

“Today, I am confident in my identity as a child of God.”

THANK YOU FOR GIVING ME ANOTHER CHANCE!



My name is Kathleen. I grew up in Albany’s South End, the youngest of ten children.

My childhood was full of hardship, pain, and loss. My parents both used drugs and alcohol. When I was a young child I was physically hurt by a couple of family members.

My mom would buy me marijuana for my birthday as a gift. In my teens I turned to drugs and alcohol to numb the wounds of my past.

I soon got introduced to crack cocaine and everything else went out the window. Drugs became the love of my life and I would do anything to get them.

Years of addiction and homelessness followed.

I’ve slept under stairs, eaten out of trash cans, and lost everything. I didn’t pay the rent because I bought drugs instead. I couldn’t keep a home or hold on to hope.

My mom was doing IV drugs, and she would wake me up to come and shoot her up. I knew this was the bottom for me and things needed to change. I was done.

After multiple health scares—including three strokes and two heart attacks—I realized God had spared my life for a reason. I needed a new start and I knew I couldn’t do that alone.

I walked away from everything and came to the Mission—again. I had been through the New Faith Women’s Program once before, but this time was different. I was ready.

Through Bible study, devotions, and support from staff and friends, I began to rebuild my confidence and trust in the Lord. I used to be whoever people wanted me to be just to fit in. Now I can be me—and they accept me for who I am.

Before, I wouldn’t open up. This time, I see God’s hand in my life. I’m growing closer to Jesus every day. I can feel His presence.

I understand His Word and who I am to Him and it’s beautiful.

At the Mission, I have found more than shelter—I found family. The women here love me and would do anything for me. I never had that before. My family doesn’t show up, but my Mission family does.

Jeremiah 29:11 says “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” This verse has become truth in my life!

Now, my heart is full of gratitude and purpose. Before I came here, I was spiritually poor. Now, I have everything I need to survive out in the world—God’s Word, His strength, and His people.

I’m saving money for my own place and dreaming of a future. I hope to go back to school and learn cosmetic skincare to help others find confidence and healing.

I’m so thankful to the Capital City Rescue Mission for helping me grow in Christ and reconnect with my kids!

I encourage people to keep supporting the Mission and it’s programs, because women like me need help. Women and children just want a safe place and a chance to start over.

Today, I am walking in freedom and faith, confident in my identity as a child of God. Thank you for making a difference in my life!

With your help, Allen will never be homeless again!

Life in our small Connecticut town was busy and close-knit—I came from a large family, and we looked out for each other. My dad died in a car accident when I was four, and my mom was left disabled. She was a tough woman who raised us with love and discipline.

As a teenager, I started following the wrong crowd—older siblings and friends who used drugs. That led me down a dark road for many years.

I worked hard as a truck driver, but when I faced deep losses—my mother, my brother, and my girlfriend all within a year—I didn’t know how to handle the grief. I couldn’t cry, couldn’t feel, and I turned back to drugs to numb the pain.

When I hit bottom, I came back to the Capital City Rescue Mission. The Mission has been my refuge more than once. Here, I learned how to process my grief and release the pain I’d been holding inside for so long. Spiritually, I was bankrupt when I arrived, but through faith, fellowship, and the support of the staff, I have finally come alive in Jesus.

Before I came to the Mission, I was broken and empty. Now, I feel like a member of the human race again. I’ve learned I don’t have to do life alone—I have a whole community behind me. For me, homelessness is a feeling in the heart, and I’ll never be homeless again, because I have a family in Christ here.

I’m thankful to the Capital City Rescue Mission because they were here for me when I needed them the most. Without the Mission, I don’t believe I’d be alive today.



Thank you for providing Christmas gifts and smiles!

Over 3,000 gifts are given away to ALL who attend our Christmas Day celebration!

Giving and Living a Legacy of Generosity



As she gathered items for a seasonal centerpiece, Anne came across a few mementos of holidays past, and an idea was sparked. What if these small treasures became the table’s focal point?

This would be the first gathering since losing several family members, and these pieces showcased memories of their generosity: a craft project represented time shared with a grandchild, a special vase spoke to a mother’s thoughtfulness, a bundle of sticks collected on a family hike highlighted an uncle’s love for the outdoors. The centerpiece became a beautiful tribute to a legacy of love.

