



# The Good News

Scranton  
Rescue Mission

8 Olive Street, Scranton

Wyoming Valley  
Rescue Mission

290 Parkview Circle, Wilkes-Barre

Hazleton  
Rescue Mission

Coming Soon!

Helping the hurting, in Jesus' name

FROM DESPAIR TO HOPE

## Steve's Story

Two years ago, Steve was staying at a shelter each night and living on the streets during the day. He came to the Scranton Rescue Mission because he was desperate and in need.

In January of this year, Steve was back. This time, he was not at the mission because of desperation. He was there out of overwhelming thankfulness for what God had been doing in his life. He was very grateful God had provided for him through the mission's ministry.

When Steve first visited, he was homeless and hungry. He heard that the Scranton Rescue Mission served good meals on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights. Singing songs at the beginning of the service definitely got his attention. Then a student volunteer shared God's word and a personal testimony about how God had turned his life around. The message of hope and life-change made Steve evaluate his own life.

Steve had been sober for 10 years. He recalled how "God had been unbelievably good" to him before he hit a major low point in his life. While he was taking steps to be closer to God, he says, "Material things had become more important to me than anything else." He was living life through his own strength.

The results were not good. It was at this time he lost his job. Several other circumstances and poor decisions led to Steve's living on the streets. There were many difficult points. He remembers among the lowest was when he donated blood for money. It was very hard to ask for help, but he knew he needed to do it.

Deciding to go to a rescue mission was a difficult decision. But today he is glad he took that step two years ago. At the mission, Steve was shown God's love and received some very stern and much needed advice.

While life is not perfect, Steve's life is very different than it was before he came to the mission. "No matter how bad things get, God is there all the time."

### Wyoming Valley Rescue Mission

As of this writing, we have five men in our residential program "Life Change." Please pray for Don, Dave, Stacey, Harry, and Miguel. Pray also for Stacey, Don, and Terry as they begin college and Harry as he works on his GED. We will be launching a Saturday evening worship service and meal in August! It is our prayer to be at full capacity (14) by the end of the year.

### Scranton Rescue Mission

It is our prayer that God would open the doors for us to have a women's residential program at this location. It would be on the second floor of both buildings and would not affect our current ministry.

### Hazleton Rescue Mission

The Hazleton mission is still on hold and I pray we are able to launch this ministry by the end of the year.



Meeting the spiritual and physical needs of individuals in northeastern Pennsylvania for the glory of Jesus Christ



Phil Schultz  
Executive Director

# Jonah's Vine

Having lived in the southwest for over twelve years, I am grateful to God for northeastern Pennsylvania summers! Yet, even though we have a short period of extreme heat, the homeless flock to our Rescue Missions to get relief in the form of shade, a cold drink, and air conditioning. Jonah, like the homeless, experienced the blazing heat of the sun, "Then the Lord God appointed a plant (a vine), and it grew up to provide shade over Jonah's head to ease his discomfort. Jonah was greatly pleased with the plant" (Jonah 4:6). God loves humanity so much that He even notices when one of us needs shade! What a great God! Furthermore, He is using you as His instrument to provide much needed shade to those without. Thank you for responding to God's prompting of your heart to provide care for the poor and homeless.

Phil

## Volunteer Spotlight – Young and Eager to Serve Others

People line up to place their order for much needed clothes, hygiene, and food items at the Scranton Rescue Mission each Sunday evening. Helping to fill those orders is 11-year-old Elisabeth Phillips, one of our youngest volunteers.

Elisabeth attends Summit Baptist Bible Church in Clarks Summit and is going into the sixth grade at the Geneva School. She has been coming to the mission for about a year and is often accompanied by her mom, dad, and sister.

She enjoys helping because she likes organizing and the other volunteers make her feel welcome. Loving and sincere in her efforts to help others, Elisabeth's enthusiastic attitude and eagerness to serve radiates to other volunteers.

Elisabeth is a testimony to the fact that God can use people of any age to minister to others. Her main reason for wanting to be a part of the rescue mission is her desire for people to come to know Jesus.

There are many areas and ways you can help individually or as a group. Like Elisabeth, you can help organize and hand out clothes or you can minister by preparing a meal, serving food, helping with the children's class, giving haircuts, assisting with craft time, providing help with the discipleship program, simply talking with people that attend and showing them kindness, compassion, and the love of Christ. Each area is an important part of the ministry. Your prayer support is also greatly appreciated.

God uses people young and old to make a difference in the lives of others through their praying, giving, and volunteering. Let Elisabeth be an encouragement to you to become involved and thank you to all who have been and continue to be a part of what God is doing in the lives of people in Scranton. You are truly a blessing!



Left: Members of the Dunmore Postal Service collected food for the Scranton Rescue Mission.

## Wyoming Valley Rescue Mission

### • Building Dedication •

Thursday, September 17, 12 noon

290 Parkview Circle  
Wilkes-Barre

Guest Speaker – Dr. Jim Jeffery  
President, Baptist Bible College and Seminary

Cake and refreshments provided by the  
Inne of the Abingtons

## Spring/Summer Wish List

### Clothing/Hygiene:

• Men's and women's white socks • Men's and women's underwear (all sizes, boxers preferred for men) • Men's jeans (32-40 various lengths) • Women's jeans (sizes 10 & 16) • Men's and women's shorts – Men size 32 & up or L-XXL, Women size 7 & up • Men's and women's T-shirts (L-XXL) • Men's work boots & sneakers (9-13) • Women's sneakers (7-11) • Women's sports bras (all sizes) • Rain ponchos • Backpacks/duffle bags • Shaving cream • Deodorant • Powder • Insect repellent • Toilet paper • Shampoo/conditioner (trial size) • New towels & washcloths

**Please, no children's items, dress clothes, or dress shoes at this time**

### Kitchen:

• Drink mixes (lemonade or iced tea) • Styrofoam items (8 oz. cups, salad bowls, dessert plates, plates with dividers) • Plastic 8 oz. cups • Napkins • Manual can openers • Paper towels • Clorox Wipes • Dishwashing liquid • Plastic tableware • 84" round plastic tablecloths • Rectangular plastic tablecloths

## Here's how you've helped so far this year

Articles of clothing distributed .....	1,318
Food bags .....	370
Hygiene bags.....	332
Domestic items .....	53

## Attendance Year to Date

Scranton .....	1,864
Wilkes-Barre .....	847
Total.....	2,711

[www.ScrantonRescueMission.com](http://www.ScrantonRescueMission.com) | 570.357.6677 | [office@scrantonrescuemission.com](mailto:office@scrantonrescuemission.com)

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*Scranton Rescue Mission and Wyoming Valley Rescue Mission are non-denominational, Christian human relief organizations and are ministries of Wyoming Valley Rescue Ministries, Inc.*

*The official registration and financial information for Wyoming Valley Rescue Ministries may be obtained from the PA Dept. of State by calling toll free within Pennsylvania 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.*



We need your help to feed and care for the poor and homeless of northeastern Pennsylvania! Please send a gift today to the Wyoming Valley and Scranton Rescue Missions' 2009 Summer Campaign.

Yes, Phil! I will help the poor and homeless of NEPA:

- \$15.36 to help 8 people      \$49.92 to help 26 people  
 \$30.72 to help 16 people      \$155.52 to help 81 people  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to help as many as possible

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this completed form with your gift to: **Scranton Rescue Mission**, PO Box 470, Scranton, PA 18501-0470. Your gift is tax-deductible as allowed by law. You will receive a receipt at the end of the year.

09SUMMER

**Community worship services are held every Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday evening for the poor and homeless of Scranton and Wilkes-Barre.**