

The UNION MISSION

MISSION NETWORK

Food, Clothing, Shelter ... and so much more!

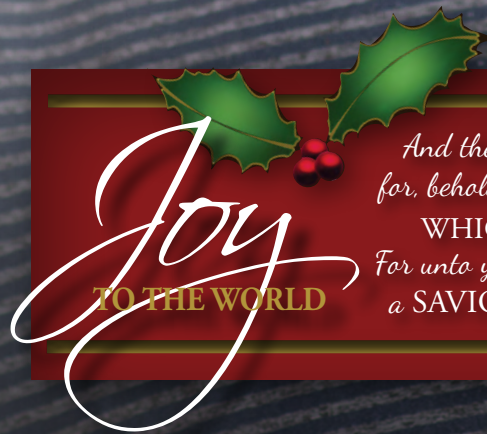
You can give the GIFT of JOY this Christmas

The holidays can be a lonely time of year for those without family or friends but you can give them the *Gift of Joy* while restoring dignity and self-respect ...

- Provide a holiday meal for a homeless person for just \$2.03 or 25 meals for \$50.75.
- Give their most needed items. Go to our website under Ways to Give/Holiday Giving to learn more. Make your shopping easy — use our *Amazon Wish List*.
- Get your family involved ...

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Visit our website to learn more ... www.unionmissionministries.org



And the angel said unto them, FEAR NOT: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, WHICH SHALL BE TO ALL PEOPLE. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a SAVIOUR, which is CHRIST the LORD.

Luke 2:10-11



A WORD FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

“And if you spend yourselves on behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness and your night will become like noonday.”

Isaiah 58:10

Thank you for your faithfulness to those in need

Dear Friends,

As the new year approaches, my thoughts are with the hundreds of men, women, and children who reside in our shelters every day, and the hundreds more who will come to the Mission when they have nowhere else to turn. Young men like Tyronne who need that extra “win,” single women struggling with the trauma of their pasts, and mothers with children who can’t find jobs to support their families will turn to us in desperation.

This past year your generosity helped so many people through our Restoring Hope programs. Men and women got jobs, enrolled in college and trade schools, were reconciled with loved ones, and found permanent housing for themselves and their families. Most importantly they heard the

Gospel of Jesus Christ, and lives were transformed for eternity. They could not have done it without your support. As we face the challenges ahead, I ask that you continue your faithfulness.

Isaiah 58:10 says, “And if you spend yourselves on behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness and your night will become like noonday.”

Thank you for your faithfulness to those who need it the most. I trust the Lord will bless you and your family as you celebrate Thanksgiving and the birth of our Savior this Christmas.

With warmest regards,

John W. Gray, Jr.
Rev. John W. Gray, Jr.,
Executive Director

Give the **GIFT of JOY** ... *continued from page 1*



Make Christmas gift bags ...

... to help those in our shelters get jobs. Get your family involved. Have your children decorate a paper lunch bag and fill it with needed items ...

- Bus Pass (5 day “Go Pass” available at Farm Fresh)
- \$5.00 Fast Food Gift Card
- Small “Daytimer” or Notepad & Pen
- Wallet
- Men’s Manicure Set
- Christmas Card
- Candy

Bring bags to The Union Mission Welcome Center at 5100 E. Virginia Beach Boulevard in Norfolk.

Visit our website at www.unionmissionministries.org or contact Linda Jones at lindaj@ummnorva.org to learn more.



Sharing Blessings

As the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays approach, we are grateful for the many blessings you have shared this year.



TO GIVE ... go to donate.unionmissionministries.org

“And God is able to make all grace abound to you, that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed.” 2 Corinthians 9:8

Your generosity and God's grace makes it possible to operate The Union Mission that welcomes nearly 400 men, women, and children each night with a meal and a bed. We are now serving 60% more people than we did in our downtown location, but our hurting and homeless neighbors keep coming: forgotten veterans, frightened mothers, and hard-working people brought down by injury or illness.

As our former Executive Director, Reverend Ted Bashford

often said, “Salvation is free but it costs to pipe it.” With winter approaching more and more hurting people will turn to us for help, but we cannot do it without you.

Many of our friends express their gratitude by sharing their abundance with The Union Mission Ministries through charitable giving at the end of the year. In fact, the Mission receives nearly 40% of its financial support in the last three months of the year. If you itemize your tax deductions, gifts to the Mission may also be tax deductible.

