

# homewardbound

DURHAM

**RESCUE**

MISSION

Mending Shattered Lives Since 1974

**“Lies kept me in  
bondage . . . but  
God’s truth is  
setting me free.”**



*Thank you for being there for me. I'll always remember your kindness.*

## The more I learn about God . . . the more I am grateful for this place of rescue

**M**y name is John. After a lifetime of drinking . . . of losing everything dear to me . . . and of not being able to think clearly about much of anything, I have finally chosen to allow God to take control of my life. And the first step toward that new life is the time I’m spending here at Durham Rescue Mission.

For years I lived with nothing but noise in my head. I was a lost soul. But today I can say I’m like that lost sheep that was found. I’m learning what it means to have a relationship with Jesus. Lies kept me in bondage . . . but God’s truth is setting me free.

For me, one of my strongest motivations for staying sober and living God’s way is my 2-year-old granddaughter.

She was 3 months old when I first held her. That was also the *last* time I held her. But now I’m slowly being welcomed back into the family. I want to be a good grandpa . . . and with God’s help I know I will be. I’ve also graduated from the Mission’s Victory program and I know I’ll never be the same because of what I’m learning here.

### **I’ve never felt better in my life**

Not long ago I was 220 pounds and I had a 40 inch waist. My heart was being transformed but I had to do something about how I looked. So I now walk several miles a day . . . I do 100 sit ups every morning . . . I have oatmeal and fruit for breakfast and I’ve never felt better

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## Testimony of John . . .

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in my life. I used to think I was a borderline water brain. Today, I know I'm a person of value whom God loves. I'm so grateful to the Mission and to you who give so much of your time, talent and treasure to help me get back on track. I also pray you and your family enjoy your best Easter ever.

Your friend,

*John*

## Special Note from a Child Whose Mom Received Help at the Durham Rescue Mission

Thank you for helping my mom start A knew life she wouldn't be here today if it wasn't for you all and God. God worked a miracle in mom's life those eight months I Love my mom so thank you for helping my mom to.

love JOSH



## An Encouraging Word from the Founders Dr. and Mrs. Ernie Mills

Dear Friend of the Durham Rescue Mission,

**T**hirty-six years ago, the Durham Rescue Mission was a simple, one-building shelter providing assistance for 12 men in physical and spiritual need. Today, you help us feed, house, clothe and provide biblical counseling for over 330 people each day. Thank you.

### It's all about choices

Without your prayers, acts of service and generous financial support, we would not be in our new Center for Hope with its 88 additional beds, nor would we be able to touch the lives of so many families in crisis. Most men and women come to us because their choices have led them away from God and into a world of sin. But when they come face-to-face with the risen Lord and the hope demonstrated by the empty tomb, our guests learn Jesus is a mender of broken hearts and shattered spirits.

### Thank you for making the Center for Hope a reality

One gentleman currently in our Victory Program has a Ph.D. in physics. During his studies at UNC, his fraternity came to the Mission to help feed the homeless. He tells us now, "I never thought one day I would need the Mission for me." Education, money and investments are important in life . . . but Matthew 16:26 reminds us . . . For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Again . . . it's all about choices . . . and whom we choose to serve.

Thank you for investing in the lives of so many who've lost their way. Thank you for helping to make the Center for Hope a reality. Now we need your support more than ever . . . because God's reward for a job well done is that He gives us an even bigger job to do. God bless you and your family at this Easter season.

Sincerely,

*Ernie & Gail*

Ernie & Gail Mills, Founders



## Thank you for helping us share the message with so many who've lost their way.

**T**he good news of Christ's resurrection is this: Because He is risen it's not only possible . . . but it's a written guarantee that through Christ *old things are passed away; behold all things are become new*. This is the *heart change* we see every day at Durham Rescue Mission . . . and *heart change* happens because you continue to provide us with the tools to minister to those who come through our doors.

We're profoundly grateful to you for your role in helping us share God's message of healing and hope with so many who've lost their way. Because of your kindness our doors remain open to any and all who need what the Mission has to offer. Thank you for standing with us during the past holiday months by providing wholesome food, safe



## From a Life of Living for Drugs . . . to Living for Jesus

**M**y name is Shaunda. If God had not directed my steps to Durham Rescue Mission I'd either be in prison — again — or dead. I was a physical and spiritual mess and I was tired of living my drug-addicted life. Down deep I knew better. But I still kept doing meth and pot for the enjoyment. But it wasn't really joyful at all. All my drug use did was to take me deeper into despair and self-loathing.

One day my husband discovered the crowd I hung out with was going to give me a *hotshot*. That's a deadly mixture of drugs designed to kill a person. My "friends"

figured I knew too much about their activities, and that it was my time to leave this world. Fortunately, I was able to escape this disaster.

