



November 2023 NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 11525, Roanoke, VA 24022 | rescuemission.net | (540) 343-7227

Thanksgiving Pies!

Will you bless our Thanksgiving Day Feast guests with a slice of pie? Could you bake up your favorite recipe and share it with us? If so, please drop off your pies anytime between 9 am and 6 pm in the reception area, Monday through Wednesday before Thanksgiving Day.



Immediate Needs

- Cotton XL Twin Sheets
- Pillow Cases
- Razors
- Coats

For information on our **Immediate Needs** or to donate items from our **Amazon Wish List** go to rescuemission.net/immediate-needs

Social Media

To see more pictures or to learn more about these events and more, check us out on



RescueMission.net

More YAY! *By C. Lee Clark, Rescue Mission CEO*

YAY! My 9-month-old grandson has learned that “YAY” means arms fully extended, fists clenched and huge grin from ear to ear. Every “YAY!” raises the cuteness factor by a hundred-fold as he leads us in all raising our arms in unison to celebrate gathering as a family. For our family, gathering often centers around meals. The guys in our family are the cooks and about once a week we carve out time between all our busy calendars to prioritize gathering around conversations and good food.

The bonds of relationships are often formed in similar ways at your Rescue Mission. More than 250 men, women and children gather for breakfast, lunch, and dinner each and every day here. As the first guests gather at the serving line, a prayer is shared over the meal then volunteers spring into action to share the delicious offerings of fruit, meats, and vegetables. Guests chat with volunteers, update staff on happenings in their lives as they gather around tables to enjoy their meal.

Thanksgiving Day at the Rescue Mission will be a special feast with roast turkey and all the trimmings together with every flavor of pie you can imagine. Guests will gather, music will be playing, and wonderful aromas will pull us into the dining room. Volunteers will provide tableside service and guests will enjoy the offerings along with maybe just one more serving of mashed potatoes or another piece of pumpkin pie.

And this will be after a host of family, friends and neighbors gather at 9am for the 18th Annual Drumstick DASH presented by Pinnacle Financial Partners. We are preparing for 9,000 men, women, and children to “move our feet, so others can eat.” This is one of the most memorable and beautiful days of the year

as people show their intentional support for those experiencing homelessness in our city. I always get tears in my eyes as I look at from the starting line stage at the sea of happy, expectant runners and walkers when we pray together for our city and those who will need the services of the Rescue Mission that night and in the coming nights. *Can we count you in? Please join us! Register and learn more at drumstickdash.net.*

Resources provided by the DASH could not come at a more urgent time. Nights of Emergency Shelter provided this year are up 58% over 2022. Meals served have increased by 49%. Gathering with us for the Drumstick DASH and registering your family to participate means so much more than getting exercise before the big meal or connecting with friends you haven't seen in a while. It means that many families will have food to eat, a safe place to sleep and medical care they need to live.

What a powerful incentive! In the midst of news from world conflict on the international level to increases in drug overdoses, spikes in mental health instability and gun violence locally, the antidote is more “YAY” – genuine impactful connections rooted in the love of Christ which sustains us all. Hebrews 12:1-2 tells us:

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

More YAY!: *continued on inside*

The Meaning of a Meal

Every November, you can count on The Drumstick DASH, our Thanksgiving meal, and a community coming together as one to make a difference for good. But why does coming together matter? "It really means a lot that volunteers came to serve food today" a guest told me last year at Thanksgiving, "they could be with their families, but they're here, serving us." I let this guest know that these volunteers are here because they see him as family. Our wellness as a community depends on the health of our whole community, each one of us. Holly, kitchen supervisor at the Rescue Mission was recently asked about the impact of meals, and what it means to our guests. "Eating meals as a community is important because it brings a sense of fellowship. Many of the guests get to know each other and have formed supportive relationships." The impact of meals isn't just felt in the Rescue Mission dining room, but beyond our walls. A meal means that our young guests can focus at school, and our older guests can focus on work when they go in for a shift. A meal means sitting down with others, connecting.

