

Walking the road to restoration

Dennis has a renewed life this Easter, thanks to YOU!

The holidays were right around the corner when Dennis found himself walking through the doors of Central Union Mission.

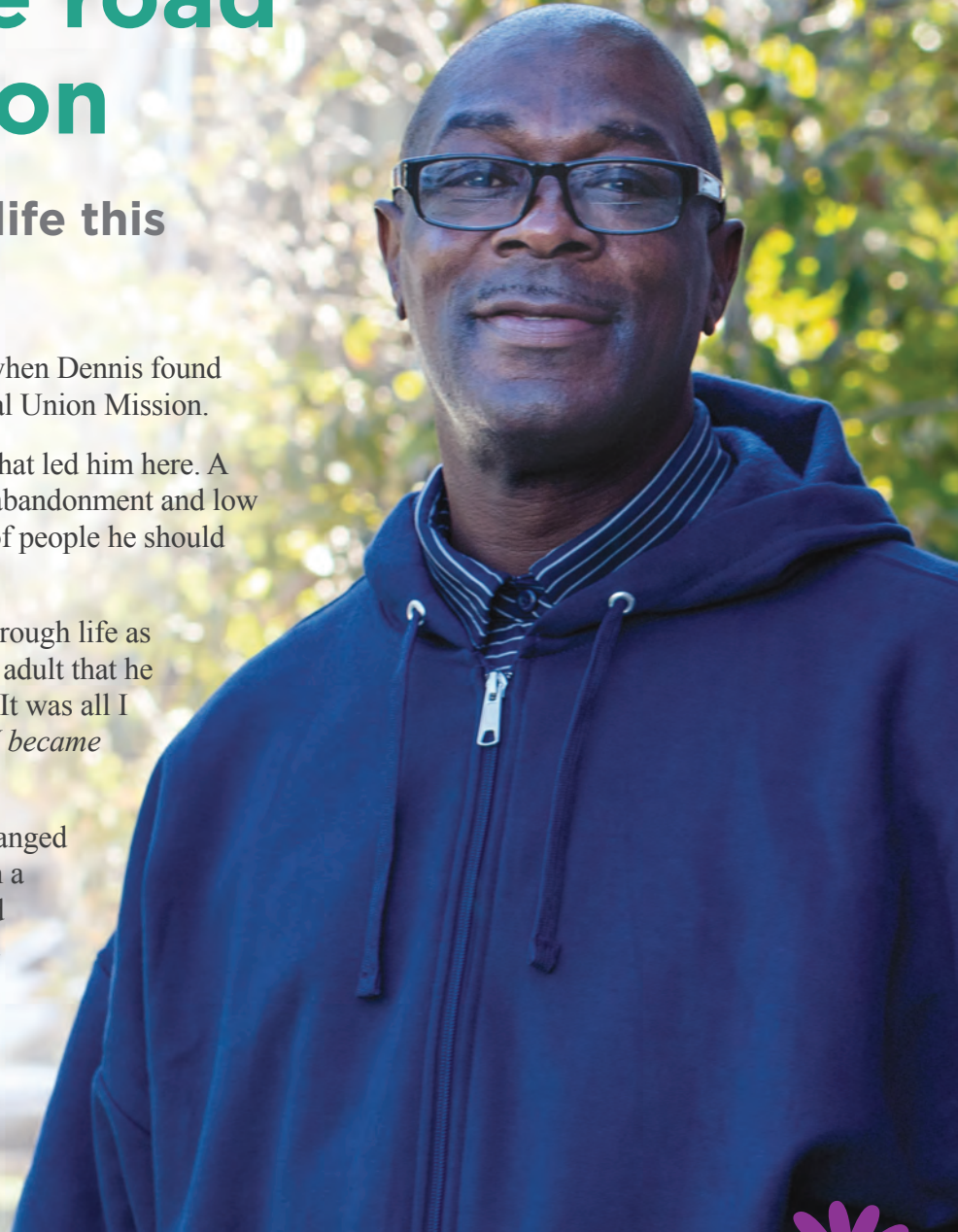
It had been a long and treacherous journey that led him here. A journey that started with alcoholic parents, abandonment and low self-esteem caused him to seek the respect of people he should never have trusted.

Although he watched his parents struggle through life as alcoholics, it wasn't long after becoming an adult that he found himself following in their footsteps. "It was all I knew and all I saw. Even though I hated it, *I became them.*"

As time went on, Dennis found himself estranged from his family. His son was serving time in a federal penitentiary. Battling alcoholism and depression, he was out of options. He called us to see if we could take him in.

At the time, the COVID lockdown took his only source of income, leaving Dennis

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A new beginning . . . (Continued from pg. 1)

with 30 days to vacate his apartment. Feeling that rock bottom was closer than it had ever been before, he was relieved to check into the Mission and reconnected with his first love, Jesus Christ.

