



# Roseburg Rescue Mission

*A Beacon of Hope  
for the Homeless*

DECEMBER 2011

**47** Years  
of  
1964 - 2011 *Hope*

752 SE Pine St • PO Box 1937 • Roseburg, OR 97470 • (541) 673-3004 • [www.roseburgrescuemission.org](http://www.roseburgrescuemission.org)



## Homeless for Christmas

Dear Friends,

We have the privilege of bringing God's love to searching people this Christmas. We want to make this Christmas season special for so many hurting people right here in our community. Let's fill the emptiness, restore hope. We're already gathering donated food and buying supplies. Because of the lingering recession, we expect to serve more meals than normal in the weeks ahead. We're already 18% ahead of pre-recession meal counts.

This is more than a great Roseburg Rescue Mission Christmas Tradition. Its life-saving, life-changing. And you can help! Will you please help to express God's love and acceptance with everyone who shares a meal with us? This simple act of love can set in motion a whole new start in life for that hurting person here in Douglas County.

Have a blessed, Merry Christmas!  
Lynn Antis, Executive Director

### DINNER MENU ITEMS NEEDED

Ham Turkey Potatoes  
Pineapple Gravy Mix  
Yams Salad  
Rolls Pie  
Ice Cream Coffee  
Cranberry Sauce  
Mixed Vegetables

**CHRISTMAS DAY  
DINNER AT 1 PM**

*Your generous year end  
gift will bless others!*

### My Christmas gift for the homeless

**Yes!** I want to help homeless men, women and children in need.

I'd like to contribute:

- \$250
- \$100
- \$50
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please accept my donation by:

**Check:** PLEASE ENCLOSE

**Credit Card:** CIRCLE ONE



Exp.: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



*Thank you for using the enclosed envelope. You  
will receive a receipt for your tax deductible gift.*

**Roseburg Rescue Mission**

PO Box 1937 • Roseburg, OR 97470-0438



# My Chains Are Gone, I've Been Set Free

Deirdre likens her life to a story in the Gospel of John. Lawyers and rulers brought a woman caught in adultery to Jesus in the temple courts. They wanted to stone her to death according to the Law. Jesus said to them, "If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her." They left. Jesus did not condemn her either. He said to her, "Go your way, from now on sin no more." Deirdre's adultery was her unfaithfulness to the Lord, worshiping the idols of addiction. She said, "I found a different god in drugs and alcohol. At the time, it felt free, angry, no responsibilities." She describes it as being "embroiled" in addiction, and as, "dark, very lonely, it felt like losing my soul, the nature of who I am."

In recovery meetings, she claimed the Almighty God of Creation as her higher power. She had acknowledged God and may have even confessed herself as a sinner. But, she was still trying to save herself and relapsing at that. She still needed the Savior, but making no commitment. She said, "I felt I was being moved by something, touched, like a miracle, protected." But, she was still not budging.

Deirdre had alienated all her family, even her mother and daughter. Her entire circle of friends were addicted. Her behavior was very close to getting her fired at work. Her world was crashing



## She needed the invitation

down around her. Only then she said, "I realized I didn't want to continue going down that road." Her probation officer referred her to the Mission's Samaritan Inn. She kept her job, but changed her living environment, one that would not throw stones at her.

She needed the invitation, not an altar call, not a hellfire and brimstone message, not the reasoning of historical proofs or membership in a morality club. The invitation to salvation was in the power of the Word of God. When she heard it, she knew it and accepted Jesus as her Lord and Savior on just her second day at Samaritan Inn.

She needed a Christian community of the faithful, not a support group identified by old

habits. Deirdre said, "Samaritan Inn saved my life. It was home, safe, no one was abusive. There was prayer, Bible studies, and staff helped me work through things in my childhood. Nowhere else in my 42 years of life have I ever found a place that so lovingly and willingly gave me everything I needed and asked so little in return."

She needed to transition from the Mission to a church family, and did just that. Her new circle of friends are at church, the Mission (she stops by to visit on her way to work) and at work - only if they are clean and sober. Now the words to "Amazing Grace" are on her mind, especially "My chains are gone, I've been set free."

**I**n those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken...So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem...He went there to register with Mary, who was...expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped Him in cloths and placed Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby...An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them...the angel said to them. "Do not be afraid. I bring you Good News of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord."

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom His favor rests."

Luke 2:1-14

## Ideas for Christmas Gifts



- Stocking Hats
- Baseball Caps
- Socks (all ages)
- Gloves - Jersey for men  
Knit for women
- Deodorant - small
- Bar Soap
- Shampoo
- Razors
- Shaving Cream
- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste - small
- Hair Brushes
- Candy Canes
- Bibles/Bible Tracts
- New Underwear
- Bus Pass
- Cough Drops
- Telephone Card
- Postage Stamps
- Fanny Packs
- Gift Certificates for Mothers & Children for shoes & haircuts
- Baby Dolls
- Child Pajamas
- Slippers
- Strollers
- Diaper Bags
- New Toys

**Please do not wrap packages. Items needed by December 20th.**