As we move into the fall, our Thanksgiving and Christmas meals are entering the preparation phase, with hundreds of turkeys and hams along with pounds upon pounds of sides ready to provide a meal cooked with love. While meals during the rest of the year mean a full belly and food security, holidays take on an extra meaning, providing guests a place to go where they can feel at home. When asked about her favorite part of the holiday meals Holly said "The family style seating. Instead of coming through the line guests get served at their tables. Another great part is to see the turnout of volunteers and how many people want to spend their holiday helping out and joining the community and seeing all the conversations being had." The smiles you see on their faces when they are brought food by volunteers and the laughter that fills the room from stories shared all adds to the special moment. Meals mean so much more than the food on the plate. Everything

from the presence of volunteers and the service of guests to the spreading of cheer means that for just that moment, everything else melts away. **Worries, frustrations, the problems of life are forgotten because the love of others has become contagious, spreading like the love of Jesus at a time when it is needed most.**

We invite you to get involved at the Rescue Mission by volunteering at our Thanksgiving and Christmas feasts, or any night you can. Our guests would love to see you.



Christmas Gifts 2023

SHELTER GIFT IDEAS

Gift Ideas for Shelter Guests

- Cinch bags
- Wallets
- Earmuffs
- Handwarmers
- Fanny Packs
- Puzzle Books
- Ponchos
- Trial Size Lotion
- Chapstick
- Antibacterial Wipes

Ongoing Shelter Needs

- Hairbrushes and Combs
- Slippers/Flip Flops
- Men's T-shirts
- Underwear
- Cough Drops
- Full size body wash
- Full size shampoo
- Full size conditioner
- Trial Size Toothpaste
- Toothbrush
- Deodorant
- Razors
- Washcloths
- Bath towels
- Cotton XL Twin Sheets
- Pillows

For "non-shoppers", monetary gifts towards the Christmas Gifts are appreciated! Go to RescueMission.net and click on the Donate button.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Collecting Unwrapped Gifts for Ages 0-18 Years

- Toys
- Books
- Puzzles
- Games
- Sporting goods (all types)
- Art supplies
- Stocking stuffers
- Hygiene items
- Hot cocoa
- Wrapping paper
- Tape

Please return your unwrapped gift to the Rescue Mission by Friday, December 15.
ALL DONATIONS ARE ACCEPTED FROM 7AM-7PM IN THE MAIN LOBBY:
402 4TH ST. SE, ROANOKE, VA 24013 | (540) 343-7227

Participating in Mission Opportunities To Serve

Guests at the Rescue Mission don't just accept our services, they are part of our services. Guests are given the opportunity to participate in Mission Opportunities To Serve (MOTS) a program designed to give guests tasks all around the Rescue Mission to help them learn new skills, help others, and help make the Mission an even better place. We recently caught up with a few MOTS participants **Andrew, Ron, and Doug** on what their life at the Mission looks like, and how MOTS has enhanced their stay here. In this interview we asked them to speak if they feel called to answer a question, here are their responses.

1. What does your daily life look like at the Rescue Mission?

Andrew: Quite literally what the motto is, "helping hurting people". People who are in a tight situation come here and they are able to get help with getting back on their feet and they are able to have a safe place to sleep, warm meal, and a roof over their head. It really means the world to us.

2. How has MOTS helped you at the Mission?

Andrew: Me personally, it has helped me to remember why it is that I love serving others.

Ron: For me it's about helping other people. Being involved in MOTS keeps

me busy, so I won't fall back to my old way. I'm a recovering alcoholic, so MOTS keeps me focused on helping others and not on the way my life used to be. It keeps me honest and helps me focus on moving forward.

3. What skills have you picked up in the MOTS program?

Andrew: Me personally I have picked up listening skills. That's one of the most important things you can learn.

Ron: I've learned how to control my temper. It's a learning experience, and your daily life can be stressful at times, but what I learned is that the love of others has helped me learn how to control my temper. It's hard to be angry when you're around people who care so much about you. But even when I get frustrated or angry, I've learned from the loving people around me how to handle that stress.

4. Do you think MOTS is inspiring to other guests?

All chimed in simultaneously to said "yes", without a doubt, and 100%.

Doug: For me I think it shows you can have structure in your life. That you can get up in the morning and provide for your needs while also providing for the needs of others. Rather than just getting



up and wandering the streets, you're doing something, you contribute to the world around you. With that comes other opportunities and connections around the Mission. I've experienced this first hand, I've met people and made connections which I think others look at and they see as an inspiration. If I can do that, so can they.

5. Would you recommend MOTS to other guests?

Doug: There is only so much that the paid staff can do by themselves. Any help that we can offer that will multiply the efforts of staff is great. It means a lot to be able to help, but I hear from other guests who aren't in MOTS "how can I help the staff?" and one of the best ways is to complement their services by giving even just a bit of your time and effort each day.



