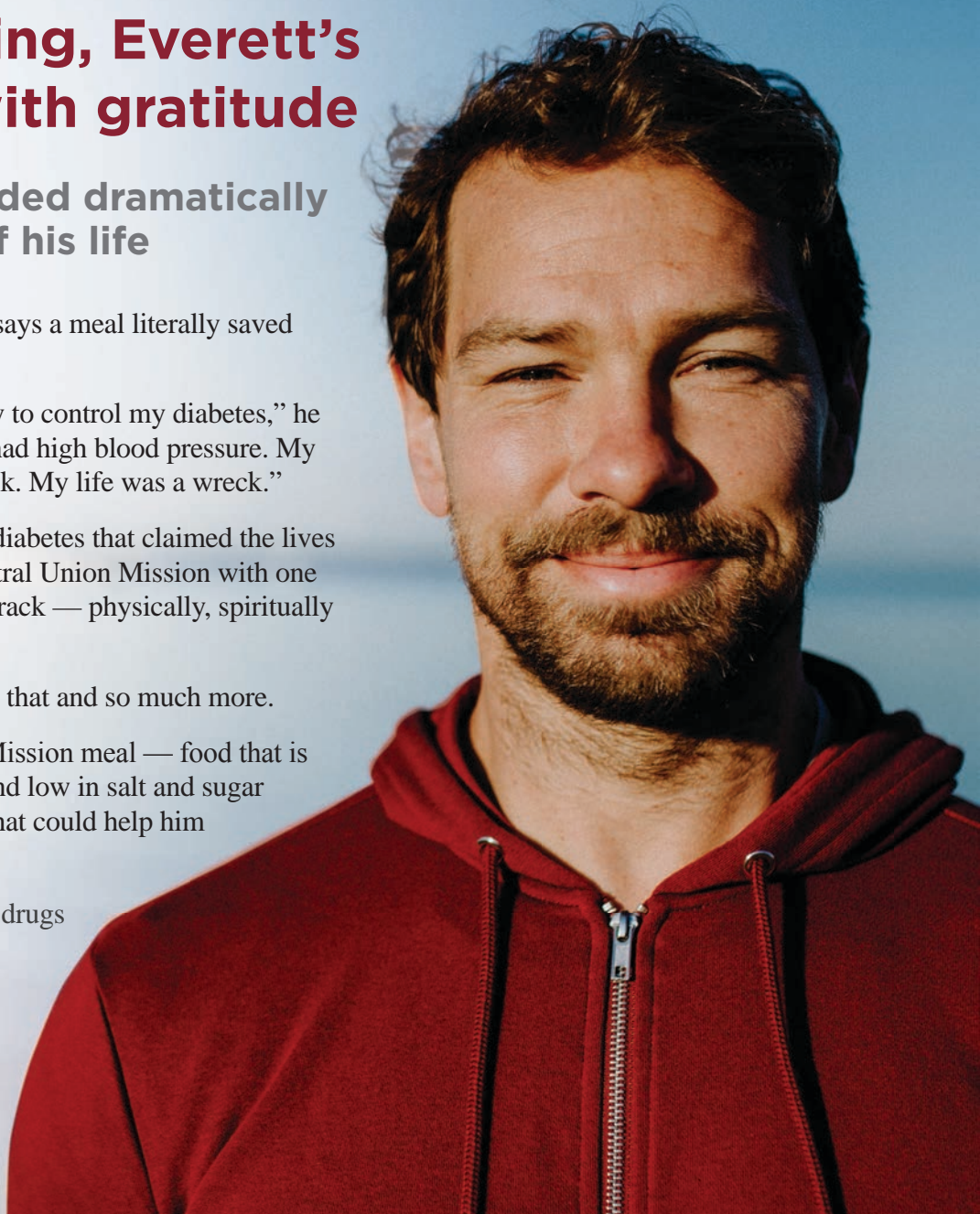
Afraid he was going to die from the diabetes that claimed the lives of his mom and dad, he came to Central Union Mission with one goal in mind: to get his life back on track — physically, spiritually and relationally.

Thanks to you, he's accomplished all that and so much more.

When Everett sat down to that first Mission meal — food that is full of lean protein and vegetables, and low in salt and sugar — he knew he had come to a place that could help him turn his life around.

With memories of homelessness and drugs now fading, Everett began putting his energy into growing closer to God, cooking for the men in the Mission, and re-establishing his

Continued inside ▶





Every \$2.09 will provide a meal and more this Thanksgiving.

A heart full of gratitude (Continued from pg. 1)

relationship with his two children.

Ten years after leaving the Mission, he's still giving back. Every time he serves a meal at his new job or tells others about what God — and friends like you! — did for him. "Without Mission donors, we wouldn't have food, wouldn't have classes and wouldn't know the Bible. They changed my life," he says.

With Thanksgiving fast approaching, the Mission is busy preparing for a flood of people who will come through our doors this holiday season.

Some will be looking for relief from life on the streets. Others will be battling demons that keep them trapped in loneliness and despair. And then there will be people like Everett, who need special care and

"My life was a wreck."

— Everett

attention as a reminder that, with God, they can have hope.

Will you give someone like Everett a chance for a new start by giving a generous gift?