**I will always remember  
your kindness to me**

Still I stayed with the drugs. I'd go without sleep for two weeks at a time. I was delirious — expecting people to attack me . . . *to say nothing of the bugs I saw on the floor that were not there*. I ached so much I thought I would die. But today I can say I am no longer the person I used to be. I've given God control of my life.

Thanks to the Mission's Victory Program, my counselors and so many Christian friends, I'm now walking a new path — God's path. Once tortured and broken in spirit, today I have a relationship with my God and a renewed bond with my husband. How grateful I am to the Mission and to you for your wonderful donations. Your generosity keeps these doors open for someone like me. God bless you at this Easter season. I will always remember your kindness.

Your grateful friend,

*Shaunda*

Thank you for caring about my  
physical body and eternal soul.

## Annual Easter Community Dinner and Easter Basket Give-Away

We are preparing for our Annual Easter Event. We need:

- Easter Baskets for the children
- Volunteers to help set up and serve

You can help by purchasing an Easter Basket and bringing it to 1201 E. Main St., or by making an online donation at **DurhamRescueMission.org** and marking Easter Baskets (\$15 will provide a lot of joy for an at-risk child).

To volunteer, please call  
**(919) 688-9641, ext. 1050  
or ext. 5025.**

## Special Thanks

To everyone who gave financially, volunteered and/or donated coats, food and/or Christmas gifts. See lots of photos of happy faces at **DurhamRescueMission.org**

## Special Needs

Donations of clothing, shoes and furniture for our thrift stores. **Call Rich Carr at (919) 598-7170.**

## Message of the empty tomb with

shelter and the opportunity for so many to hear God's Word. As a result, desperate men and women found rest for their weary souls.

### Thank you for investing in the lives of those in need

Now we come to you again at this Easter season, asking you to consider yet another investment in the lives of men and women in great need. To keep reaching out to our friends and neighbors, please use the remit slip in this newsletter and mail it to us today along with your generous Easter gift. Or you may make your donation on our secure website at **www.DurhamRescueMission.org**. God bless you for being an Easter friend to those who rely on us for help.

**"... heart change  
happens because  
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provide us with the  
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## In Memoriam

The Durham Rescue Mission has been made possible because of caring friends, and recently two of those very special friends of the Mission went home to be with the Lord.

**Mr. Elton Earp** was 94 years old when he passed away. He was a faithful monthly donor and was always eager to hear about what was going on at the Mission and help out in any way possible. We miss Elton and our "lunch and learn sessions" we had several times a year when we would update him on what's happening at the Mission.

Elton remembered the Mission in his estate planning, and because of his thoughtfulness we will be able to add more beds to help take care of the ever-increasing numbers of folks coming to us for help.

**Mrs. Mildred Clegg** passed away last month at 93 years of age. She and her husband, Rev. Ralph E. Clegg, started Clegg's Termite and Pest Control. When Gail and I first moved to Durham to start the Durham Rescue Mission, I had to find a job so I could put food on the table for my family. Rev. Clegg gave me a job and was a great encouragement to me in getting the Durham Rescue Mission started.

The Clegg family continues to support the Mission, and we are honored to name our dining room in our new Center for Hope "In Loving Memory of Rev. Ralph E. and Mildred Clegg".

*Ernie + Gail*

## "Grip It 'N Rip It" 2nd Annual Golf Classic

We are gearing up for our second annual golf tournament. The event will be held at Hillandale Golf Course in Durham, NC on April 19, 2013. The tournament will be captain's choice, with a 9:00 a.m. shotgun start. There will be door prizes, and all proceeds will benefit the Durham Rescue Mission's ministry to mend shattered lives of the homeless and addicted.

Come join us on April 19, 2013 to Grip It 'N Rip It for the homeless!  
[www.DurhamRescueMission.org/GolfClassic](http://www.DurhamRescueMission.org/GolfClassic)



## Chaplain's Corner

Rev. D. Robert Tart, COO

We are approaching the time when we will celebrate the resurrection of our Lord. This is the greatest holiday for Christians because His resurrection guarantees our salvation.



Also, His resurrection is a promise by God to Christians that we will never die. It is a pledge that our bodies will live again and rise to a superior condition. We have this guarantee because the body of our Lord was no phantom after death any more than before He died.

1 Cor. 15:52b: "for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed." What shall we be changed to be? 1 John 3:2b: "we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is."

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## New Center for Hope Set to Open

The Durham Rescue Mission is pleased to announce the grand opening of our new Center for Hope.

This new 34,000-square-foot building, located on our men's campus at 1201 East Main St., will house up to 88 additional men and will be able to seat up to 250 people at meal times.

The Durham Rescue Mission considers the Center for Hope an important investment in the revitalization of Northeast Central Durham by helping to rebuild more lives, restore more families, and empower more individuals to break the cycle of poverty over the next 10 to 20 years.

To schedule a tour, please call (919) 688-9641, ext. 5028.

