



**December
2025**

**“But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength...” -
Isaiah 40:31**

**Rebuilding the Lives of Homeless Men
One Precious Soul at a Time**

A Message from our Director:

Isaiah 9:6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is such a joyous time of year at Calvary Rescue Mission. We just completed our “Feed the 400” annual program where volunteers delivered 400 Thanksgiving dinner plates to our neighbors in South Memphis. Next, on December 13, we will host our annual Calvary Children’s Christmas Celebration for the children of South Memphis. Then, on December 18, we will hand out gift bags to all of the men who come in that night. There will be many opportunities for all of us to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior and especially His life with us.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, our staff members and all of the men whose home is at Calvary Rescue Mission, we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a most joyous New Year!

Because of Calvary,

Dennis Rutledge, Executive Director



Our Volunteers!



**Calvary Rescue Mission, 960 S. Third St, Memphis, TN. 38106;
PO Box 2077, Memphis, TN. 38101-2077; 901-775-2570; Chief@calvaryrescue.org**

Client's Testimony

Josh Motsinger was born in Chattanooga, Tennessee, but spent most of his life in Iowa. His early life was marked by deep instability. His father died in a car accident when Josh was one year old, and his mother, who worked constantly, was rarely present. He was raised mostly by his grandfather and two uncles, none of whom were healthy influences. Josh was introduced to whiskey at age seven and was surrounded by drugs so often that he began using them by age nine. From ages seven to fourteen, Josh lived with a violently abusive stepfather. The abuse became so severe that at fourteen he planned to kill him. He was arrested, spent several months in juvenile detention, and this became the first of twelve juvenile stays. This cycle of violence, drugs, and incarceration continued into adulthood, with multiple arrests tied to drinking, drugs, and destruction of property.



Searching for purpose, Josh enlisted in the U.S. Army and served for eight years, eventually becoming an Army Ranger. Seven of those years were in active combat overseas. He experienced significant loss during his service but also felt purpose and says those were the best years of his life. His service ended after a fight with a supervisor following an incident in which several of his fellow Rangers were killed due to poor leadership. After being discharged, he turned heavily to alcohol and drugs to numb the pain and emptiness he felt.

In August 2021, after receiving his second DUI and still finding himself back at the same bar, he had what he describes as an epiphany: "What am I doing with my life? Look at the mess drinking has made, and here I am again." From that moment, he remained sober for nearly three years and began putting his life back together.

But sobriety without Christ was unsustainable. When he got a woman pregnant and their relationship collapsed, he lost the ability to see his son. The heartbreak and depression of that season drew him back into drinking. Hoping for a fresh start, he boarded a Greyhound bus with no real plan and eventually ended up in Memphis. He spent thirteen days homeless before someone at the Hospitality Hub told him about Calvary Rescue Mission.

Josh had long rejected Christianity. His abusive stepfather claimed to be a Christian, and the hypocrisy hardened his heart early in life. Later, the loss of a baby in the womb deepened his anger toward God. But on August 15, 2025, Josh walked into Calvary. Over the past several months, after hearing multiple sermons and being in a stable, Christ-centered environment, he has begun wrestling with questions about truth, suffering, and the problem of evil - his abusive childhood, the horrors of combat, and the loss of his child.

It is clear that God is drawing Josh. Please continue praying for his salvation, his mental and emotional health, his relationship with the mother of his child and his young son, and that the Lord would give him hope, purpose, and a renewed future. Josh turned thirty-nine this past August and deeply desires a changed life.

NEEDS & PRAYERS

Needs: Please pray for our supply of individual snacks and chips. We also need white bath towels, deodorant, bar soap, and paper towels.

Praise: Please praise God that homelessness is NOT a dead end from which there is no escape; it is a chapter in life that can be overcome and Calvary Rescue Mission, along with other shelters and missions work to help men restore their lives.

