A Publication of CITY UNION MISSION

## THE LIGHT

VOLUME 62 · NO. 1 · MISSION UPDATE ISSUE

# MARVIN IS celebrating new life THIS EASTER!

Thank you for touching his life with hope.

Arvin wandered the streets of the city, disoriented and confused. He was a brilliant young man, a junior at Berkeley, when he began experiencing paranoia. "I thought people were talking about me behind my back and taunting me when I passed by them," he says. "It made attending class impossible, and as it worsened, I distanced myself from my church."

Eventually, he dropped out of school and began wandering the

streets with nothing but a backpack filled with food and a Bible. Then he jumped a train headed east. "I ended up in Kansas City, and while walking the streets, a man asked me about myself, and after I'd shared, he said, 'You should go to City Union Mission,' so I went."

(Read the conclusion of Marvin's moving story on Page 4.)

God lifted me from the depths of pain and gave me joy.

"

#### Don't miss..



A Message from CEO Terry Megli Page 2



**2020 Mission Update** Page 3



God gave me joy.
Page 4

"Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen."
- Luke 24:5-6, KJV





#### A Message from DR. TERRY MEGLI

As we celebrate the joy of Easter morning, we must also remember the pain and sorrow of Calvary. The agony Jesus faced and the fear His friends and

followers felt when they thought all hope was lost.

Many of the people who come through our doors also feel like all hope is lost. They look back on their lives and feel nothing but brokenness... regret... shame.

But this Easter, they can experience the heartpounding joy and love that comes through new life in Christ! Your support helps us share that message of hope all year long, but most especially during the miraculous Easter season.

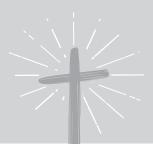
The Bible tells us, "And God is able to make all grace abound toward you..." (2 Cor. 9:8 KJV). Through your gifts to the Mission, you pass on those blessings to those who come through our doors!

Thanks to caring friends like you, this Easter will be a time of rejoicing for those who have found abundant life in the arms of our Risen Savior... and a time to welcome anyone in need of everlasting hope.

I pray that you, too, will be filled with blessings and peace this Easter!

Giving thanks to God,





















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# We have a new look!

When we began praying about a new logo, one that would best represent what we do here at City Union Mission, the answer quickly became clear. It would need to communicate hope, but also convey our presence of faith at the center of our city – Kansas City!

Since 1924, we've provided for the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of our hurting neighbors. Meals for the hungry. Shelter for the homeless. Loving counsel for the broken. The tools and opportunities necessary for our guests to change the course of their future. And every effort grounded in Christ.

We believe there is hope for all who come through our doors to find and live the life God intended through His mercy and the compassion of our team.

Hope does live here!

## Have you considered working at the Mission?

We currently have a variety of job openings and are looking for talented, ministry-minded people to become part of our team. If you have a heart for serving others and are interested in joining the Mission family, we would love to talk with you!

To learn more about the open positions we are hiring for, visit **cityunionmission.org**, click on *About Us* and then click on *Job Openings*.



### From Hunger & Homelessness to Hope

City Union Mission 2020 Mission Update

#### **How the Mission Is Supported**

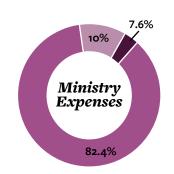






Programs \$14,867,199 82.4% Development \$1,813,736

10% ■ General Administration \$1,370,232 7.6%



1.3%

19.9%

28.9%

49.2%

.7%



#### **Total Annual Revenue**

(Including Bequests)

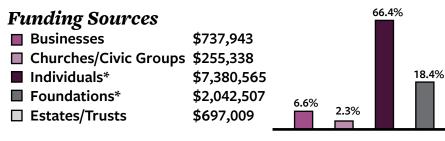
FY 2020: \$22,609,970 FY 2019: \$19,048,383 FY 2018: \$18,141,106

#### **Total Assets**

FY 2020: \$45,194,572

\*Financial statistics are from City Union Mission 2020 Annual Report. Revenue and expense analysis for 2021 are currently being collected by our new auditor. Please visit cityunionmission.org for complete 2021 ministry statistics and audited financial statements when made available.

