

# homewardbound

Your support helps guide lost souls home.



I now know Jesus is the only one who is able to calm my troubled heart.

by Paul

Just like Peter . . . I need to keep my eyes on Jesus. Thank you for helping me do just that.

**My name is Paul.** I am learning when the storms of life are more than one can handle, the only one who can calm those storms is Jesus Christ. That's what I'm learning here at the Durham Rescue Mission. I am here because I needed to get my relationship with Jesus Christ restored. I grew up in West Virginia in a pretty good Christian home. I was eight years old when my parents separated, and that caused me a lot of emptiness and trouble. At age 12 I was already tied into addictions. For more than 10 years I was in bondage to meth.

#### **With God all things are possible**

During my years of addiction, I kept trying to know God. Satan had made me deaf to His presence. If you have

ever been in this situation, you know what I mean. When I came to the Mission, I was still cold toward God. But before long I began to see major changes in my life. So many of us have gotten off track. But because of the love and compassion of caring people, we are finally becoming the men and women God created us to be. Speaking personally, I now know with God all things are possible.

**“Today, God has my back.”**

When I helped in the volunteer department I saw your generosity in action every day. Thank you for being one who gives so much to so many.

## Mission Statement of the **Durham Rescue Mission**

“Our mission is to meet, through the power of Jesus Christ, the needs of the whole person — spiritual, educational, emotional, physical, vocational and social — so those who are hurting may become fully functioning members of society.”

### **DONATE, SHOP, AND HELP THE HOMELESS**

**We need clothing and other gently used items!** Your donation of in-kind gifts such as clothing, furniture, and other household items are needed to stock our thrift stores. When you give, not only do you help stock our stores, you also help provide jobs for over 70 former homeless people. AND when you shop at our thrift stores, you help provide food and shelter for over 400 men, women, and children at the Durham Rescue Mission. So clean out your closet, your attic, your garage, your storage building, and help the homeless today!

For drop-off locations, visit [www.DurhamRescueMission.org](http://www.DurhamRescueMission.org)



## An Encouraging Word from the Founders

Dear Friend of the Durham Rescue Mission,

We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your ongoing enthusiasm for God’s work at the Durham Rescue Mission. Without your compassion toward the needy we’d never be able to offer our guests the greatest gift of all — *hope for today and hope for a better future through a relationship with Jesus Christ.*

Thanks to you, we are able to demonstrate God’s love with a hot meal, clean clothing, and safe shelter. It’s true, we receive most of our income during the winter months. However, we are grateful you remember our needs in the summer as well.

When it is hot, humid, and with little shade available for the homeless, the dog days of summer are often too much to bear for those who live outdoors. There is no access to sunscreen, and therefore there is a higher incidence of skin cancer. Dehydration is also an issue for men, women, and innocent children who find themselves living in the back alleys and on park benches in our community. You can imagine how grateful our friends are when they step into the safe, Christian love of the Durham Rescue Mission.

### **Without hope, all is lost**

One more word on hope. A person will never change if he or she doesn’t have hope. However, if we can find even a glimmer of hope in a person’s eyes, we know there is a chance that individual will make it. For sure, there is no hope on the streets. If anything, it’s just hope for another fix or another bottle of booze. As you read the testimonies of Paul and Charlene in this newsletter, please remember you and your generosity are playing a key role in their recovery. Our prayer is that you continue to be blessed even as you bless others.

*Ernie & Gail*

Ernie & Gail Mills, Founders

“There is no hope on the streets. If anything, it’s just hope for another fix, or another bottle of booze.”



I came to the Mission for one reason . . . *but God had even better plans for my life*

by *Charlene*

Thanks to you . . . *I’ve got my smile back!*

**My name is Charlene.** After multiple job-related injuries, falling behind on my rent, and still recovering from earlier abusive situations, I had to make a life decision: *keep trying to make it on my own, or swallow my pride and ask for help.* I’m grateful to God I chose the latter . . . and that He directed my steps to the Durham Rescue Mission. At the Mission, I enjoyed safe shelter, good food, and Christian fellowship. But here’s what I hadn’t expected: I joined the Victory program, and, little by little, *I found myself returning to a relationship with God.* For too long I was angry at everyone and everything. Too much was happening all around me, and it

was getting harder and harder to cope with life. But when I began to allow God’s message of love, forgiveness, and acceptance to wash over me, those were the days that turned my life around.