Author and evangelist Corrie ten Boom once said, “The measure of a life, after all, is not its duration but its donation.” You’ve been on the receiving end of your loved ones’ care and kindness. In this season of thanksgiving and gift giving, you can honor the generosity of those who have gone before and live out the legacy they’ve left for you.

Get something growing. A tree or garden is a living reminder of a family member or friend that also invites others to enjoy the beauty.

Foster new traditions. What activities would have made your loved one smile? One family goes to a local grocery store on their sister’s birthday and, in her memory, pays for all the birthday cakes purchased that day.

Serve others. Volunteering with a cause that was important to your loved one honors what was meaningful to them and meets a need.

Give in their memory. A gift in your will to Capital City Rescue Mission is a lasting tribute to their legacy of love, impacting the people we serve for generations to come.

For the full version of this article, request a FREE copy of “4 Ways to Pass on a Legacy of Love” by contacting Mandy Schettini at (518) 462-0421 or mschettini@albanymission.com - Visit capitalcityrescuemission.legacywill.org/ to bless your family with an up-to-date will.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

THANK YOU FOR...

Restoring HOPE

Thank you friends! Many of you joined us at The Marriott Albany in October for a wonderful banquet meal and an inspiring program encouraging us to make "room at the table". You have answered the call and your support has been such a blessing.

With your partnership, we are on our way to raising over \$180,000, including sponsors, online auction donations and your generous offering! These gifts will go far in making room for more men, women and children in the coming year.

On behalf of each person who enters CCRM, thank you for your compassionate hearts and allowing them a chance to start over!



Visit capitalcityrescuemission.org/stories to view the video, "A Place at the Table". God will encourage your heart with the testimonies of changed lives.

A MESSAGE FROM PERRY JONES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



This season always reminds me of God's amazing love for us.

Christmas is the celebration of the greatest Giver and the greatest Gift ever given—His Son, Jesus Christ. Through Him, we find forgiveness, hope, and the promise of eternal life. Emmanuel—God with us—fills our hearts with love, joy and peace as only He can give.

At Capital City Rescue Mission, your support brings that love to hundreds of men, women, and children who are hurting or in need. Through hot meals, safe shelter, medical care, and holiday gifts, you show them that God cares for them personally. Your generosity truly impacts lives.

If you haven't visited the Mission, I invite you to come and see the difference you are making. Every person in our Free Clinic, every community member receiving clothing, and every disciple in a recovery program reflects your faithful support. Your giving, your time, and your compassion transform lives in ways that last.

This Christmas, let's celebrate God's enduring love and the hope He brings to every heart. Thank you for being a blessing to so many.

Wishing you a joyful Christmas and a New Year filled with God's peace,

Perry

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given - And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6

Thank you for your faithful support, and for partnering with us throughout the year... Especially during the holidays.

Once a year, the world pauses to celebrate the gift of a life. God gave us His Son—the greatest gift of all—in a humble, lowly manger. Here at CCRM, your compassionate support brings Christmas joy in many forms: food, clothing, shelter, Bible-based addiction recovery, education, and so much more. Through every act of outreach, we share the message of Christ's birth and His unconditional love.

Your generosity provides these life-transforming gifts not just at Christmas, but all year long. This season, please help us offer presents filled with hope for a brighter future in Christ.

To give, use the remit enclosed or donate online at capitalcityrescuemission.org.

Thank you for partnering with us as we reach out to those in need.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



THE HOLIDAYS ARE HERE AND I WANT TO HELP

YES, PERRY! I'm giving a generous year-end gift to help provide meals, shelter and hope to those who come through the Mission doors. Enclosed is my gift of:

\$26 \$50 \$100 \$500 Other \$_____

Please enclose a check or enter a credit card: VISA, MC, AMEX, DISCOVER

Please make my credit card gift an automatic monthly donation.

Credit Card# _____ Exp. _____ Code _____

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please send me a FREE copy of "4 Ways to Pass on a Legacy of Love"

Donate online at capitalcityrescuemission.org / CCRM | 259 S Pearl St | Albany, NY 12202



THE MISSION: RESCUE HOLIDAY 2025

Stories of hope...lives transformed



At the Mission, I have found more than shelter — I found family.



Giving Hope... Transforming Lives.

259 S Pearl St Albany, NY 12202
capitalcityrescuemission.org
518.462.0459