



FINDING MY WAY

Read Isaac's story on page 3

SAVE *the* DATE

Half Off Sale - 8.11.18

Attic Window Memorial Store only

BFA Food Vendor - 8.18 - 8.19

Alexandria Grand Prix

Graduation - 10.19.18

6pm - Muncie Mission Chapel

Beauty for Ashes Walk - 10.20.18

8am- Alexandria, Indiana

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“EACH OF YOU SHOULD USE WHATEVER GIFT YOU HAVE RECEIVED TO SERVE OTHERS, AS FAITHFUL STEWARDS OF GOD’S GRACE IN ITS VARIOUS FORMS.”

1 PETER 4:10

MUNCIE MISSION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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A LETTER FROM FRANK

Recently, several graduates of the Muncie Mission recovery program joined me on a weekend backpacking trip into one of Indiana’s State Parks. With backpacks strapped on, freeze-dried food packed away and a tarp for shelter, we hit the trail with a sense of adventure.

After several miles of hiking, we approached a fork in the trail. Being unsure which path led to our destination, several hikers consulted a map to identify our position. One said, “Let’s find the trailhead and trace it to the fork.” Another was already tracing backward from our planned destination and learned there were other forks ahead and more decisions to make, informing us wisely to keep the map easily accessible. Listening to the animated discussion about which path to pursue, instantly reminded me of the teaching provided to the men and women of the Muncie Mission and Beauty for Ashes regarding choices that influence their life’s direction. Each individual has a unique journey and is given space to share that journey with counselors who actively listen with compassion and empathy. Then prayerful guidance and direction – informed by Scripture – are shared allowing each one to acknowledge where they have been, to identify where they want to go and the potential challenges they will encounter. By thinking through predetermined responses to potential obstacles, they develop personal and positive life maps to lead them successfully to the accomplishment of their goals.

In that moment of reflection, I thought of you and how your partnership with the Mission has empowered people lost on the journey of life. Broken relationships, addictions, homelessness led to complete desperation until they found their way to the Muncie Mission and Beauty for Ashes.

That morning on the trail, I bowed my head in a spirit of heartfelt appreciation, and gave thanks to God for you. My prayer is that you experience great joy and abundant blessings as you empower men, women and children of East Central Indiana in discovering a flourishing path for living. You are making a difference!

“We cannot do it alone, there is no way you can pull off something like this by yourself. Even with Muncie Mission, we can’t do it alone. We are always in need of the community – that’s the only way we can do our jobs.”

LIBBY PARKER
Director of Women’s Services

TOGETHER WE
Volunteer, donate, advocate.
CHANGE LIVES

FINDING MY WAY *Isaac's Story*

He was surrounded by people he didn't know. Each of them were wearing identical jumpsuits. Stripped of his individuality and physical belongings, he felt like a number. He lay on a flat, hard mat at night losing sleep while other people around him talked loudly, their voices echoing off the walls of the big cement room. *Cold walls, cold floor, cold faces.* Despite the surrounding being familiar to him, it never became any less cold or lonely.

Isaac had nothing to do but think. He thought hard about how he got to jail. For all his time thinking, he could not remember the reason he was there. His drunken actions the night before had brought him to this place but he could not remember any of them. His memories from just hours before were hazy and broken.

Isaac reminisced about his childhood and wondered how he got into this mess. He thought all the way back to when he was four years old with his three other siblings. He remembered the raw, burning anger he felt as he endured a violent parent and then was moved from one abusive foster home to the next. He and his siblings were separated except for one of his brothers. They lived together at the age of 9 in yet another abusive foster home. He remembers the beatings and the bruises and often being smothered until he passed out. His childhood had been filled with many different people who hurt him time and time again.

Searching for love and acceptance anywhere he could find it, Isaac joined

a gang. They became his family. He didn't care what they asked him to do. He would do whatever gained their approval and attention. He remembered the gang fondly but realized that ultimately, they were one of the things that led him on his path to jail.

Finally, after 44 days spent in the cold jail as a number, he was able to leave. Isaac walked out of the jail and into the Muncie Mission. The contrast was obvious. He sensed that he was cared for. *Warm bed, warm food, warm smiles.*

Isaac found a place of HOPE. A place where new beginnings are possible. A place where all who find courage to enter the doors have a name...not a number.

The place of HOPE that Isaac and so many others have found is possible because there are people willing to serve as the hands and feet of Christ to individuals broken by life and destructive choices. God uses these special people. Counselors who demonstrate loving guidance and care... and a multitude who have given physical and financial resources to make it possible for the Muncie Mission to provide shelter, a chance for transformation, and a new life. Your sacrificial and generous gifts ensure people like Isaac have a place to find their way. Your giving has eternal value to men and women in desperate circumstances. Thank you for lifting beacons of HOPE in a dark world.

"A PLACE TO CALL HOME" *Beauty for Ashes*

For many of the women who live at our transitional home in Alexandria, this is the first place they've come to where they could experience an extended time of rest, healing and growth. A transient life for months or even years leaves many women and children in need of structure and routine. Your generosity provides them the space they need to take a deep breath, find healing and build a new life.

