



# Lighthouse News

Holiday 2019

THE STORIES YOU'RE CREATING  THE LIVES YOU'RE CHANGING



*Because of you...*  
“MY STORY HAS A NEW BEGINNING!”

Your gifts bring **JOY** to people like Kimberly at Christmas and all through the year!

- Don't Miss...**
- 2** Your Gifts Fill Hearts With *Joy!*
- 3** “I’m a new creation.”
- 4** Year-End Matching Opportunity!

# “I’m a new creation.”



“It was a really stressful life growing up,” Kimberly recalls. “Not knowing if I was going to eat that day, not having my mother there...”

Because her mother struggled with addiction, Kimberly ended up in foster care and group homes. “I would run away... but I was just running from reality, from all the hurt and destruction in my life,” she says.

To numb the pain of her mother’s abandonment, at just 15, Kimberly tried drugs for the first time. “**I felt like I wasn’t worth anything because she just gave up on me.**” Over the years, Kimberly battled addiction. Becoming a mom herself, she was able to remain clean for five years.

But the stress of an unhealthy living environment caused her to relapse. Heartbroken, she watched her sons being taken to live with their dad. “**I had nothing to live for... I was just very destructive.**”

Desperate for change, Kimberly came to the Mission for help. “**I didn’t know what this place would offer, but it’s probably the best choice I’ve made in a long time.**”

# “I thank God for a new life.”

After a week in our community, Kimberly experienced God transforming her heart. “**I gave my life to Christ and it was the most freeing experience,**” she says. “I’d never read a Bible before. Now I go to my Lord for everything.”

Through our recovery program, and the loving care of our staff, Kimberly has been healing spiritually and emotionally, and finding freedom from the pain of her past. “**I just feel that love and joy within me that I’ve never had.**”

Today, Kimberly is reconnecting with her children, and she looks forward to going to college and beginning a career where she can help others.

*This Christmas, because of your compassion and God’s love, Kimberly’s story has a new beginning. Through the gift of Christ’s birth, her future is filled with joy and meaning. “I’m just so grateful to the Mission... Now I wake up with joy in my heart.”*

A MESSAGE FROM  
MATTHEW DILDINE



Your Gifts  
Fill Hearts  
With *Joy!*

“No room at the inn.”

Can you imagine the fear and anxiety that must have filled Joseph’s and Mary’s hearts to hear these words? Door after door being turned away when they desperately needed a place to stay... a safe place to have their baby, our Savior born to bring hope to a hurting world.

During the Christmas season, many families seek refuge at the Mission just like them. On any given night, we have over 50 children from homeless families sleeping in our facilities. Some nights we put mats on the floor just to get everyone off the streets.

As we see this increase in family homelessness in our Fresno community, the Mission is committed to help. This fall, we launched a critical campaign to quadruple our emergency bed space – from 50 beds to 200 – to meet this pressing need.

This Christmas, I invite you to partner with us to provide gifts of food, safe beds and life-restoring guidance for our struggling neighbors. Receiving this vital care fills hearts with joy... and opens hearts to the redemptive message of the gospel we’re honored to share at Christmas, and remain faithful to every day of the year, thanks to your support, as we serve those in need.

May you and yours have a wonderful holiday season and New Year.

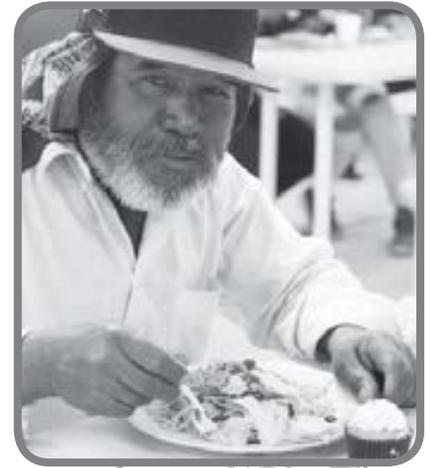
Matthew Dildine  
Chief Executive Officer



**Give a Meal... Change a Life**  
30,000 meals by Christmas!

A plate of hot, wholesome food can change someone’s story from struggle to strength... from heartbreak to hope... from despair to joy. With each meal you give, you offer so much more:

- Safe beds and clean clothing
- Life skills classes and practical guidance
- The message of God’s life-changing love



It costs only \$2.05 to provide a meal and care for one hungry person...

**Please Send Your Gift Today!**



✉ Give now using the enclosed reply card and envelope.

📄 Give online anytime at [www.fresnorm.org](http://www.fresnorm.org).



December 3 is  
**#GIVING  
TUESDAY**



PLEASE REMEMBER your hurting neighbors by making a donation this **Giving Tuesday**. On this special day, your gift to Fresno Rescue Mission will provide life essentials and life-changing guidance. Thank you!

📄 Mark December 3 on your calendar and don’t forget to give at [www.fresnorm.org](http://www.fresnorm.org).



**YOUR GIFT  
TODAY...**

**HAS TWICE  
THE IMPACT!**

**\$50**



**\$100**

**\$100**



**\$200**

**\$150**



**\$300**

**DEADLINE TO GIVE: DEC 31**

Exciting news! **Give today to match the \$20,000 challenge grant** from a group of generous partners... for a total of \$40,000 to provide food, safe beds and care for our homeless guests!

That's right... your year-end gift will provide **double the help!**

 Give online at [www.fresnorm.org](http://www.fresnorm.org).

 Add your special year-end gift to the reply card and send it today.

**THANK YOU for helping us meet  
this year-end challenge!**

**Share the  
*Joy*  
of Christmas**

**FILL OUR TABLES**

Donate these foods for the thousands of meals we'll serve throughout the holiday season. Please deliver them to

**263 G Street in Fresno**

by December 20.

turkeys & hams \* boxes of stuffing \* instant potatoes \* canned fruits and vegetables  
coffee, creamer & sugar

