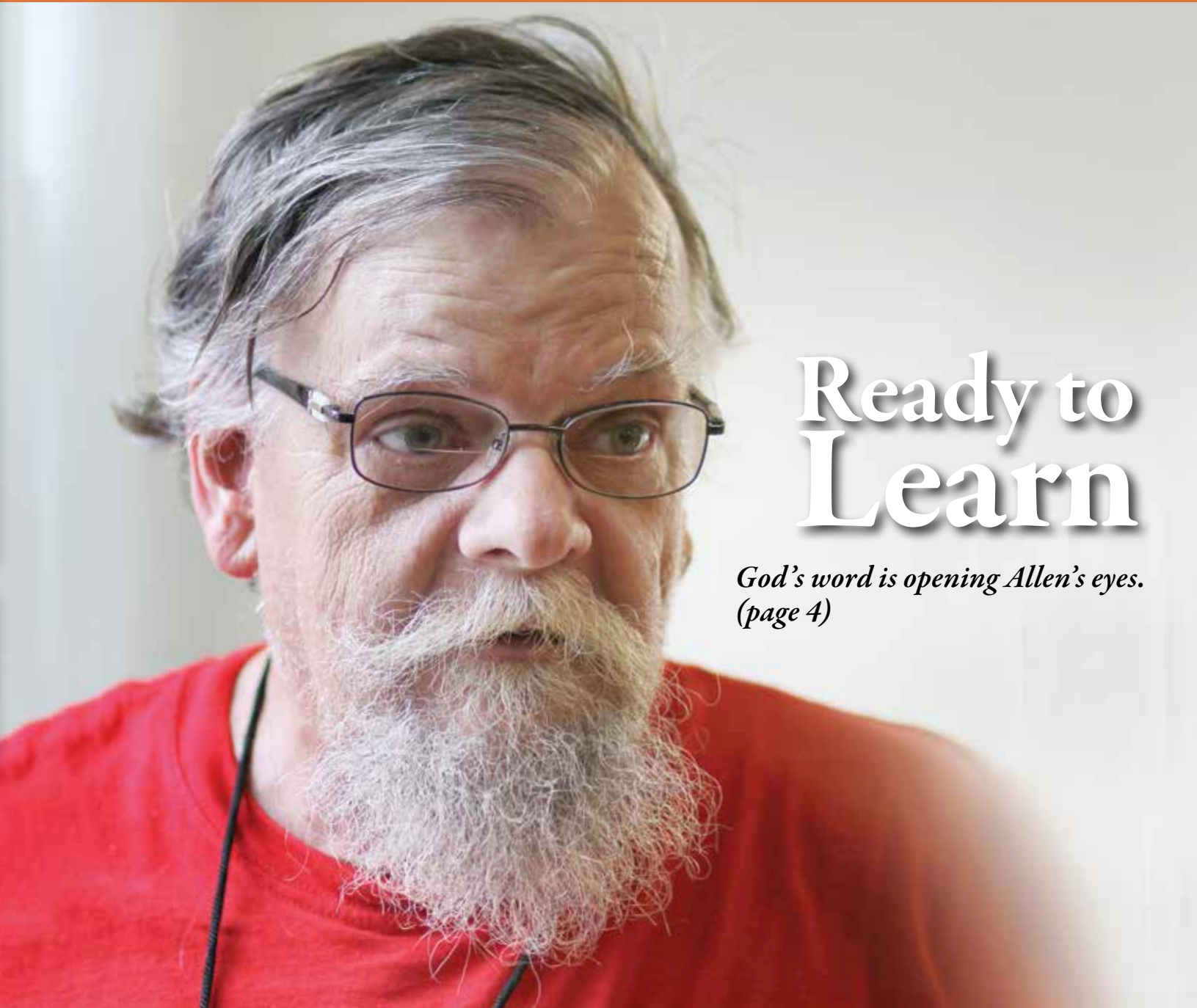


the mission Gate

A Publication of the Southern New Hampshire Rescue Mission



Ready to Learn

*God's word is opening Allen's eyes.
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also inside
this issue

- *New Every Morning* from Rick Rutter, Executive Director
- Loving the least of these: Doreen cooks up some encouragement.