Will you prayerfully consider how you can support the Mission doing God's work in the lives of our hurting neighbors? You can make a difference!

May you and your family experience the gratitude of Thanksgiving, the joy of Christmas, and the hope offered by the New Year!

Our Development Team, Helen Sommer, Laura Farthing, or Vickie Smith, are available to discuss your interests and end-of-the-year giving options with you at (757) 627-8686 ext 505.

Thank you for caring!



Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2017

2,537

MEN, WOMEN, & CHILDREN
SHELTERED

309

VETERANS SHELTERED

314,570

MEALS SERVED

119,097

NIGHTS OF SHELTER

528

SALVATIONS & REDEDICATIONS

Ways to Give

Give Online

Every \$2.03 you give by the end of the year helps homeless people start the New Year with brand new lives. Just \$2.03 for a hot, comforting meal and access to life-changing programs. Visit our website at www.unionmissionministries.org today and click the DONATE button. Your tax-deductible gift will provide hot meals and safe shelter this winter to the most vulnerable people in our community.

Gifts of Appreciated Securities

You might receive an even greater tax benefit for your donation by gifting long-term appreciated stock, bonds, or mutual funds. Check with your financial or tax advisor as you could avoid paying capital gains tax on the appreciated value of the investment.

Giving in Lieu of Presents or In Memory

How many times at Christmas have you struggled to find that perfect gift for someone you love? Why not give a gift that changes lives and do it in their honor? When you do, we will send them a card notifying them of your generosity. Contact Roseanne Dickerson at (757) 627-8686 and make your gift today.

Double the Impact of your Donation through Matching Gifts

Do you know if your employer has a matching gift program? Many companies do. It's an opportunity to double your giving and save twice as many lives. Don't hesitate ... ask today.

“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for the least of these brothers and sisters of mine you did for me.”

Matthew 25:40

IRA Charitable Rollover Gift

If you are 70½ years or older, you can make a life-changing gift from your IRA to The Union Mission and possibly save on your taxes. Gifts up to \$100,000 made from your IRA may qualify for your required minimum distribution (RMD). Consult your tax advisor.

Legacy Giving

Even Mission supporters of modest means have made transformational gifts to The Union Mission through their wills, insurance policies, or other assets. Please call our Development Team at (757) 627-8686 ext. 505 for more information.

Donated Clothing or Household Goods

In preparation for the Christmas giving season, consider cleaning out your closets, your attic, or your child's outgrown clothing. Gently used clothing or household items can bless another family – and you will receive a receipt for your tax-deductible gift. You can schedule a donation pick-up through our website or call (757) 627-8686 ext. 604.

Restore hope to those who need it the most. Go to ...
donate.unionmissionministries.org

THE CHALLENGE ...

raise 15,000 meals by November 28th.

Please consider a special Christmas gift to feed hungry, homeless people throughout the holiday season.

NOVEMBER 28

BLACK FRIDAY.
CYBER MONDAY.

#GIVINGTUESDAY™

Join this international day of giving back to your community. Look for more on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/UnionMissionNorfolk.

You restored Tyronne's hope ... *he is learning how to "win"*

Tyronne grew up in Chicago bouncing between relatives. When he was seventeen his step-mother kicked him out, and he spent a year on the streets, trying to go to school and work to support himself. He still graduated in the top of his class and attended college for two years until a fight landed him in jail. When he got out, he lived with his mother but she beat him, and he couldn't focus on school. He returned to his dad's and worked for him until a car accident turned his life upside down again. With no insurance, he had to pay the damages himself. It took his whole paycheck. No longer able to pay his father rent, he was kicked out once again. "I felt like they just didn't care about me. I had nowhere to go. I was thinking how crazy this life is. I couldn't deal with it anymore."

When he witnessed a ten year old kid get killed, he knew it was time to leave Chicago. He came to Virginia to live with a cousin, took classes online, and worked two jobs. Then his cousin accused him of taking his money. "The next night all my clothes were packed when I got home from work and he took me to The Mission. I was angry and

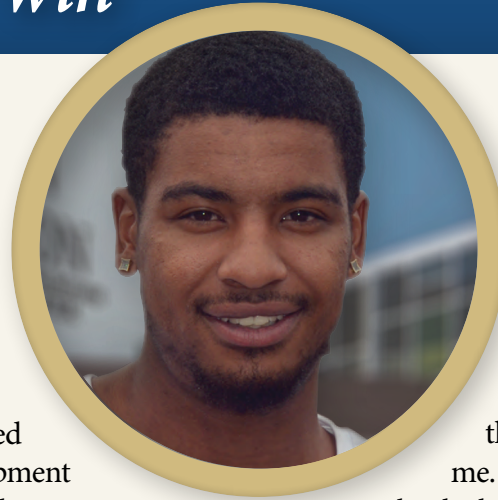
didn't want to talk to anybody. My cousin was the only person I knew here. I had no family left. I lost my job. I was stressed."

