

Lifeline

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

There are so many things I like about Inner City Mission *I don't know where to start . . .*



Straight from Scott's Heart . . .
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It's more than a matter of words . . .
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Thank you for your generosity . . .
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My name is Shania. I was born in Springfield and I am now nine years old. I'm happy to say that Inner City Mission is my home. I love being with the other children, and even though we don't always see eye to eye, we usually work things out. I just know Jesus always sees me eye to eye and that makes me feel good all over. The one thing I love about Jesus is that whenever I have a problem He helps me deal with it. All I have to do is pray to him, and I'm able to get through my problems. He also helps me at school, where I am good at math and spelling. When I grow up I want to be a teacher because I want to help kids learn and do well in life. When I play at school, I like the monkey bars best.

I keep meeting nice people here at the Mission

I know everything we receive here at the Mission doesn't just happen. Nice people like you give me my food, clothing, and a roof over my head. That makes you a special person, and I want to thank you for being so kind. I also appreciate the groups of people that come to the Mission to help us out. It's fun to talk to them and learn about their lives. Not long ago, one of the members of a group took a whole weekend to teach me

how to ride a bike. Wow, was I excited! Just think. My new friend took all that time to teach me. That was a special gift, and one I will never forget. When you think about giving money and other things to Inner City Mission, I hope you'll remember you are helping kids like me, along with so many other men, women and families. Thank you.

Your friend,

Shania



"When I grow up I want to be a teacher because I want to help kids learn and do well in life."

Thank you for being so nice to me. I will always remember your kindness.

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MEET CANDACE MAYNARD



Hi, I'm Candace and I work as a Lodge Supervisor at ICM. I grew up here in Springfield, and my early years were

chaotic and tough. Despite the abuses, even as a young child, I knew that God was with me and would watch over me. I began using drugs in my teen years and went on to become a meth addict and an alcoholic.

As an adult, my life was out of control. In January of 1998, I came to ICM and stayed for five months. I can say for a fact that this has changed my life and literally saved my soul.

After getting my GED in 2002 and going to college for a year, I was excited to get hired as a staff member of ICM in August 2003. Much praise goes to God as I've been drug & alcohol free now for fifteen years!

I've been married to my husband, Paul, since 1995 and we have 3 beautiful grandchildren who are the apple of my eye. God has truly made my life worth living. I live, love and laugh because He adores me. I love my job and I work for a wonderful God . . . what an amazing life I have now.

Straight from Scott's Heart

Dear Friend of Inner City Mission,

Once again, my heart is filled with thanks for *who you are* and *all you do* to keep the Mission's doors open to those in need. When you come to visit us, you will see tears of joy on the faces of so many who had once lost their way. Those tears are saying much more than a simple thank you. They are saying *you are reaching out to me with so much love that tears are the only way I know how to express how I feel*. I've now been at Inner City Mission for 21 years and here's what I know: every dollar given, every hour of volunteer effort provided, and every minute of prayer uttered over the years all continue to have an immense effect on the lives of so many who live in a state of homelessness. So when you contribute to the Mission in any way, you give a gift that keeps on giving. I can't think of a better return on your investment.

At last . . . joy, stability and peace

On the streets, there is little happiness and no peace. But here at the Mission, joy and peace are the order of the day. This is because our Mission guests finally learn they will never make it on their own. The only time they can and will ever know true joy, stability and peace in their lives is when they embrace the power and love of the Savior. Thank you for your vital part in seeing lives transformed for eternity.

May God continue to bless you . . . *just as you keep blessing others.*

Your servant,

Scott Payne, A Minister to the Homeless



"Our ministry takes place in the midst of sadness, pain, and sorrow."



Thank you for touching the lives of those searching for a New Way to live . . .

The entire Mission staff thanks you for your overwhelming support of this ministry of rescue during the past several months. It would be an understatement to say these are challenging economic times. For many, *unprecedented* would be a more appropriate word.

But as tough as it may be during these days of uncertainty, it's even more difficult for the men and women who come through the doors of Inner City Mission. These are those who live in a state of homelessness, the ex-offenders, so many who suffer from addictions and others who have simply lost their way. The good news is those who choose to make positive changes in their lives are finding new hope, new opportunities and new life as they make the decision to follow *in the steps of Jesus*.

God bless you for giving from a grateful heart

You continue to bless us by reaching out to those who are hungry, homeless and without a friend. We cannot thank you enough for your generosity throughout the year. To continue to touch the lives of others in our community, please send your donation to the Mission today. For your convenience, you may either use the remit slip enclosed or give your gift online at www.innercitymission.net. Thank you.