New Every Morning

Dear Friend,

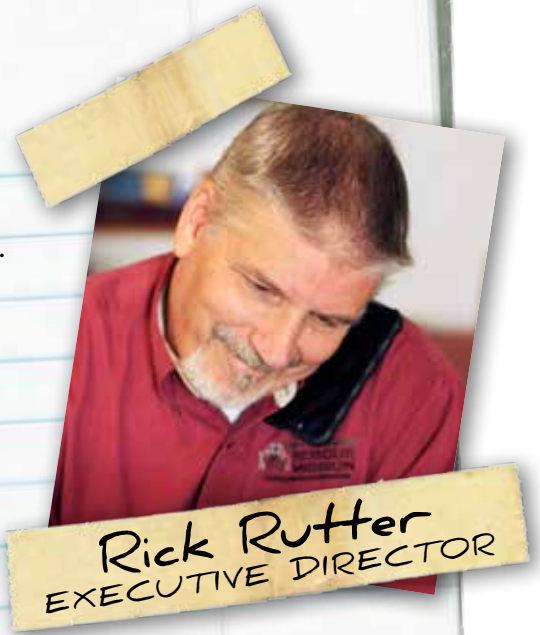
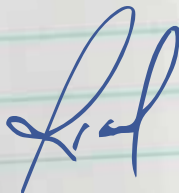
As we begin a new year of ministry, I'm grateful to God for His tremendous faithfulness at Southern New Hampshire Rescue Mission. Though the need was great, His kindness to us never wavered, and He taught me many lessons about His grace and mercy.

As you can see at the bottom of this page, many thousands of people found hope at the Mission last year. Hungry, hurting people received food, shelter, and lasting change thanks to your support, and we're thankful for your continued generosity.

In fact, your response to the Leadership Challenge — nearly \$15,000! — paired with the funds raised at our annual banquet will allow us to turn two of our interns into full-time staff members. This additional help is desperately needed, and we're so grateful to everyone whose support is making this possible.

We will continue to rely on God in 2018, no matter how great the challenges may seem. We trust in Him and give thanks to a God whose love truly never ceases. Great is His faithfulness!

Sincerely,



When “stuff” isn’t all it’s Cracked Up to Be

When creating an Estate Plan, most people start by thinking about the “stuff” they’ll leave behind. While you may feel a deep sentimental attachment to your china dishes or heirloom furniture, a recent trend suggests that younger loved ones may not feel the same.

Millennials and GenXers tend to be more minimalistic and mobile, and they don’t mind purchasing furniture that’s cheaply made if it helps them achieve a certain aesthetic. What they really want from you is a legacy of love.

Here are two simple ways to leave one:

1) Put your love into words. Don’t miss an opportunity to share your faith or feelings with the next generation. Communicating a heritage is a gift beyond value.

2) Create a Will that aligns with your heart. Carving out a plan to bless your loved ones and the ministries you care about, like Southern New Hampshire Rescue Mission, is a powerful legacy.

Let your life be punctuated with love with a Will that bestows meaning and belonging.

For the full version of this article, request a FREE copy of “What Your Loved Ones Secretly Want from You” by contacting Rick Rutter at (603) 889-3421 or rick.rutter@nashuarescuemission.org.

You can also bless your family today by creating a God-honoring Will at www.christianwill.org/snhrm.

2017 highlights

In 2017, you helped us:

- Serve more than 40,000 meals to the hungry
- Provide nearly 11,000 nights of shelter to homeless men

- Support 22 men as they entered our long-term R12 Discipleship Program. Six of these men have secured permanent housing and full-time employment.

- Lead 17 men through the Transitional Employment Program, which provides shelter to men who are employed but struggling with homelessness. Five of them have now secured housing of their own.

Loving the Least of These

Doreen has the heart of a servant. The oldest of 14 children from a poor family, she understands what it's like to go without meals, and the thought of homeless people sleeping out in the cold leaves her heartbroken.

"I went camping a few weekends ago," Doreen shares, "but I didn't sleep in a trailer. I just slept in my van. It was my choice, and it was uncomfortable, cold, and damp.

"My feet were freezing, and I started to cry. I said, 'Lord, this is what it's like for the homeless not to have a place to sleep, a warm bed, and good food. So no matter what, I will keep on trying to do this.'"

"This" refers to the meals Doreen has been serving at the Mission for the last 10 years. She serves lunch once a month, frequently purchasing all the food and paper products herself, though she's quick to give all the credit to God.

"Oh, I don't come up with the money," she laughs. "God comes up with it. There are so many people here who need help; I figure the Lord will supply the money, and He does, every time."

Doreen loves the work she does at the Mission, and she hopes more people will join her.

"Talk to Jesus about it," Doreen smiles. "See what a blessing you can be, because these are the men that other shelters won't let in. These are the real unlovables, but the Mission takes them in and gives them hope.

"Serving the Lord is the greatest reward you can get, no matter what sacrifice you have to make. Just trust God. He will show you the way. He'll give you the funds

"Serving the Lord is the greatest reward you can get."



and the time, and He'll let you share Jesus' love."

If you, your church group or co-workers would like to join Doreen in serving the Lord at the Mission, **please mark your calendar, and join us for these exciting volunteer opportunities:**

- **Good Friday Lunch and Service** — Help serve a hot meal for the homeless and then join us as we worship together. March 30, 12 PM
- **Easter Banquet** — Come serve a delicious dinner to the hungry. April 1, 5 PM

For more information about these and other volunteer opportunities, visit www.nashuarescuemission.org/volunteers/.

Third Annual Fall Fundraising Banquet

Last September, we gathered to celebrate the amazing work God has done at the Mission throughout the last year. We ate and worshipped together, giving thanks for the Lord's faithfulness and praising Him for the redemptive work He continues to do in our midst. We are grateful to our sponsors, and we look forward to hosting our fourth annual banquet in the fall of 2018!