Tours

**Take a tour of the Rescue Mission!
Every Monday at 12:00 Noon**

402 4th Street SE, Roanoke, VA 24013 | (540) 343-7227

In Memory & Honor of...

For Memory and Honor Gifts received
September 15 through October 15

IN MEMORY OF

GIVEN BY

Marie Aird Jane Humphries
 Marie Aird Jack & Joan Batten
 Marie Aird Lois Sue Hash
 Betty M. Arnold Don Arnold
 Susan Bamford Tom Bamford
 Lorene Bishop Wanda Parker
 Hugh Bond Barbara Haymaker
 Randy & Harley Bower Judy Bower
 Lucien Brailsford Linda Jameson
 Alberta Brammer Larry & Debbie Gibson
 Jalene Buck Ann Hatcher
 Pedro & Carmelina Calderon Philip Romas
 Grover Carter Shirley Carter
 Beth Catron Gladys Falls
 Larry Conner Team Velocity
 Larry Conner Jane Holmgren
 Larry Conner Deb VerHill
 Larry Conner Billy Kingery
 Tom Davidson Almeda Kelly
 Benjamin Delaney Chris & Carol Reavis
 David Dickinson Janice Hencke
 Cathy Smith Dowdy Sharon Bandy
 Dolores Edmondson James Edmondson
 Ivie Ellis Dike & Yvonne Schirmer
 Benjamin Emerson Robert A. Emerson
 Benjamin Emerson Robert A. Emerson
 Ray Ferguson Patty & Jackie Cabiness
 Natalia Garza Cecilia Alami
 Kim Gembala David Hankins
 Kim Gembala Roseanne Hix
 Kim Gembala Robert Zimmerman
 Iris Gibson Larry & Debbie Gibson
 Richard Goins Glenna Goins
 Ila Groseclose Jackie Caldwell
 Peyton Hash Lois Sue Hash
 Susan Hill Curtis & Leah Shank
 Austin "Daniel" Huffman Dr. & Mrs. Joseph S. Weisman
 Robert Hunt Betty Spraker
 Sheryl Johnson Steve Johnson
 Pauline Kinser Betty Pence
 Kurt Kipley, Sr. Marty & Vickie Martin
 Buck & Opal Mays Debra M. Burgess
 Stuart & Peggy McGhee Sandra Woodford

IN MEMORY OF

GIVEN BY

Peggy McGhee Ben Wade/Friendship Class at Cave
 Spring United Methodist Church
 Ralph & Daphne McNeil Carol M. Clower
 Arnold & Christine Naff Darryl W. Naff
 Lois O. Nordt Paul W. Nordt, III
 Doug Padgett Irene Eanes & Family
 Jean Pearson Steve Wiley
 Beth Pettrey Earl Pettrey
 Ray & Della Phillips David N. Phillips
 Marlene Pomeray Linda Hogan
 Mr. & Mrs. Radjou Peter F. Radjou
 Juanita Seagle David & Bonnie Topping
 Sherrill Leroy Smith Edward Duff
 Glady Surrat Dorothy Sink
 Betty Swan Karen S. Polsky
 Betty Swan Mary S. Kent
 Betty Swan Peter & Ann Killen
 Betty Swan Howard S. Swan
 Elsie Trent Brenda Osborne
 Peggy VanBuren Denny VanBuren
 Mary Jane Wall John F. Wall
 Audrey Wheaton Ava Karen Wright
 Virginia Whitlow Bonnie & Jannell Love
 Brenda Wiley Steve Wiley
 Dan Zuro Lynette Martin

IN HONOR OF

GIVEN BY

Mary Ellen Apgar The Honorable Jonathan &
 Bonnie Apgar
 Dr. Robert T. Copenhaver Vincent & Shelia Copenhaver
 Andy Kegley Virginia Housing
 Amanda Kline Bonnie Topping
 Dennis Langford Sharon Conner
 Nancy Miller Ronald Miller
 Clint Pendleton Kyle Edgell
 Randall Shrewsberry Letha C. Ratcliff
 Katy Sti Virginia Housing
 Our Father Jehovah and his son
 our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ ... Mike Gray
 Staff & Volunteers of
 The Rescue Mission Steve Wiley
 Good Shepherd Baptist
 Church VBS offering Dierdre Wallace



Congratulations Dr. Faith Pasley

We are proud to announce that Dr. Faith Pasley, the Medical Director at the Fralin Free Clinic was recently awarded the TAP Cabel Brand Hope Award. This award is given to those who have made an impact serving others in need. We are so honored that Dr. Pasley has received this award. In her 18 years at the Rescue Mission, she has overseen innovative growth at our clinic while also giving direct, personal care to all who come through our doors. Thank you Dr. Pasley, for your impact on those we serve.



