



THE **beacon**

A newsletter for friends and donors of Great Falls Rescue Mission

Easter **2024**

Don't miss...

The Promises of Easter **2**



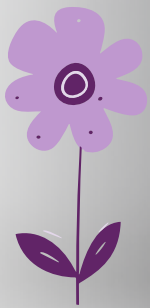
"God has given me a beautiful life." **3**



Urgent Easter Needs! **4**



Jeri is celebrating Easter with JOY – because of you!



Thank you for showing her that new life is possible.

Easter
ANNUAL CAMPAIGN



A Message from JIM MCCORMICK

THE PROMISES OF EASTER

Have you ever seen the realization cross someone's face the first time they understand the gravity of Christ's death and resurrection? It's one of my favorite things about Easter at Great Falls Rescue Mission. It's a privilege to be a small part of their story, as our guests celebrate the promises of joy and hope this season brings.

You too are a part of our guests' stories, as you share God's love with them by providing nutritious meals, safe shelter and other services to change their lives.

Your faithful prayers and generosity help hurting men, women and children in our community find a home through our doors. They also find HOPE – hope for their future, and hope in the promises we celebrate at Easter.

Thank you for showing our hurting neighbors in need that you care about them – in their present circumstances, for their future and for eternity. You show them they are loved. You help restore their dignity, and ignite in them a desire to change their circumstances.

Together with God's faithfulness, you help turn stories of pain into promises of new life in Christ.

Thank you... happy Easter... and God bless!

"A Beacon of Hope Since 1963"

Jim McCormick
Executive Director



JOIN OUR PRAYER TEAM!



You're invited to make an eternal impact! Join our Prayer Team to lift up the needs of our neighbors, our ministry and our community.

Through our Prayer Team, you'll receive monthly prayer updates via email so you can bring our most pressing needs to the Lord in prayer – and share them with your church family. You'll also see praises so you celebrate the good work God is doing!

God promises He hears us, anytime and anywhere.

Join our team by emailing us at contactus@gfrm.org.



SHARE JOY THIS EASTER

Help meet the needs of our hurting neighbors!

With Easter coming early this year, we need your help to welcome every man, woman and child who comes to our doors! YOU can help meet their needs and fill hearts with joy...



10,000 meals –
just \$2.49 each!



7,000 nights
of shelter



Christ-centered care
& healing in our life-
changing programs!

Easter²⁰²⁴
ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

- ✉ Give now using the enclosed reply card and envelope.
- 🌟 Give online anytime at greatfallsrescuemission.org.

“GOD HAS GIVEN ME A BEAUTIFUL LIFE.”



Growing up, Jeri's parents meant everything to her... and to each other. Even the closest families struggle, though, and sometimes Jeri felt alcohol was more important to her parents than she was.

When her older brother moved out, Jeri found herself sole caregiver for their mother, who'd become terminally ill. She passed away during Jeri's senior year of high school. A short time later, their father also passed away, broken-hearted by the loss of his wife.

“I shoved my feelings down and turned to pain medication to numb myself,” Jeri admits. Without a foundation in the Lord, she remembers feeling profound loneliness.

What followed was a cycle of unhealthy relationships and road blocks. When Jeri became pregnant, she knew she needed help, but the idea of getting clean while navigating single motherhood was overwhelming.

After her second son was born, Jeri and her young family faced homelessness. Although she'd given up hard drugs, she wasn't yet truly sober.

Two toddlers in tow, Jeri came to the Mission, where healing could finally begin.

“The staff welcomed us in a caring way,” she recalls. “They picked me up – broken, spiritually lost and angry in my grief.” Through Christ's love, Jeri came to understand what a blessing she'd walked into that day.

Through our Discipleship Program, Jeri built a new foundation. Routine and stability paved the way to sobriety for herself, and a future for her children.

“It's been an opportunity to start over. For the first time, I see myself as strong... as a mom... as the person the Lord intended me to be.”

Thank you for sharing God's love with Jeri this Easter. Her life has been renewed through the joy and hope of the Gospel!

“This place truly changes lives. I'm not the same person I was before I came here. I'm so grateful for this second chance.”

**“THE MISSION SHOWED ME GOD.
TO WATCH MY CHILDREN
GROW IN HIM IS
AMAZING.”**



YOU

changed lives last year!

Throughout 2023, friends like you joined together to make an incredible impact for our homeless, hurting neighbors...



100,000
meals filled
hungry bellies



70,000
nights of shelter
kept people safe



And your compassion opened the door to other life-changing services, like classes, faith-based guidance and job skills training.

Thank you.
What a blessing you are!

HELP MEET OUR EASTER NEEDS



Sunday, March 31: Our Easter Celebration starts at 1 p.m.!

Now through Easter, your help is needed to provide **thousands of meals** for our hungry neighbors! Help welcome these special guests with love and a good meal by sharing a donation of these needed food items.

URGENTLY NEEDED ITEMS!