Major Sponsors:

Boston Red Sox Foundation, Calvary Chapel of Nashua, Christian Bible Church Food Pantry, Gate City Church, Village Church of Amherst, Dr. Cynthia Whitaker

Other levels:

Bike Barn, Roger and Dawna Belanger, Harvest Christian Bible Church, New Life Christian Church, Abundant Life Coaching, Scott and Maria Boren, Brenda Cannon, Church at the Intersection, Crossway Christian Church, Randal and Judy Loubier, Manchester Church of God Church and Food Pantry, Chunky's Cinema, Lindt's Chocolate, Manchester Monarchs, Rico Petrocelli and Petrocelli Marketing, Trader Joes, Vertical Dreams Climbing.

Ready to Learn

When Allen got evicted, he wasn't sure what to do next. His chronic health issues made wandering the streets impossible, but he was unable to find a shelter that would let him stay during the day.

When he found a space at the Mission, he eagerly moved in, excited to have the opportunity to learn about the Bible.

"I wanted what they offered here," Allen says. "I wanted to learn more about the Bible. I'm much more open now, and I'm starting to learn and understand a lot more."

Allen continues to study the Bible as part of the R12 Discipleship Program at the Mission, and he has some encouraging words for those who are in his position.

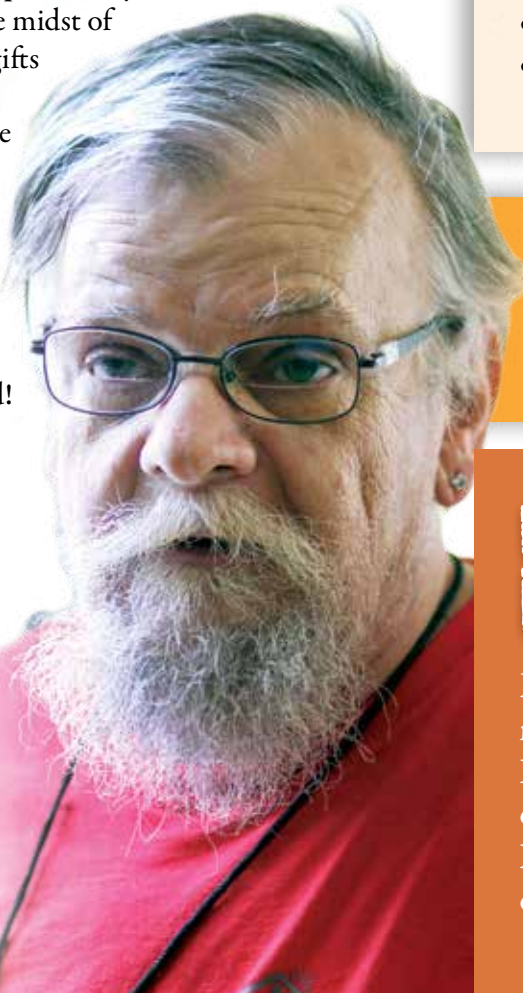
"I have a different outlook on a lot of things now. Before I came here, I didn't care about the guys walking down the street. I'd never been through it, so I didn't understand what they went through. Now I've been through it, and it's not easy."

"But if you're homeless in Nashua, you'll never go hungry. You won't go without clothes. The Mission can provide that for you, and it's great!"

Because of your support, many men like Allen have a place to go in the midst of this cold winter. Your gifts give them safe shelter and hot meals, but more importantly, you give them a place to study the Bible and learn about the hope Christ offers.

Thank you for caring for those in need!

Because of your support, many men like Allen have a place to go in the midst of this cold winter.



ways to give

February — Sock Drive

Socks are one of the most needed items at the Mission. Help care for our guests by collecting new men's and women's socks and dropping them off during the month of February. All sizes are needed!

March — Paper the Mission

Organize a paper drive at your church, office or school to help provide paper goods for the Mission. Needed items include:

- Paper plates
- Bowls
- Cups
- Napkins
- Paper towels
- Toilet paper
- Computer paper
- Plastic table covers

April — Hope Totes

Collect toiletry items to be distributed to the homeless and used by shelter residents — a great project for coworkers, neighbors or classmates. Donations should be new and for men (travel and standard-size are helpful) including:

- Toothbrushes and toothpaste
- Soap and deodorant
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Socks and underwear
- Combs and brushes
- Disposable razors and shaving cream

If you'd like a Mission team member to visit your office or church to share about our work, or you're interested in helping with one of the opportunities above, call (603) 889-3421 or email office@nashuarescuemission.org to learn more.

become a hope partner!

Hope Partners help us plan for continued ministry by committing to a monthly gift. Become a Hope Partner today, and support our ongoing work to serve the hurting in Nashua! Call (603) 889-3421 or sign up online at Hope4Nashua.org.