



**February
2026**



**“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:

James 1:2-3 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.



Winter weather is a real challenge for all of us, but especially challenging to our homeless population. Our population of clients usually rises during extreme weather conditions. Very cold weather can be life threatening with prolonged exposure. It can also cause frostbite and result in loss of fingers and toes or even limbs. Unfortunately, there are those who will only enter a shelter as a last resort. Winter can bring additional problems other than extreme temperatures. It can also bring snowfall and wet clothes that carry the cold temperatures right to the body. Winter weather can be very dangerous to those living on the streets.

The good news about winter weather, however, is that it will drive people, who normally would not enter a shelter, to enter a shelter. When they do come in they get to escape the weather, have some good, hot food, sleep in a safe environment and, most importantly, hear the Good News about Jesus. It is then that we hope that our Savior, who loves us so much, will call them to follow Him and change their life completely.

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

Thomas Richardson is a lifelong Memphian, born and raised in the city he now faithfully serves. He grew up in the projects in a large family of seven children, where life was lived paycheck to paycheck. His parents, married for 51 years, worked hard to raise their family, and two devoted grandmothers also played a formative role in Thomas's life. A basketball coach at Central High School became another key mentor and remains a close influence even today.

Thomas was raised in a Baptist church and attended regularly as a child. At age 14, during a Sunday morning service, he surrendered his life to Christ—a defining moment that would shape the rest of his story.

After high school, Thomas played college basketball at Northwest Junior College in Senatobia, Mississippi. His career ended abruptly during his second year when he tore his Achilles tendon. Following that injury, Thomas entered the workforce but struggled to find purpose, eventually slipping into discouragement and depression. This was not what he had imagined his life would be.

From 1980 to 2000, Thomas was able to support himself financially and attended church at times, but he gradually drifted from the Lord. He was drawn toward destructive choices—chasing money, gambling, unhealthy relationships, and the pursuit of the “high life.” These decisions left him in debt and caused deep relational fractures. Over time, his parents and siblings distanced themselves as he continued down this path.

By 2000, Thomas had lost everything and became homeless. While sleeping on the ground one night, he experienced what he calls his “prodigal son moment.” Like Luke 15:17 says, “*he came to himself.*” By God's grace, Thomas realized how far he had strayed from the Lord and from his God-given purpose—not to be an NBA basketball star, but to be a faithful child of the Most High God.

Soon after, someone on the street told him about Calvary Rescue Mission. Thomas came seeking help and was initially told there were no beds available. As he walked away, Sammie Armstead ran after him and asked if he could get up on a top bunk. Thomas said yes—and the rest is history.

From his first day, Thomas describes Calvary as a place of welcome, rest, and brotherhood. Through chapel services and discipleship classes, he was reminded of the faith he embraced as a teenager. He repented of his sin and rededicated his life to Christ. God used his time at Calvary to restore his walk with the Lord and reconcile broken family relationships.

Today, Thomas is a prayer warrior who serves as Dorm Captain at Calvary Rescue Mission. He celebrated 25 years at the Mission last year and has been on staff for eight years. He is the father of two adult children and the grandfather of four. His life is a powerful testimony of God's redeeming grace.

Please pray for Thomas's health, particularly his foot and shoulder, and that God would continue to strengthen and sustain his faith.



NEEDS & PRAYERS

Needs: Please pray for our supply of individual snacks, chips, and dinner meats (ground beef, chicken, pork loin and pork chops) keep up with the demand as we are averaging 80 men each night for dinner.

Praise: Praise God that we have the availability of city buses to help people who don't have a vehicle get around the City of Memphis to the places that they need to go.

Please pray: Please pray for us to locate a well maintained, used pickup truck that we can afford to replace our current pickup that has over 270,000 miles and lots of repair needs.

Please pray: Please pray especially for those at Calvary Rescue Mission who are able to work and are actively seeking jobs that they will find jobs that they can access and return quickly or find dependable transportation that will get them to work on time and back to the mission on time so that they can attend chapel each night.

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 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**

Volunteer's Continued



Client's Bible Study Group / Faith & Finance Graduates



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:

Forest & Barbara Rickman

Bill & Marsha Thompson

Roger Watson

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.

November

2025

Lodgings	2,751
Meals	8,253
Clothing	209
Saved	52

In **2025**, there were **523** men who made decisions to follow Christ!

On his first trip to Calvary Rescue Mission, Charles "Chuck" Marion checked in as a new client. I walked past him as he was getting his towel from the Clothes Closet and smelled alcohol. I asked if he had been drinking and he admitted to having had only two beers (typical response from a guilty party). Before he even got to his assigned dorm he was told to leave and come back another day without drinking alcohol.



On his next trip to Calvary, he had realized that he was an addict, completed an recovery program and decided to get his life in order. He knew that the staff at Calvary would hold him accountable, so he returned and started turning his life around. He regularly attended counseling sessions and counseling group meetings. He got a degree in drug and alcohol counseling and got a job counseling those who are trapped in addiction.

Even though he has a job and could move out, Chuck still stays. As he says, "Calvary has given me so much, I have to give back to Calvary." He leads our Celebrate Recovery, a program for addicts to escape addiction, which meets weekly as a group. He counsels men individually who need it and he holds them accountable. He even fills in for staff members when needed. Chuck is a valuable volunteer at Calvary Rescue Mission.

Monthly Business Luncheons

*Our February Luncheon will be **February 3rd!**
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!*

*Speaker – **Cliff Marion**, Lead Pastor of First Baptist Church Covington*

*Our luncheon speaker for March is **Elder John Matthew** from B'rit Hadasha Messianic Jewish Synagogue.*

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