More YAY! *Continued from front page*

Just like we gather to run or walk a 5K course in Downtown Roanoke for the DASH, we run with perseverance this 24 hour a day, 7 day a week calling that is your Rescue Mission. Methods may change, the fundament truth of Christ as we Help Hurting People in Jesus' Name never wavers.

Will you join me, arms in the air, hands open with a spirit of "YAY" to receive God's blessings? With the carefree joy of little

children, let us celebrate blessings as we gather together in large ways and small ones this November. Thanksgiving Day is easy. How about all the other days? Every day and each night, 365 days a year, your Rescue Mission is open, ready to receive, encourage, inspire, as shelter, medical care, food, case management, and more is shared with approximately 2,000 men, women and children each year. Your

gathering with us makes all the difference.

I'll be here on Thanksgiving Day... together with our team of staff and volunteers. We will move our feet. We will share a bountiful meal. And arms will be lifted in praise for the One who supplies all our needs.

Thank you. God bless you. Your prayers, volunteer hours and gifts make a tremendous impact here. For that, I shout "YAY!"

Volunteers and Donations make the Rescue Mission possible



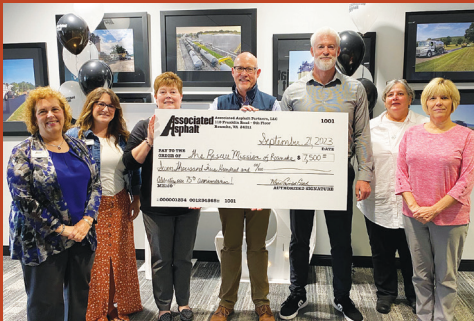
Anthem HealthKeepers Plus donated hygiene kits



Believe in Grace served dinner



Boys and Girls Club of Roanoke served dinner



Associated Asphalt donated \$7,500 to support health, hope, and healing at your Rescue Mission



Betty Thurman donated cupcakes



Pastor Bernard and Higher Life Christian Church donated pizza and drinks



Member One volunteered at 2nd Helpings



Kent Cater donated corn and green beans



Roanoke Valley Association of Realtors donated thousands of pairs of socks



Your November 2023 Newsletter!

– Donation Envelope Inside –

GET INVOLVED TODAY

DONATE

Go to RescueMission.net and click on the "Donate" button



DONATE ONLINE

VOLUNTEER

Sign up to volunteer at: RescueMission.iVolunteer.com

Contact our volunteer department at: Volunteer.info@RescueMission.net

SHOP

- **Thrift 460**
3425 Orange Ave NE, Roanoke, VA 24012
- **2nd Helpings Shop & Gallery**
1505 Williamson Rd NE, Roanoke, VA 24012
- Or go to our **Online Store**:
ebay.com/str/roanokerescuemission

Rescue Mission of Roanoke Inc.
P.O. Box 11525
Roanoke, Virginia 24022-1525

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
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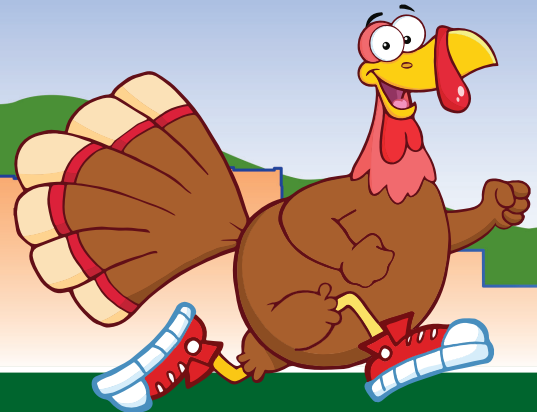
Every Step Makes a Difference

— The Rescue Mission of Roanoke —

DRUMSTICK DASH 2023

- 5K Run
- Family Walk
- Thanksgiving Morning

PRESENTED BY **Pinnacle**
FINANCIAL PARTNERS



To sign up, go to DrumstickDASH.net
QUESTIONS? Contact us at dash@rescuemission.net