#### **A Community of Generous Hearts**



<sup>\*</sup> Donor-advised funds are reported as foundations instead of individuals.

#### **Privacy Statement**

We respect your privacy and pledge to protect the confidentiality of the personal information you provide to us. Our full donor privacy policy can be viewed online at cityunionmission.org/donor-privacy-policy/.

#### **Mission Statement**

City Union Mission is an evangelical Christian ministry committed to sharing the Gospel and meeting the spiritual, physical and emotional needs of men, women and children who are poor or homeless.

#### The Impact of Your Generosity



84,433 **Beds Provided** 



176,895 Meals Served



Patients Seen (for medical

issues)



68,049

**Chapel Service Attendance** (Average per day:

187)



Salvations and Rededications



Kids at Camp CUMCITO or City Camp



**Learning Center** Hours

6.3%



**66** -

# Now I can be a light to others.

77

#### Marvin's story... continued from cover.

After contacting his parents, Marvin entered our Christian Life Program, where the Lord ministered to him through sermons, worship and the unconditional love of our staff. "I'll never forget the generous pastors who came from all over the city to tell us that God is good and Jesus is the answer. Or the hymns we sang every day," Marvin says.

His spirit was flourishing, but his psychosis was worsening. Eventually, Marvin went home to California, where he was diagnosed with schizophrenia. "I began receiving treatment, and the hymns we

sang at the Mission came back to me and comforted me during the most difficult times of my recovery."

It was 17 years ago that God led Marvin to the Mission and it changed the trajectory of his life. He was able to go back to school, finish his degree and find rewarding work. And, over the years, he's continued walking with the Lord. "God lifted me out of the depths of pain and confusion and has given me joy and stability."

Your generous support has filled Marvin's life with love, encouragement, and most of all, hope this Easter season. "I'll always remember the tender touch of the Holy Spirit that I felt at City Union Mission."

# Your Compassion Restores Hope...



#### **Through Financial Contributions**

Our greatest need is undesignated financial contributions. Respond to the mailings you receive from the Mission or give securely on our website. Or consider becoming a **Bed & Bread Club** monthly giving partner (see back of reply form) to ensure a consistent stream of support.



#### **Through Prayer**

Include our residents, guests, staff and volunteers in your daily devotions. Ask God to give them wisdom and guide their relationships, decisions and choices.



#### **By Giving Your Time**

From serving meals to teaching classes, volunteers are needed in all areas of the Mission. Contact Chris at **(816) 474-9380** or **impact@cityunionmission.org** to learn more!



#### **By Sharing Our News**

Follow the Mission on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube for inspiring testimonies, urgent needs, volunteer opportunities and fundraising events.

## WE JUST CAN'T AGREE!

Have you ever found yourself struggling to get on the same page as your partner? Maybe you're at odds on how to structure your legacy planning. Here's some help.

- 1. See conflict as an opportunity. Conflict is uncomfortable but it's unavoidable. The best way to resolve conflict is to see it as necessary for growth.
- 2. The wise way is better than "my way." It's normal to think our way is superior, and sometimes it is! But sometimes we're being motivated by self-preservation or fear. When we can unpack why we are feeling a certain way, it can help us humble ourselves to hear someone else's idea which may be the wiser choice.
- 3. Consider inspiration over information. There's a big difference between seeing your estate plan as a complicated financial arrangement and seeing it as an expression of your values.

When your will aligns with your values of faith, family and organizations that inspire you like City Union Mission, it becomes rich with meaning – a crucial part of your family heritage you'll want to pass along and communicate to your children.

For the full version of this article, request a FREE copy of "Can't Get on the Same Page? Here's Help." by contacting Karl Ploeger at (816) 329-1475 or karl.ploeger@cityunionmission.org - or bless your family today with a God-honoring Will at christianwill.org/cityunionmission.