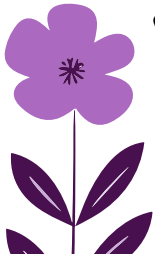
Drop off any of these items **by Friday, March 29:**

- | | | |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> SPIRAL SLICED
HAMS | <input type="checkbox"/> CANNED
VEGETABLES | <input type="checkbox"/> COFFEE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> POTATOES | <input type="checkbox"/> CANNED MIXED
FRUIT | <input type="checkbox"/> CREAMER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BUTTER | <input type="checkbox"/> DESSERTS | <input type="checkbox"/> BAKED PIES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DINNER ROLLS | (homemade or
store-bought) | <input type="checkbox"/> COOL WHIP |

Drop off donations at the Mission's back door at 408 2nd Ave S., Great Falls.

No time to shop? Donate now!

☎ (406) 761-2653 ✨ greatfallsrescuemission.org



God's Promise of Joy

"If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love... These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full." - John 15:10-11

GIVE MONTHLY. **SAVE LIVES ALL YEAR!**

You can make a lasting difference in our community when you become a monthly partner!

These days, it costs more than ever to provide the life-changing care our hurting neighbors at Great Falls Rescue Mission need... By joining our Light Keepers Club, you can help save lives with your monthly gift to provide:



MEALS



COUNSELING



SHELTER



JOB TRAINING

Start giving monthly now to help provide the building blocks our residents need for a better life!

**Start giving
monthly now!**



tributes

Gifts given on or after November 1, 2023 will appear in our next Newsletter.



memorials

IN MEMORY OF

MARK P. ALLEN

SCOTT BACON

CHAD BAKER

JIM BALLANTYNE

HENRY BANUELOS, JR

PATRICIA ANN BAUER

REV. JAMES H. (JIM) BEADLE

LAWRENCE J. (LARRY) BENNETT

FRED BERGSTROM

ROBERT D. (BOB) BLOSSOM

MELINDA BOBO

RALPH BOUMA

RENAE KOVATCH BOWERS

GAIL HAGAN BRANDT

PETER, NANCY & HELEN CARRAS

KATHERINE CHOVANAK

PATRICIA CHOVANAK

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MARK A. COLE

LT. COL. ALBERT (JERE) COOPER

MARJORIE (MARGEE) L. CRAMER

PATTY NISSEN CROSS

RYNE DARVIS

ELIZABETH DEVINE

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MR. & MRS. JASON & JULIE KEEN

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NEIL EDWARDS

FRANCIS L. ERICKSON

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DORIS FABEL

DR. GARY FELSTEAD

MARY GAILUSHAS

MAY GERTSON

RUBY GLEE

MARY KATHERINETTE (KATHY) GOODAN

BRIAN GRAF

DANIEL J. (DAN) GREGIER

INEZ GRIPENTROG

SHIRLEY GROSSMAN

GERALD G. (JERRY) HAGEN

THELMA LOU (OWINGS) HANE

GARY HERGERT

DANELLE HILL

ERIC HOLLERAN

BILL & MARYLYN HOWE SR

JIM & VIRGINIA HUNTER

NANCY IRVIN

TONI JARACZESKI

JOAN

DAVID KENNEDY

WENDY KENNEDY

(ROBERT) TODD KERNAGHAN

EVAN M. KING

EWALD KUHNERT

DR. ROBERT P. LEE

SUSAN (SUE) LEMELIN

JAN M. ROSS LIVESAY

RICHARD C. D. (DICK) LOOYE

JODY MALSAM

JOSEPH (JOEY) MALSAM

CHELSEA MARTIN

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MS. NANCY ROBERTS

memorials (continued)

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JOE & RITA MURPHY
JAMES NELSON
MAUREEN NEWMAN

LOUISE OSTERMAN
CALVIN OUELLETT
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MR. MATHEW ROBERTS
MR. MATHEW ROBERTS
MR. MATHEW ROBERTS

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LAVERNE C. SMITH
MILLIE SMITH
BARBARA SNIDER
DONNA SPENCER
DUWAYNE F. STEINER
JOHN (TRAE) STEINER
DEANNA STYREN

ARDEN SUNWALL
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KNEELON TEAGUE
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BILLIE TOMLINSON
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MRS. DONNA TOPP
MR. LEONARD TWIGGS
MR. & MRS. EVAN & TWYLA JONES
MR. & MRS. JAMES & CAROL AUTH

honorariums

IN HONOR OF

ADRIANNE ALEXANDER
ALL OF THOSE SUFFERING FROM ADDICTION
ALAN & KAREN BUCKENTIN
BRIAN BUCKENTIN
DARWIN & KAY BUCKENTIN
GREG & ROXANN BUCKENTIN
JOEL & DELIA BUCKENTIN
MICHAEL & MARY BUCKENTIN
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WES & HILLARY COLE
MAUREEN & DAN DEFRAANCIA
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KAYLA GRAHAM
THERESE MARTINEZ

JIM MCCORMICK

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JOSHUA OWENS
ROBERT PARRISH
BILL & DEANNA RUTTEN
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DR. & MRS. TERRY & CATHERINE SWEENEY
DR. & MRS. TERRY & CATHERINE SWEENEY
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