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Good News

Hiway 80 Rescue Mission • Hope Haven • PO Box 3223 • Longview, TX • 75606-3223 • (903) 759-9875

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“I Gave Up All Hope”

John had been living and working in Fort Worth for 31 years. But when his wife passed away, he “gave up all hope.”

His kids were grown and had all moved away and when they found out John had been using drugs to ease the loneliness and the pain of his loss, they gave up on him, too.

When hope deserted him, John tried to kill himself. But the Lord must have been watching over him, because the attempt was not successful.

When it came time for John to be released from the hospital, he had nowhere to go. “I asked the guy next to me where he was from, and he said, ‘Longview.’”



And that’s how John ended up here with no friends, no family and \$5 to his name.

“The road to healing starts here.”

For John, the road to healing began when he came to Hiway 80 Rescue Mission.

With a roof over his head and meals, he was able to go out and find work, and before long he

was back in his own apartment. But then the recession hit and the construction business fell apart.

John came back to the Mission where the Good News of Jesus Christ persuaded him to enroll in our New Creation Discipleship Program.

“I finally figured out I could be forgiven. I’ve done a lot of nasty things in my life, and I really didn’t think I was good enough. The more I read my Bible, the more I knew that God would forgive me.”

Today, John’s a program graduate who is continuing his walk with the Lord through our Leadership Training Program. “What I discovered here was a family. These men here became a band of brothers and I would do anything for them... that’s what convinced me to go into leadership training.”

John’s goal is to “work in a Mission” and help others find the new life and salvation he enjoys!

John’s also been reunited with at least one of his children, a daughter who told him, “I don’t care what happened in the past. Let’s make the future work.”

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A Message From Eric Burger



"It's a Wonderful Life"

Nearly everyone has seen the classic Christmas movie, "It's a Wonderful Life."

James Stewart plays George Bailey, a man who's about to commit suicide until his guardian angel intervenes and shows him all the lives he has touched and the wonderful contributions he has made to his community.

This year, as you get ready to celebrate the holidays with friends and family, I want you to think of all the men, women and children whose lives you have touched through this ministry!

The food you've provided has done more than feed hungry people. It's encouraged some of them to stay on here at the Mission where they have made changes that have saved their lives.

You've helped there, too, through your support of our New Creation Discipleship Program.

So today we all say "thank you!" With your prayers and support, many in the East Texas Area can truthfully say, "It is a wonderful life!"

Road to a New Life Starts Here

Eric Burger
Executive Director

Help a Family

When you think of Christmas, you probably think of home, presents, lots of food, goodies and good cheer. For homeless and needy children, Christmas is a day they would rather forget. They are lonely, hurting, hungry and poverty-stricken.

You can help make this a very merry Christmas for a needy family by giving a gift this Christmas! Santa will arrive at the Mission on December 20 to distribute toys and gifts to our guests at Hope Haven and at our Family Christmas Party. We need your



Christmas Wish List

For Moms
Shirts
Sweaters
Sweats
Hats
Scarves
Gloves
Coats
Underwear
Pajamas
Nightgowns

Christian CD's/
books
Cameras
Diaries
Socks
For Children
Board games
Building toys
Educational
toys
Trucks/cars

Art supplies
Books
G-rated DVDs
Dolls
Push/pull toys
Small riding
toys
Toy dishes, pots,
pans
Stuffed Animals
Balls

help to make sure everyone gets a gift. Please see the list above for gift ideas or contact the Mission for specific requests.

If you would like to make a donation or organize a toy or gift drive, call us at **(903) 759-8101** or visit our website at www.Hiway80Mission.org. Donations can be dropped off at the Mission at 3117 W. Marshall.

Thanksgiving & Christmas Kitchen Needs

- Turkeys
- Hams
- Yams
- Stuffing
- Potatoes
- Canned Sweet Potatoes
- Canned Fruits/Vegetables (#10)
- Dinner Rolls
- Brown Sugar
- Butter

- Pies (any kind)
- Cool Whip
- Christmas Cookies
- Coffee
- Creamer

Donations can be dropped off at the Mission at 3117 W. Marshall. For more information about holidays at the Mission, call **(903) 759-9875** or visit www.Hiway80Mission.org.

Home for the Holidays You Make It Happen!

How does the old song go? "Oh, there's no place like home for the holidays..."

For many people here in the East Texas area, that home is going to be the Mission. And we're going to make it the best place we possibly can!

There will be decorations. Bountiful, home-cooked holiday dinners. Some small gifts. And most of all, Christian love and acceptance. Because that's the best gift of all for people who have nowhere else to turn

...no family or friends to turn to.

This year, there will be "room at the inn." A home for the holidays! It's so much better than homeless for the holidays and you have the power to make it happen.

Please use the enclosed holiday gift card to provide meals, shelter and other loving care this holiday season. Or, go online to Hiway80Mission.org and make a gift right now.

God bless you during this holy season!

“Getting God In My Life...”

“It Has Been Such a Blessing For Me!”

Before he came into our New Creation Discipleship Program, Gary says he was “an angry person.”