Please pray: Please pray for our Annual Calvary Children's Christmas Celebration (December 13) that we will receive enough new, unwrapped toys, activity books, coloring books, crayons, cold-weather wear, and bicycles to share with all of the kids from South Memphis that come to the mission that day to celebrate the birth of Christ. (Please note: we gratefully accept monetary donations towards these gifts)

Please pray: Please pray for our yearly Calvary Men's Christmas gift bags to be filled with items that they want and can use. We need warm gloves and socks, warm knit caps, toiletries, Christmas candies and snacks, fresh fruit, and some surprises. We currently average 81 men each night and that could rise as the weather gets colder.

Please pray: Please pray especially for those who are close to falling in a trap and being plunged into a wayward life that they will recognize the trap and turn from it by turning their lives around and following our Lord and Savior!

YOU CAN FINANCIALLY HELP CALVARY ...

WITHOUT IT COSTING YOU A PENNY!!!

If you shop at Kroger you can register for your Kroger Rewards Card at: [Kroger.com/communityrewards](https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards) Our No. is XV227. We would appreciate you signing up with Kroger's listing Calvary Rescue Mission as your charity so we will receive a percentage of your purchases. Last Quarter: **\$1,039.59**

Children's Christmas Celebration December 13, 2025

As we gear up for our Annual Children's Christmas Celebration, please help us with your donations of children's new unwrapped toys, coloring books and crayons, cold weather wear, and bicycles to share with all of the kids from South Memphis that come to the mission that day to celebrate the birth of Christ. (Please note: we gratefully accept monetary donations towards these gifts).

We also need items for our Calvary Men's Christmas gift bags to be filled with items that they want and can use. We need warm gloves and socks, warm knit caps, toiletries, Christmas candies and snacks, fresh fruit, and some surprises.



Memorial or Honorarium

Would you like to make a donation to either our Operating Fund or Building Fund in memory of a loved one, or in honor of someone. You can fill out the information and send with your donation in the enclosed envelope.

IN HONOR OF or IN MEMORY OF _____

Send acknowledgement to: _____
(relationship to person)

Address to send acknowledgement:: _____

"Volunteer Highlights"



Chicken Champions:

Bob & Julia Dean

Want to become a Chicken Champion??

Sponsor the cost of supplies (\$250) for our monthly luncheon so that all money received at that luncheon goes into our Building Fund.

September

2025

Lodgings	2,506
Meals	7,518
Clothing	277
Saved	85

In **2024**, there were **391** men who made decisions to follow Christ!

When **Gloria Allen** speaks . . . people listen. She knows what needs to be done and she makes sure that it gets done. For years, Gloria and her crew have served the meal during each Monthly Luncheon at Calvary Rescue Mission and cleaned the tables and kitchen after we eat. In advance of our luncheon, Gloria contacts her volunteers to make sure that we have enough people to serve our guests. Gloria and Roy, her husband and retired Memphis firefighter, arrive early for every luncheon so that she can slice and plate every cake and pie for everyone coming to eat. We had a couple of volunteers this year who were no longer available to serve so Gloria recruited their replacements and gave them their assignments. Thanks to Gloria and her crew, every luncheon operates like a well-oiled machine.



Just prior to our November luncheon, Gloria fell and broke both of her shoulders. Obviously, she will be unavailable for a little while. Please pray for her healing and a smooth and speedy recovery.



Monthly Business Luncheons

*Our December Luncheon will be **December 2nd!** The Luncheon begins at **11:20 a.m.** Of course, we'll have our famous fried chicken and all the fixing's! We look forward to seeing you all at Calvary!*

Music - Fullview Baptist Church Men's Chorus

*On **January 6th** our Luncheon speaker will be **Chuck Mann.***

I WANT TO BE A PART OF THE MIRACLE & PROVIDE A BETTER PLACE FOR HOMELESS MEN!

Website: calvaryrescuemission.org

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE NO. _____

I PLEDGE TO GIVE \$ _____ MONTHLY, YEARLY for _____ YEARS (Circle One)

For a Total of \$ _____. Enclosed is my first payment of \$ _____. I want to make a One Time Donation of \$ _____.

*** CRM is a Tax Exempt Charity, All donations given to Calvary are Tax Deductible. ***

Website: calvaryrescuemission.org