### **The blessings never stop**

So . . . I came to the Mission because I had nowhere else to go. My single purpose in walking through those doors was to find shelter. I’m so glad God had even better plans for my life. While at the Mission, I worked with the donor relations department. I was also involved with Temps to the Rescue, which helps Mission clients find temporary employment both

within the Mission and with outside companies. One more thing. Before I came to the Mission, a piece of steel broke one of my front teeth. I later discovered the tooth next to it had to be removed. So there I was without my usual smile. But thanks to the generosity of a Mission friend, like you, I was able to get a dental partial. And guess what? I’ve now got my smile back! God bless you for your love and encouragement. *And thank you for my smile.*

**God bless you for giving me a second chance at life.**



## Those who have been lost for so long are finally finding a way home ... *thanks to your generosity.*

It’s summertime and the living’s not easy for the men and women who are coming through our doors. They are hungry, weary, and homeless, with many struggling with addictions that have short-circuited their hopes and dreams: dreams of a career, an education, retirement, and healthy relationships with family. For too many, these longed-for dreams have become living nightmares. Many have tried programs designed to help them get their lives back on track. Some of these programs have been effective; many have not. And now, often as a last resort, they find their way to the Mission.

### **Good news . . .**

The good news is this: if our friends are able to discover even the thinnest thread of hope, then it’s possible for them to have a future after all. That’s because the gospel changes lives and gives people the opportunity to become the men and women God designed them to be. We urge you to give a generous summertime gift. Whether your gift is large or small, it immediately goes to work to help those who are lost and who are looking for a way home. To send your donation now, please use the remit slip enclosed, or make your donation online at [www.DurhamRescueMission.org](http://www.DurhamRescueMission.org). God bless you for your generosity.

“For too many, these longed-for dreams have become living nightmares.”

# Annual Back to School Party and Cookout

Wednesday, August 24, at 10:00 a.m.

Help at-risk children in the Triangle prepare to start a new school year.

## Donations Needed:

You may share a gift online at our secure website, [www.DurhamRescueMission.org](http://www.DurhamRescueMission.org), or use the enclosed envelope.

## Volunteers Needed to Help:

- Set up
- Serve
- Clean up

Call (919) 688-9641 ext. 5025 to register or visit [www.DurhamRescueMission.org](http://www.DurhamRescueMission.org) for more details.



## chaplain's corner

by Reverend Rob Tart  
Chief Operating Officer

In Galatians 6:2, we read, "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." Paul does not explain to us what the law of Christ is, but it is most likely the same as the greatest commandment: to love God and thy neighbor (Matthew 22:37). Paul is teaching that to bear one another's burdens, we must help one another walk in the Spirit; for sin brings great burden, and the only relief of sin's burden is found in the Holy Spirit. When we help someone with their burdens but without the Spirit, we are only fooling ourselves (Galatians 6:3) for they will never bear their own burdens (Galatians 6:5).

## Save the Date!

Please plan to join us on Thursday, September 29, at the Sheraton Imperial in the Triangle for an exciting evening as the Durham Rescue Mission hosts our **42nd Anniversary Banquet!**

Watch for more information on how to get your ticket, or call Tony Gooch today at **(919) 688-9641, ext. 5048.**

## Legacy Giving

Many people choose to include a charity in their will because they like to support causes that have been important in their life. There are tax savings to making a gift to the Durham Rescue Mission in your will, trust or other gift plans, but, more than that, you can help ensure the Durham Rescue Mission will continue in our community to help men, women and children who have lost their way.

Please remember to include the Durham Rescue Mission in your legacy planning. Your remembrance can provide help and hope for the future. Please contact Gail Mills at (919) 688-9641 ext 5028 or [Mills@DurhamRescueMission.com](mailto:Mills@DurhamRescueMission.com) to explore our planned giving options.



## MY SUMMERTIME DONATION

RM\_46-0603\_F05DU

### YES, Ernie and Gail!

You can rely on my continued support of this ministry of rescue. Here's my donation of:

### Here's my gift of:

- \$20.50 to provide 10 meals and other assistance
- \$30.75 to provide 15 meals and other assistance
- \$61.50 to provide 30 meals and other assistance
- \$\_\_\_\_\_ to provide as many meals and as much care as possible
- Please bill my credit card:
- VISA  MC  AMEX  DISCOVER

ACCOUNT NO. \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY / STATE / ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

### Durham Rescue Mission

PO Box 11368  
Durham, NC 27703

► Please mail this completed form with your generous summertime gift, or you may donate on our secure website, [www.DurhamRescueMission.org](http://www.DurhamRescueMission.org). Your gift is tax deductible as allowed by law. You will receive a receipt.