But the person he was most angry at was Gary. A life of drug abuse and alcohol had led to a string of failures.

“I owned my own business and lost it due to meth” (methamphetamine is a white, odorless, powder that is snorted, smoked or injected to produce a euphoric high or “rush”).

Married twice, Gary has seen relationships fall apart due to his drug use. Then, in 2008, he met a young lady whom he truly loved. “I ended up messing it up because of my anger, and when we split up, I went back to using meth.”

“I was plotting to end my life.”

When the relationship failed, Gary decided that he didn’t want to hurt anyone ever again. After a couple more months of meth use, he began planning to end his life. Fortunately, his new girlfriend didn’t give up as easily as Gary did.

“If it weren’t for her,” Gary says, “I wouldn’t be here today.” Searching

the internet, Gary’s girlfriend found Hiway 80 Rescue Mission and our New Creation Discipleship Program and convinced Gary that he should come here.

Once Gary entered the program, they both began to see that her presence was “interfering” with his recovery, so she chose to step out of his life. But not forever. In October of 2009, the couple picked a date to get married... Valentine’s Day, February 14!

Being part of our Bible-based New Creation discipleship and recovery program has provided the confidence and self-determination Gary needed to become a strong, committed Christian and a contributing member of the community.

“I had to learn how to love myself.”

Through an intensive combination of classes, counseling and Bible study, Gary began to understand the causes of his problems and his anger, and gain the skills and spiritual strength necessary to get back on his feet and start a new life.

Gary says the program has also taught him “the importance of having Jesus Christ in my life.” “My parents were Christians, but we didn’t go to church. My girlfriend took me to church, but it didn’t change my anger. Being in this program has been a real turn-around for me!”

“Making peace with my past took a lot of the anger away. I learned to let things go that I had bottled up inside.”

“When you start studying the Word and get God in your life, it is a big help. It’s been a blessing for me and it has been a blessing for a lot of the guys. But without the donors, it wouldn’t be possible and we thank them very much.”

Hiway 80 Online

Have you visited Hiway80Mission.org lately? We recently launched a new



website and want to share it with you. This is the best way to learn

about what’s going on at the Mission 24/7.

You can read about how our programs are helping change lives, learn about volunteer opportunities and share prayer requests.

You can also save us administrative costs by donating securely through our website. With the cost of nearly everything increasing, this is the most cost-effective way to support our ministry.

Include The Mission In Your Will



Consider these reasons for including Hiway 80 Rescue Mission in your will.

- 1. It’s a matter of values.** Your will is your “testament”—a statement that you believe in the Mission.
- 2. It’s a matter of timing.** Giving through your will enables you to give a more substantial gift than you ever could during your lifetime.
- 3. It’s a matter of faith.** Giving to the Mission through your will is a faithful way to provide for on-going ministry long after you’re gone.

Please call Eric at (903) 759-9875 or visit www.Hiway80Mission.org.

Hiway 80 Rescue Mission Ministries

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Hope Haven Home for Women and Children

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Eric Burger

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A higher standard.
A higher purpose.

The Good News is a publication of Hiway 80 Rescue Mission Ministries.

We Need Your Help!

Thanksgiving is just around the corner and Christmas will be here before we know it. We need your help to get ready. We will be serving hundreds of holiday meals to homeless and needy men, women and children in our community but none of it happens without your help!

We need all sorts of volunteers at this time of year who are willing to give of their time and talents to help make the holidays bright for needy families and individuals.

We need groups and individuals to volunteer to prepare and serve meals,

conduct food drives, decorate the Mission for the holidays, wrap gifts, sort donations, pick up donations from drop off locations around the community and adopt families at Hope Haven.

If you are interested in helping to touch a life by volunteering, please call Cameron at (903) 759-8101 or email her at cameronr@hiway80rm.org for more information.

Mission Accomplished

The Hiway 80 Rescue Mission has just become a certified member mission of the Association of Gospel Rescue Missions (AGRM). AGRM is a national organization that supports and organizes Missions around the world, assisting in their efforts to meet the needs of the homeless and broken. We have been a member for many years but just went through the process of certification. It takes several months to prepare for this, but it is well worth it.



Through this certification program, AGRM continues to fulfill their purposes by encouraging member Missions to demonstrate a Christian commitment to good stewardship, financial accountability, and integrity.

We are the only Mission in East Texas to be accredited. Our commitment to the community is to serve with the highest standards available to us. Thank you for all your support over the years to make this possible.

For more information, visit Hiway80Mission.org.

Holiday Gift Card

Here's my Christmas gift to provide meals, shelter and care for God's neediest people.



- \$16.11 to feed and care for 9 people
- \$26.85 to feed and care for 15 people
- \$51.91 to feed and care for 29 people
- \$ _____ to help as much as possible

- Bill my credit card
 - VISA MC AMEX DISC

CREDIT CARD # _____ CIV/SEC # _____

EXP. DATE _____ PHONE # _____

Donate online at www.Hiway80Mission.org, or call (903) 759-9875.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY / STATE / ZIP _____

E-MAIL _____

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