Then he joined the David Development Program. One night at church, "I prayed and gave in, and asked God to take away my sins. After that everything started *uplifting*."

Tyronne made a "to do" list of what he wanted to accomplish and each accomplishment was a "win." "I decided I wasn't going to hold myself

down anymore. God showed me the way. My first 'win' was landing a job. My second was making my first deposit in the Mission Savings Program. Everything was better until the devil tried to pull me back. My stuff got stolen and my job cut my hours. I started feeling down again, but I wasn't giving up. I prayed some more and told myself I'd do better tomorrow."

He got his Virginia ID but still needed his driver's license to get a job. It took a while to get his records from Chicago. When he got an interview with Cox Communications, "The



manager was shocked that I was the youngest person to get certified in cable work but asked me why they should hire me. I told him I would be the hardest working kid you've ever seen. I also told him that God was with me."

Tyronne was hired the next day and Cox held the job until he got his license. When it came, it was one more "win." When he got his Cox Cable badge and passed his training he counted two more "wins."

*Tyronne made a "to do" list of what he wanted to accomplish and each accomplishment was a "win."
"I decided I wasn't going to hold myself down anymore. God showed me the way."*

"I came a long way from where I was in Chicago. The Mission is a blessing. I know God sent me here for a reason. My boss loves me. Everything is going great." His next goal is to get housing. He knows when it happens he will count one more "win!"



Chapel services are held daily.

To find out more about the Restoring Hope Programs go to www.unionmissionministries.org or contact Linda Jones at lindaj@ummnorva.org to schedule a tour of our facilities.

Thank you for your Giving Heart

A social worker brought a 17 year old mother with two children, a 4 week old baby and a 1 year old, to the Mission for assistance. She didn't ordinarily get so involved, but this young mother was so alone, her heart was touched with her plight. The girl's family had abandoned her and didn't want to help in any way. Her young husband was out to sea, and she had nowhere else to turn. The social worker visited the young family's home and realized how desperately they needed help. They had little furniture, no food, little clothing, and nothing for the children. Our Community Assistance Coordinator

The lives of this young mother, her children, and the social worker were changed ... and hope was restored, all because you cared.

reached out with compassion to the young mother and was able to give her food, some clothing and furniture, a crib, formula, diapers, and clothing for the children. She even had a few toys someone had donated to give to the 1 year old. The young mother cried with gratitude and the social worker was so touched with our willingness to provide so much, she reached into her purse to give us a donation. The lives of this young mother, her children, and the social worker were changed that day, and hope was restored, all because you cared. Thank you for your giving heart.



Staff Needs

Experience required.

Warehouse

Full-time.

Thrift Store/Production

Full-time. Able to work weekdays, Saturdays and evenings.

Send resume to Wayne Berry at wberry@ummnorva.org

Women's Shelter Evening Assistant

Full-time 3-11 pm.
Able to work Weekends.

Women's Shelter Overnight Assistant

Part-time 11 pm-7 am.
Able to work Weekends.

Women & Children's Shelter Evening Supervisor

Full-time 3-11 pm.
Able to work Weekends.

Send resume to Jill Gray at jillgray@ummnorva.org



Like us on Facebook.
Follow us on Twitter!

Dear Rev. Gray,

I want my year-end gift to restore hope to those in need.

I've enclosed: \$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 \$150 \$_____

I would like to commit to a monthly gift of \$_____. My first gift is enclosed.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____ 11-2017



P.O. BOX 3203 • NORFOLK, VA 23514
757-627-8686 • info@ummnorva.org
www.unionmissionministries.org

Please make your check payable to:
The Union Mission

Please complete this slip and return it to The Union Mission with your generous gift. Your gift is tax deductible to the full extent of the law. We will send a receipt for your records.

Financial information about this organization and a copy of its license are available from the State Solicitation Licensing Branch at 919-807-2214 or 888-830-4989 for NC residents.

Donate online by credit card at donate.unionmissionministries.org