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*Thank you for remembering  
the poor, the homeless and the lonely  
today and throughout the year.*

Die-Cut Window  
Do Not Print Keylines

4.5" x 1.125"

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Newsletter enclosed

# Lifeline

A Ministry Publication of Inner City Mission of Springfield, Inc.

## When I one day see God, I'll be speechless. I mean, *what do you say to God?*



**Straight from  
Scott's Heart**



**Attention  
All Golfers**



**Family  
Matters**

### Inner City Mission

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**M**y name is Michelle. I'm 16 years old and I'm on my own. But, because of my family situation, I feel I've been on my own for a long time. My growing-up years were not easy. My mom was a drug addict and she always had us going from one shelter to another. She was usually employed, but her money always went to buy drugs. She thought I didn't know about her habit, but I did. It was hard to see my mother in that condition.

I'm thankful I don't use drugs myself. Because of what I've seen drugs do to my mom and others, I'm not surprised I've stayed clean. I've promised myself I'll never do drugs. Drugs are not cool. Putting that stuff into your body is a foolish thing to do. Now, as I grow older and, hopefully wiser, I realize I have real potential for a bright future. I study four hours a day, graduated from high school and look forward to continuing to become the person God wants me to be.

### I was also at the Mission as a child.

My mom and I were both here at Inner City Mission when I was seven years old. So I know this place pretty well. It's a great environment to learn more about God and about myself. Now, God and I are best friends. We talk to each other ... and I'm always



"I'm not surprised I've stayed clean. Drugs are not cool. Putting that stuff into your body is a foolish thing to do."

thanking Him for getting me this far in my life. When He looks at me and my present performance in school, I think He smiles. One day when I get to Heaven and see my God face to face, I think I'll be speechless.

I mean, *what do you say to God?*

But before I get to Heaven, I've got a lot of work to do down here on Earth. Thank you for giving me a place to *do* that work — at a place called Inner City Mission. Here I'm learning it's always the right time to do the right thing. Thank you for your kindness.

## Attention All Golfers

If you are a golfer looking for a reason to head out to the golf course, then we have just the event for you. Inner City Mission invites you to register today for the **7th Annual Rob Irsinghausen/Business Men in Christ Charity Golf Classic**. This event will be held on June 19, at Piper Glenn Golf Course in Chatham, IL, and begins with lunch at 11 a.m. and a Shotgun Start at noon. A dinner program will follow, which will include a presentation of the golf team awards.

The cost is \$90.00, which includes 18 holes of golf on a premium golf course, a golf cart, a sleeve of balls, tees, a gift bag, lunch and dinner. There will also be a silent auction featuring classic sports and historic memorabilia. You can also choose to be a sponsor for this golfing event. Inner City Mission will share the proceeds with other charitable organizations in Springfield, IL. Come join us for a day of golfing, fun, and a way to help the homeless.

For more information call:  
David Fitch — **217-553-8001**  
Bernie Lutchman — **217-414-2435**  
Doug Ryherd — **217-622-6832**  
or visit **www.businessmeninChrist.com**



## Family Matters

This time of year we celebrate mothers and fathers. Inner City Mission understands the importance of having good parents because most of the people we work with have never had this blessing. If you are fortunate to have had a parent who loved and supported you, thank God for this great blessing in your life. If your parent(s) are still alive, take time to thank them. In fact, **you might even want to honor your parent with a gift to Inner City Mission in his or her name.** What a wonderful way to help those who've never had the blessing of positive parenting while at the same time honoring your own!

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## Summer will be here soon ...

### *and hunger, pain and homelessness will not take a vacation*

Everyone at Inner City Mission thanks you for your outpouring of support during the recent Easter season. We're happy to report your generosity continues to be a part of the life-changing process for so many who come through our doors.

Your gift is an act of compassion that keeps on giving food, clothing and shelter for the truly needy in our community. Without your support, there would be no Mission.

It's true that we continue to graduate women from our *Shattered 2 Shalom* recovery program. But, in fact, no one ever really graduates from the spiritual course presented to them. That's "course work" that never ends. It's a lifelong process. And it's true for us all: If we believe we don't need to continue to

## Straight from Scott's Heart

With all due respect, there are a lot of ideas being propagated on how to "solve" the issue of homelessness. You see, it's not just enough to provide the homeless with a home. Nor is it enough just to get *them off drugs*.

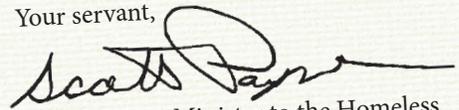
Over many years of ministry to the homeless, I've begun to isolate proven, effective ways to deal effectively with this problem — with reasonable hope for success. I say *reasonable* because people are people. Not everyone wants to be healed. But those who choose to be whole have a good chance at recovery. Here's what I'm discovering: we need to begin ...

1. **Calming the crisis.** This is the first and shorter phase of helping a person come to grips with his or her life. We must provide a nonjudgmental atmosphere of love, compassion and a *listening ear* before we can take the next step, which is ...
2. **Promoting the potential.** Once the crisis has abated, we now have the opportunity to help our homeless friend understand his or her potential. Too many have been told countless lies. Tough love has not been part of previous conversations. But it is here: *the more honest I am with you, the more you will respect me and hear what I have to say.* Then and only then will you begin to believe you have potential for a stable life ... which then leads to ...
3. **Releasing for reward ...** or helping a person become *ready for reentry.* There will be no stability in a person's life unless these steps are taken in this order. Perhaps a good way to remember them is **CPR**. And if our friends need anything, it's the fresh breath of the Holy Spirit invading their lives to help them become the people God designed them to be.

This morning, I sat in front of my laptop and reviewed hundreds of photos of our past residents and their children. I was moved to tears as I recalled the stories of the hundreds who've come through our door. All I saw in these photos were smiles of gratitude. But here's the thing. *They would not be smiling if you were not the "wind beneath their wings" through your fervent prayers and generous donations.*

Every dollar you provide produces one more smile. You will be remembered most for your smallest act of kindness. Thank you for helping us share God's unconditional love with our residents. See you tomorrow, good Lord willing.

Your servant,



Scott Payne, a Minister to the Homeless



grow spiritually, it's a sure sign we have more learning to do. Thank you for growing with us in the things of the Lord.

### **We're all works in progress**

As you are moved by the story of Michelle in this newsletter, please remember this is a testimony of a *work in progress*. Isn't that how it should be with all of us? Together let's agree our spiritual journey may come to a close each night, but that it begins all over again each morning.

To give your generous gift to Inner City Mission, please use the slip enclosed. You may also call us at **217-525-3940**. Thank you for your investment in the lives of the poor and needy in Springfield during these critical months and throughout the year.



# *My Summertime Gift*

**YES**, Scott, you can count on my generous support for the ministry of Inner City Mission now and throughout the year.

Please mail this completed form with your generous gift. Your gift is tax deductible as allowed by law. You will receive a receipt.

[CR RT]  
[DT25]  
[DT94]  
[DT45]  
[DT33]  
[DT12] [DT48] [DT61]  
[Donor IM Barcode]

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**Here is my gift of:**

- [CT49] to provide [CT63] meals and other assistance
- [CT52] to provide [CT64] meals and other assistance
- [CT55] to provide [CT65] meals and other assistance
- [CT58] to provide as many meals and as much care as possible

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[Barcode]