

the *Light of Hope*

www.ourm.org • July 2009



Since 1948, bringing the hungry, hurting and homeless to a new life, new goals and a new future in Christ.

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“How Do You Eat An Elephant?”



**ORLANDO UNION
RESCUE MISSION**

Since 1948

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." 2 Corinthians 5:17

NEW SOLES FOR BROKEN SOULS

Easter Banquet Foot-Washing Update

PRAISE REPORT!



He was a large man whose face was hardened by a rough life on the streets. He came to the Easter Banquet expecting to receive a hot meal and a new pair of shoes. After eating his meal, he entered into the foot-washing area and gruffly said, "Where are my new shoes?" Mission staff explained that the primary focus of the foot-washing was humbly serving our guests and the new shoes were "icing on the cake." However, the belligerent man persisted to demand the shoes until he realized that he needed to submit to the foot-washing.

At this point, tears welled up in his eyes and he softly said, "But, I'm not worthy to have my feet washed." This hard man's demeanor totally changed, his protective wall came down and he left the Easter Banquet knowing that he was loved.

Thank you to all of the financial supporters and volunteers who allowed the downtrodden in our community to know they were cared about this Easter!



GOLDTOE MORETZ



Nearly 400 homeless men, women, and children were served.

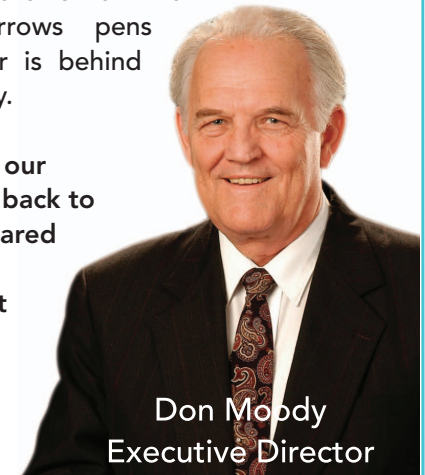


Summer activities are now in full swing!

The children at the Mission are enjoying their time away from the classroom and have been keeping busy going on special field trips, attending Vacation Bible School and spending valuable time with their families. Although school is the last thing on our boys and girls minds, now is the time when we begin making preparations for the new school year.

"O.U.R. Mission: Back to School" is currently underway to help each child go back to school prepared for success. The greatest desire of children at the Mission is to be just like any other child. They don't want to be known as the child who always borrows pens or paper or is behind academically.

Please help our children go back to school prepared with your financial gift today!



Don Moody
Executive Director

EXTREME MAKEOVER - LIFE CHANGING EDITION

The Story of Brad Sefter, Men's Division Discipleship Program

Only one year ago, Brad Sefter was at the lowest point of his life—desperately wandering the streets of Orlando looking for a place to sleep and food to eat. Memories of an abusive childhood led Brad to seek comfort through a serious drug addiction which consumed his life beginning at age 12. For years, Brad used drugs to remove pain in his life, however it was his uncontrollable addiction which led him to the most painful reality of his adult life—he was homeless.

Never being homeless before, Brad didn't even know where to begin. As he hopelessly sank into a park bench at Lake Eola, Brad's misery was interrupted by another homeless man—probably someone Brad would have turned his back to before, but now the disheveled man may have saved his life. "He knew just where to find food and where to sleep. I followed him over to the Orlando Union Rescue Mission."

From that point, Brad's life has been transformed from the inside-out. Within days of coming to the Mission, Brad found the true source for life change—a personal relationship with Christ. "I have become so much closer to God as a result, and God puts the right things in front of me now."

For 12 months, Brad has stayed completely sober. "This was nothing short of a miracle of God," recalls Brad with a smile on his face. Additionally, Brad used his time at the Mission to complete his high school education, being named "Student of the Year" along the way. Something he never dreamed possible!

From hopeless drug addict to a confident child of God, Brad's makeover affected much more than his appearance. Your gift today allows the Mission to meet the physical needs of homeless men, women and children which often leads to greater transformations. For more information about the life-changing programs at the Mission, visit www.ourm.org.



For only \$25 you can help a child go back to school prepared!





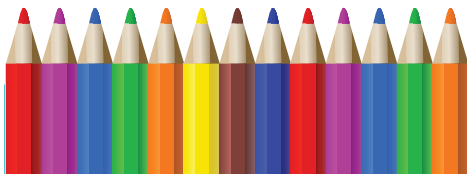
Special Needs **URGENT!**

SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED

You can now help our boys and girls go back to school prepared! Right now, the Mission is collecting school supplies . . . below is a list of our most urgent needs:

- pencils
- graph paper
- 3 ring binders
- backpacks
- calculators
- tissues
- highlighters
- pencil sharpeners
- dictionaries
- rulers
- colored pencils
- disinfectant wipes
- white copy paper
- hand sanitizer

For more information, please contact 407-422-4855 ext. 116.



"Our adult students need your help too!"

CAREER LEARNING CENTER NEEDS:

- 2 new desktop computer units
- 2 laser jet printers (black ink only)

"How Do You Eat An Elephant?"

by Rebecca Goodwin, former resident, O.U.R. Mission Home

My 2-year old son and I lived at the Mission for 11 months. While there, I have drawn closer to God and truly learned how to give Him complete control of my life.

I also had the opportunity to receive my High School Diploma through the Mission's Career Learning Center. The teaching process is so successful because of the dedicated staff and volunteers who commit to help us. After you complete 4 of the 5 testing sections, you receive a tutor all to yourself. The last test that I had to take was Math and that is when I was introduced to volunteer tutor, Mark.



From the very beginning, Mark was patient and had a real desire to help me. He also taught me a very important lesson. Every time I would get frustrated, he would ask, "Rebecca, how do you eat an elephant?" Then, he would smile and say, "one bite at a time." I thought I would never be able to get through Algebra and Geometry, but then I began to realize that learning these subjects

was similar to our walk with Christ—sometimes we take it one day at a time while others require one step at a time.



The volunteers who share their time and talents are truly special people. God gives each of us talents and it is up to us to use them for His glory.

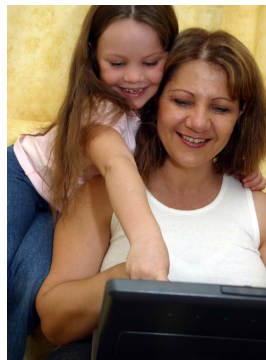
Are you gifted in teaching and want to use your talents to help the homeless achieve academic success? For more information about volunteer opportunities, call 407-422-4855 ext. 118.

Check it out!

The Mission has a new website – same address, but different look!

Visit www.ourm.org, and let us know what you think.

You can also visit us on Facebook too!



The Orlando Union Rescue Mission is a non-profit, faith based organization whose mission is to provide those in need with food, shelter, clothing, education and other resources to help the homeless achieve self-sufficiency. The foundation of our work is Biblically based – to bring people to know the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Savior.

Send your gift by August 21st to help our children go back to school prepared!