“After I got there, the foundation was laid. I’ll admit, I was still drinking when I first went, but they loved and prayed that out of me. I was able to find my true identity and identify those triggers that would cause me to head back down the wrong path.”

Thanks to the Workforce Development Program, Dennis has earned his food handlers certification and is currently taking online classes to further his culinary career.

While Dennis knew he wouldn’t have much family to spend time with during the holidays, he was overjoyed with the celebrations at the Mission.

“It felt like home,” Dennis says. “I was just overwhelmed with how much they cared and how they took care of us.”

The holidays are an important time for those who are lonely and estranged from their families. They’re cold, hungry and sad. Dennis discovered, for example, that our holiday meals offer comfort on especially difficult days.

Dennis has been sober for more than a year now. He credits his sobriety to Mission programs you support. “If you’re serious about getting your life together,” he says, “Central Union Mission is where you need to be. They’ll meet you where you are without any judgment. I’m 56 years old, and this is the happiest I’ve ever been in my life.”

This Easter, your generosity can give others like Dennis a second chance at life, starting with a meal. Thank you!

“I was able to find my true identity.”

—Dennis



Every \$2.09 will share an Easter meal and hope!



What’s new at the Mission

Together, let’s flood the Washington, D.C., area with hope

Thanks to your partnership, the Mission is adapting to offer unique restorative services in a post-COVID world.

The high-impact support programs you make possible are providing essential care for men, women and children in this time of transition. They include:



Job education and placement in a post-COVID economy.

Available jobs for those living below the poverty line are scarce. We provide job education specific to the Washington, D.C., market. This includes training for culinary, administrative and trade positions like carpentry or auto mechanic jobs.



Family Resource Center and life skills classes.

By supporting training in areas like managing a personal budget, shopping wisely and healthy parenting, you help families break generational cycles and get back on their feet.



Access to addiction recovery.

The whole country saw an increase in mental illness and harmful drug use in the last couple of years. Thanks to you, our Restoration and Transformation Program equips men to live addiction-free lives.

People recovering from the COVID crisis are finding stability through these effective ministries. Your generosity—and God’s grace—make it all possible. You’re part of each and every success story at the Mission. Thank you for standing with us!

Clinging to peace at Easter



JOE METTIMANO
President & CEO

As the Easter season approaches, it’s hard to forget the stress and worry that so often overwhelm our lives.

I find it encouraging to remember the

peace of Christ—the peace that passes all understanding.

We’ve each had our own unique post-COVID troubles. And I want you to know we don’t lose sight of our supporters who have struggled in some shape or form.

You are part of a tradition of stepping up to help the least and the lost in hard times. I can’t thank you enough for your faithful giving, especially if you’re giving sacrificially.

Your dedicated support is why we are serving people like Dennis—who is featured on page 1—by providing a meal, safe shelter and compassion.

But the most valuable gift we give is introducing people to Jesus—because a relationship with Him provides spiritual food that never expires.

Dennis found peace amidst a storm of addiction and depression. There are others like him who will step into a new beginning this Easter—all because of a \$2.09 holiday meal and your generosity. Thank you for partnering with us in this kingdom work!





UPDATE YOUR ESTATE PLAN

A bond like no other

Maybe you've experienced the special bond parents so often share with their children. It's like no other.

A similar relationship can grow between ourselves and the ministries we believe in. You may choose to give financially . . . and when you do, their mission becomes yours too.

Some who support Central Union Mission have chosen to bless us by including us in their will. Those individuals:

Commit out loud. When someone notifies us of an estate gift, they make a statement of their dedication to this mission and those we serve.

Create impact. Every dollar you give to a work you care about is an investment. There may be benefits associated with your gift. But more than that, your investment ensures lives will be changed for good.

Build a legacy. Everyone wants to know their life counts for something. When you leave a charitable gift in your will, you design a lasting legacy that will long outlive your life.

For the full version of this article, request a FREE copy of "3 Surprising Benefits of Generosity" by contacting Rev. Deborah Chambers at 202-745-7118, ext. 227, or dchambers@missiondc.org.

OR bless your family today with a God-honoring will at christianwill.org/missiondc.

Someone's Easter miracle is in your hands

Easter brings new life. And for people coming off the streets into Central Union Mission, that new life begins with a hot meal you provide.

Anyone who has experienced homelessness and hunger will tell you that satisfying a growling stomach makes hope seem within reach. Genuine hope at Eastertime—beginning with a plate heaped with hot, nutritious food—makes the possibility of new life become real.

People who thought they'd never get a second chance finally come face to face with God's grace. They experience transformation through your giving AND God's power!

Every \$2.09 Easter meal you give today will lead someone back to their Heavenly Father. Watch your compassion turn heartache into hope for so many men, women and children!



3 SIMPLE STEPS to transform a life this Easter

1. Choose one or more of the meal tickets to send with your gift.



2. Write out your check for that amount.



3. Return your meal ticket(s), reply form and check in the envelope provided.