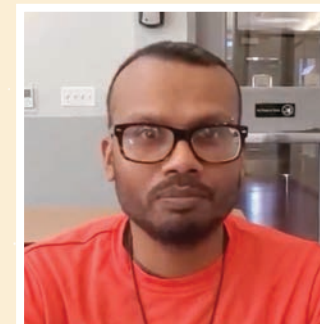
Each meal costs just \$2.09. So any gift, large or small, can work miracles in the lives of people coming off the streets. For those who decide to join one of our life-changing programs after enjoying a hot meal, this is the second chance they've been longing for.

Please be generous this Thanksgiving and remind people struggling with homelessness that God — and this community! — cares deeply about each of them. Thank you!

What our guests say about Thanksgiving at the Mission

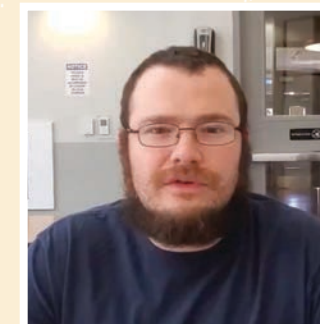
When you provide meals this fall, you open up a whole new world for men, women and children who have been struggling with hunger and homelessness.

Here's how a few described their life-changing experience at the Mission last Thanksgiving . . .



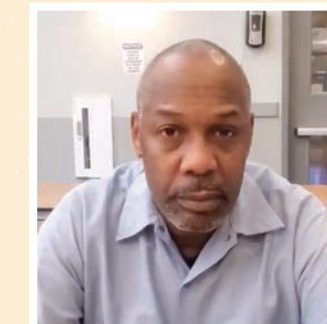
"The Mission introduced me to Jesus Christ, so I'm saved and have eternal security. God has now given me a second chance to fix my life."

— Mohammed



"If I wasn't at the Mission last Thanksgiving? I probably would be dead."

— Gino



"Last Thanksgiving, I missed being over at my sister's house. Instead, I was here, so I was still surrounded by people who cared about me."

— Darrell



Thanks to you, a weary soul can always find hope at the Mission



JOE METTIMANO
President & CEO

When I was growing up, Thanksgiving dinner at our home consisted of whatever my dad, the hunter, went out and killed.

This Thanksgiving, hundreds of people facing hunger and poverty will be doing their own "hunting" when they come into the Mission . . .

- Some will be hunting for a big plate of good food to satisfy the nagging hunger that follows them wherever they go.
- Others will be hunting for the feeling of family they left behind so long ago.
- And many will be hunting for reassurance that they haven't been forgotten — that there are still people in this community who care about them.

Thanks to you, everyone who comes to the Mission this Thanksgiving will find something to satisfy their weary souls.

And perhaps most amazing: all it costs is \$2.09 per meal.

If you have work, are experiencing good health or find yourself surrounded by family and friends who love you, I pray that you'll offer the chance to know those same blessings to someone less fortunate.

Please give as generously as you can in time for Thanksgiving to support Central Union Mission.

Thank you, and God bless you, for caring for "the least of these" in our community.

Giving is as easy as 1...2...3

It's so simple to provide a meal and hope for someone who is hungry this Thanksgiving.

- 1 Detach the Thanksgiving meal ticket that's right for you. (Each \$2.09 provides 1 meal.)
- 2 Include your check and the response card attached to the enclosed letter.
- 3 Return all three in the envelope provided.

If it's easier for you, give by credit card. Just complete both sides of your reply form.

However you choose to give, please know that your kindness will fill empty stomachs with good food and struggling hearts with hope this Thanksgiving.

Thank you for helping to transform lives!

Every
\$2.09
provides a
meal

Give \$2.09 to provide a meal —
and watch a miracle happen!

You can transform a life today — and forever

At the Mission, we know a meal — even a traditional Thanksgiving meal with turkey and all the trimmings — isn't all there is.

When someone who has spent years struggling with hunger receives a hot meal served with love and tender care, they're able to think more clearly. Many begin to think about where their life went off track. And then commit to doing something about it — like joining one of our life-restoring programs.

That's what we're all about: changing hearts and transforming lives through the power of Jesus Christ and your faithful partnership.

Please join us this Thanksgiving by providing holiday meals, knowing your gift will do so much more to change our community — one precious life at a time.

Thank you, in advance, for every \$2.09 meal you provide — and every life that will be made new through your kindness.



Holding on through the storm

When a tornado hit outside Omaha, the 120-mile winds destroyed Robin Stoll's home. He recalls the storm "picked me up and threw me against the tree . . . so I just held on." That tree helped save his life.

In uncertain times, it's important to know you have something strong to hold onto: God.

You can trust Him to protect and provide. You can also take steps to ensure you leave a lasting legacy. An up-to-date will is a simple way to provide for loved ones. A will:

1. Allows you to decide how your estate will be distributed in a way that minimizes estate taxes.
2. Reduces stress and heartache for loved ones.
3. Enables you to support the causes close to your heart, like Central Union Mission.

Even though you can't see what's ahead, the promise of God's unwavering love stands firm.

For the full version of this article, request a FREE copy of "God's Provision for Uncertain Times" by contacting Rev. Deborah Chambers at (202) 827-3078 or dchambers@missiondc.org. Or bless your family with a God-honoring Will at christianwill.org/missiondc

3 WAYS TO GIVE



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