A resident shares her thoughts:

A lot of bad and good has happened to me in my life, but one of the good things is Beauty for Ashes. I'd been in a very unsafe abusive relationship and homeless for almost a year before I found Beauty for Ashes. My son and I lived with strangers and slept in our truck

**I KNOW
where
I'm going to
SLEEP
every
night.**

for a long time. I struggled to know where we were going to stay and how I would feed us. There were numerous times I came close to losing my son due to homelessness. I didn't have a plan or know where I was going to go after my stay at a local domestic violence shelter. So when I was accepted at Beauty for Ashes I was very relieved because now I have a place to call home. I know where I am going to sleep every night. Since I have been at Beauty for Ashes I have gained a lot of insight, had our physical needs met and been introduced to great people.

I have only been here for 30 days and can already see a change in our lives.

Thank you for providing a safe, stable home and the hope toward a brighter future for this mother and her son.



MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

In Memory of
(Gifts from 3/1/2018)

Ronald Barrett
DeWayne & Marilyn Goldman

Russell "Nick" Barton
*John Razor
James Purdy
Douglas Purdy
Brad Razor
Melanie Razor
Sid & Nancy Rust
Jacqueline Gregory
Colt & Missy Daster
Pat Hiatt
CJ & Lowell Pemberton*

Lucille Bright
*Jane Halteman
Heather Powell*

Mark Brinkman
Carol Mason

Phil Carey
Binding Ties Small Group

Betty Clevenger
Howard & Mary Patty

Lorri Sue Colvin
William Colvin

Joe D. Cox
David & Renae Cox

Maddie Edwards
Haris Vrabac

Nellie Garringer
Mary Jo Sgro

Joseph Grady
*Patricia Freeman
Stephen & Tamira Brooks
Brad & Mary Ellen LaMar
Nathan & Kristin LaMar*

Edith Guthrie
Victor & Sharon Renfro

Alma Hardesty
Jo Kincaid

Rev. Clyde K. Hunter
Bill Frey

*Bill & Jacqueline Hill
Elaine Wickert
Irene Madsen
Burgdorf Family
Victor & Sharon Renfro
Mark Hunter*

Joyce Marie Huxhold
*Tom Charles
Jim Benefiel
Randy & Patty Reid
Marilyn Fellers
Jillian Cook
Bruce & Catherine Miller
First Brethren Church Women's
Missionary Society
Harold & Bonita Chambers
William & Sharon Rodeffer*

Howard Jones
Beverly Jones

Brent Murray
Sarah Murray

Dr. Allen Neal
Wilma Neal

Harold G. Neal
Wilma Neal

Margaret Prow
Paul & Cynthia Whitehair

Newell H. Riddle
Willia Riddle

Gary Robbins
*Truth Seekers Class at
Hartford City Wesleyan*

Dixie Smith
Jeffery Smith

Darlene Stansberry
Howard & Mary Patty

Robert E Stephenson
William Bruns

Pamela Taulbee
*Stephen Shoemaker
University Christian Church*

Sarah & LeRoy Templin
Joan Miller

Bill Turner
Barbara Turner

Rick Turner
Barbara Turner

Christy Lea Whittemore
Wilma Neal

In Honor of
(Gifts from 3/1/2018)

Paul Bjerke & Susanna Nalliah's Wedding
*Brian & Kelly Wolfe
Audrey Dobbe
Charles Bishop
Stacey Shannon
Lewis Naylor & Belle Duerksen
Carol Richardson*

Tom & Nancy Childs
Angie St. John

Janet Mikels
Dennis Farmer

Dr. Joseph Songer
Walter & Janice Vester

ANNUAL REPORT

2017 Annual Report is available
on our website.
www.munciemission.org/about

ALEXANDRIA GRAND PRIX

We will be set up as a food vendor at the 2018 Grand Prix in Alexandria on August 18th & 19th! All proceeds will go to our women's program, Beauty for Ashes.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for more information.

BEAUTY FOR ASHES WALK

Join us on October 20th at 8 AM for a two mile walk to support women's services. The Walk starts at Alexandria Church of the Nazarene. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for more information!

So far this year
YOU have provided...



38,193 Meals



10,510 Nights of Lodging



5,723 Items of Clothing



64,829 Food Items



7,199 Hygiene Items



880 Pairs of Shoes

Stats from Jan 2018-June 2018

“ SHAREWORTHY ”

What you're saying on social media



“ I am always greeted with a smile and admiration from the volunteer coordinator. The men are always so quick to integrate me into their environment and tell me about their lives. I've seen them evolve as an organization even in my short time there. I wouldn't trade my experience at the Mission over the last four years for the world.”
-Madison Lyon, Ball State SVS



“ Muncie Mission Ministries' volunteers prepare food on April 14 in Muncie, IN for the men in their recovery program. Muncie Mission Ministries has served the homeless and those in need in Delaware County for more than 80 years.”
-Shoot for Good Muncie



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