

## **“With God, there’s always light at the end of the tunnel”**

**This Thanksgiving, Rosalia is grateful for the new life you gave her family**

Rosalia knows the power of a meal . . .

- When she and her family were homeless, each meal was a reminder of God’s provision.
- When times were difficult, and this family of six had no choice but to share a one-bedroom apartment with Rosalia’s mother-in-law, mealtime was an opportunity to be thankful that they still had a roof over their heads.
- And when Rosalia visited our Family Ministry Center for the first time and received food to feed her hungry children, she found new life and a new appreciation for good people like you. “I was just grateful to get food on the table,” she says.

**“I was just grateful to get food on the table.”**

Rosalia admits there were many times she was worried. When she and her husband

**Continued inside ▶**







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

**Light at the end of the tunnel!** (Continued from pg. 1)

lost two properties they owned due to the 2008 recession. When her husband’s job went away. When unscrupulous “friends” tried to take advantage of them.

But despite the setbacks, Rosalia’s faith in God — and her fellow man — never wavered. “We were doing everything we could to survive,” she says, “but with God, there’s always light at the end of the tunnel.”

This Thanksgiving, hundreds of people just like Rosalia will come to Central Union Mission in search of a meal — and hope. Some lost their jobs during the pandemic and still haven’t found work.

Others have been on the streets for years, battling addiction, loneliness and despair. And then there are those like Rosalia who have fallen on hard times and just need a little help to keep moving forward.

**“We were doing everything we could to survive.”**

*That’s the real power of a meal. And why we’re hoping you’ll join us during the Thanksgiving season to provide a “Seat at the Table” for the next “Rosalia” who comes through these doors.*

*Thank you for giving an individual or family so much to be grateful for this Thanksgiving!*

Will you help provide them with a Thanksgiving meal — and hope?

At just \$2.09, a meal will do so much more than satisfy hunger. Each one you provide will remind one of our guests that caring people like you haven’t forgotten them. That all is not lost. That tomorrow really can be better, especially for those who join one of our life-changing programs.

## Make a place at our table — and in your heart!

The Thanksgiving season is a busy time here at Central Union Mission.

That’s why we’re already starting with preparations for the Big Day, stocking up our food pantry, lining up volunteers, and scheduling our kitchen crew for long 12-hour days of preparing turkeys and all the fixings.

When you give, you’ll help in three important ways . . .



### 1 Provide meals for those with immediate needs

Hungry men, women and children with nowhere to go or who can’t afford to eat will receive a hot, nutritious meal.



### 2 Emergency groceries for hungry families

So nobody goes hungry, seniors and families unable to feed their children receive food boxes, thanks to you.



### 3 A “Seat at the Table”

Many who walk through our doors during the holidays will not only find a warm meal waiting for them, but a place to feel loved and cared for.



Only  
**\$2.09**  
per meal



## Even in hard times, we have much to be grateful for . . . starting with YOU!



JOE METTIMANO  
President, CEO

If you’re like me, you can’t wait for Thanksgiving to get here.

As we move from COVID “response” to COVID “recovery,” we’re excited to get back to our usual

Thanksgiving celebration here at the Mission. This year, we’re pulling out all the stops to give those experiencing hunger and homelessness a season to remember, including:

- Serving sit-down meals instead of boxed lunches.
- Shaking hands instead of fist-bumping.
- Bringing back an army of volunteers, who will make sure our guests feel loved and cared for.
- Sharing the hope of Christ face to face, instead of through a mask.

After a year of struggle for many in the D.C. metro area — from sleeping out in the rain to the loneliness that comes from being estranged from family — you and I now have the chance to see them embraced again by our caring community.

At the Mission, we know we’ll have much to be grateful for this Thanksgiving . . . for God and His guidance . . . for dedicated volunteers who serve so faithfully . . . and, especially, for you.

Happy Thanksgiving to you and your family.

And may God bless you for all you do to bring hope to others!

  
Joe Mettimano



## This Thanksgiving, you can offer a “Seat at the Table”

What do those living on the streets really want for Thanksgiving this year?

A hot meal to satisfy nagging hunger? A chance to get out of the rain and cold? A safe place to rest for a few precious moments?

If you answered “Yes!” to any of the above, you’d probably be correct. But at Central Union Mission, we believe what the people we serve really want for Thanksgiving is someplace where they are welcome. Where they feel like family. Where they can experience love and genuine care.

During our “Seat at the Table” campaign, you have the chance to provide someone who is hungry or homeless with a meal and a sense of community. You’ll preserve their dignity AND give them hope.

This Thanksgiving, every man, woman and child deserves a seat at the table. Please give today to provide meals and other vital care. At just \$2.09 per meal, it’s the best value in town!

**At just \$2.09 per meal, it’s the best value in town!**

**Only  
\$2.09  
per meal**



**PLEASE HELP NOW!**

## Change a life this Thanksgiving

You probably know that meals are the most important aspect of our Thanksgiving outreach.

But do you know why?

It’s because meals are the tipping point to HOPE. They serve as an important step to transforming a life. And they’re a great way for you to touch many lives at the Mission this Thanksgiving.

If you added up the cost of a typical Thanksgiving meal for 10 people, you’d probably spend at least \$150. That would be enough to feed more than 70 people at the Mission. You and I on our own could never feed that many. But at the Mission, your generosity will not only feed and care for these people, but offer them a second chance at life.

That’s why we’re hoping you will give special holiday meals and hope this Thanksgiving. At just \$2.09 per meal, this is your chance to make a real impact in your community.

**If you’ve been blessed this past year, please be a blessing to others by giving today. Thank you!**



## How you can “give bigger” than you ever imagined

Maybe you’ve noticed this . . .

We sometimes get so focused on the outcome, we miss another opportunity.

For example, many people think cash gifts are the best way to support the causes we care about most. But retirement assets are actually a better way to give.

They allow you to:

**1. Increase your impact.** Donating retirement assets to a charity instead of giving cash means you can give from pre-tax assets and save your cash while your distribution does not count toward taxable income.

**2. Leave a legacy.** When you include a gift in your estate plan to a charitable organization you’re passionate about, such as Central Union Mission, it helps impact peoples’ lives.

*For the full version of this article, request a FREE copy of “The Surprising Instance Where Cash Isn’t King” by contacting Rev. Deborah Chambers at (202) 745-7118, ext. 227, or [dchambers@missiondc.org](mailto:dchambers@missiondc.org). OR bless your family today with a God-honoring will at [christianwill.org/missiondc](http://christianwill.org/missiondc).*

## 3 WAYS TO GIVE



### GIVE BY MAIL

Central Union Mission  
PO Box 96763  
Washington, DC 20090-6763



### GIVE BY PHONE

Call and use your credit card:  
202-745-7118



### GIVE ONLINE

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