



# Roseburg Rescue Mission

*A Beacon of Hope  
for the Homeless*

**51** *Years*  
1964-2015

JANUARY 2015

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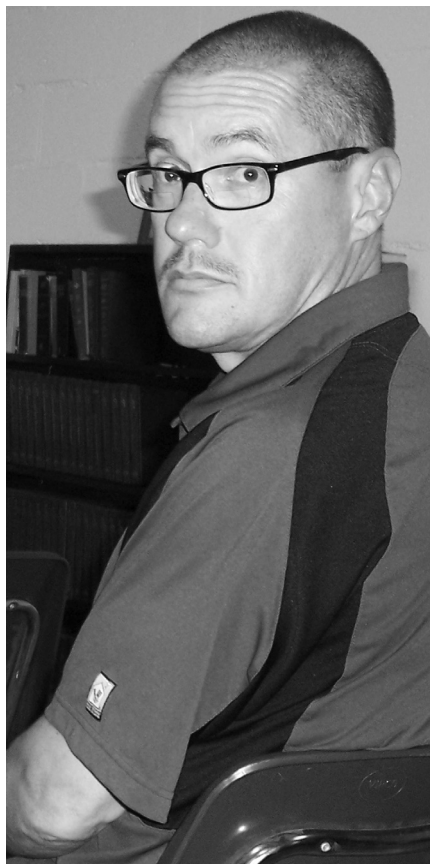
## Not Just A Blue-Collar Problem

Scott sits in a crowd of homeless men with a rather unsuspecting circumstance. At first glance, he seems to blend with other clients. He sports a fast food smock, not an unusual sight at the Mission. But for Scott, that job is not the beginning of a new career. He has been a public school teacher for 13 years, since graduating with a Master of Arts degree from a private Christian university in Oregon.

The trouble started with school district budget cuts and layoffs. Scott and his family moved to another state so he could continue his teaching career. All was well until his wife, who has her own career, was offered a big advancement back here in Oregon. She took it, moved their children and bought a house. They still had a house in the other state. For two more years, he taught year-round school with regular interval vacations. He was with his family during those breaks; until the last time upon arriving at home, he was told that he was no longer welcome. Scott said, "It was a total surprise. I had no idea at all." The stress on a marriage and family, split apart by economic times, is no less for people with white-collar positions than it is for those with blue-collar positions. He said a lot of their problem was just the distance and time away from each other.

If suddenly we had no place to go because of unforeseen circumstances or natural disaster, a lot of Americans would have few options. Many of us live from paycheck to paycheck, whether out of low income or just high spending. A few months ago, Scott was teaching children and grandchildren, just like our own. His

bills were paid. His biggest problem was getting recertified to teach in Oregon, so he could be with his family again. It's still his goal. In the meantime, he has shifted his priority, late as it is, left his out of state job and is staying closer to home. Their double income had gone into houses, now with more debt than value. His possessions are on hold, pending the divorce settlement.



**The success of  
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his loyalties.**

Scott is a Christian, having accepted the Lord years ago. He said that the Lord was clearly at work in his life, changing him into a new person. Still, the success of a two career family pulled at his loyalties. He said, "I just plodded along in life, focusing on making money, buying cars, trucks, a boat. I took my relationship with God and my wife for granted. I learned my lesson. I thought I had it all. For all our material goods, we said, 'We've got it from here God!' We were on our own and it didn't work out. And that won't happen again. The Lord had to show me my arrogance. At first I was angry at the Lord. Then I turned it over to the Lord, got on my knees and prayed, then things started to happen." He said, "It's a blessing that the Roseburg Rescue Mission is here. I have no idea what I would do if it weren't here. It's been a learning experience. With the support from staff and God, I am in a position now where I can stand on my own two feet and start life over again. Every day I read the Bible, persevering. I would not have my relationship with Christ today, if not for the Mission. Thank you."

Now Scott is giving back by using his teaching ability to tutor homeless men for their GED.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

There are many ways to be "A Beacon of Hope for the Homeless".

*Here are some of our current needs:*

Chapel Services  
Bible Study  
Thrift Store

*Apply on our website or in our office.*

## BASIC SERVICES

For men, women and children

**Food:** 3 meals every day.

**Clothing:** Available to all.

**Housing:** 250 beds

**Transitional Housing:** Rentals (Men)

**Recovery Program:** Open to Men and Women.

**Dayrooms:** Open all day.

Restrooms, laundry, showers, phone, etc.

**Thrift Stores:** Items vouchered to those in need, sold to others.

**Chapel:** A part of our daily lives.

## A 250 Bed Shelter

With the new Samaritan Inn project underway, there is a time of reflection on the new dynamic of this whole ministry to the homeless. The Roseburg Rescue Mission will have 250 beds for homeless men, women and children. Its a sign of the times, a condition in our culture, that homelessness continues to increase, despite the chatter to end it. The disturbing fact is that the most rapid growth is among women and children. Fifty years ago, all the beds were for transient men. Today, only 30% of the beds are for transient men, and only two nights since the last addition have any men slept on mats on the floor. Men are not being turned away for a lack of room. Fully half our beds are now for women and children. The other 20% are for the men's New Life Program and Transitional Housing Program. The face of homelessness has changed and continues to change. If the Lord tarries in His return, fifty years from now this ministry will undoubtedly be quite different than it is today. We will continue to be mindful of the ever changing landscape of the need among the homeless, while remaining focused on our primary purpose of preaching the Good News to the poor of our community. Balancing the quantity with the quality of services offered is always a part of our planning. Our success is not measured in how many beds we have or fill; our success is in faithfully offering the hope of a new life now and for eternity. As we move forward, a greater emphasis will continue to be on programs that help prepare our clients for independence.

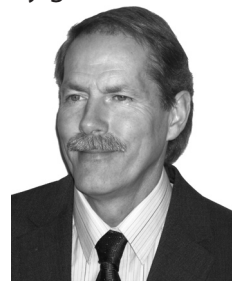
Its not all about beds. Over the past several years, our meals served at our dining room downtown has increased much faster than our men's bed usage. Hunger has become a greater need to fill. Our food service operation has become a proportionally larger part of the ministry. Dayroom usage has grown faster as well; there is more shaving, showering and laundry being done. The men's New Life Program has grown faster than the transient men.

Its rather amazing that a 250 bed shelter, without government funding or food, can exist in Douglas County. We are truly blessed. It will be no small chore to maintain this shelter. Success will be in keeping up with the maintenance expenses of aging buildings, utility bills, food cost, staffing etc. Some foundations have cut us off because we are a Christian organization. And as our nation ages, the younger generations are not supporting nonprofit organizations as well. In response to this shift in donated income, we will need to increase our earned income by developing business opportunities.

**"For which one of you, when he wants to build a tower, does not first sit down and calculate the cost, to see if he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation, and is not able to finish, all who observe it begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.'" Luke 14:28-30.**

This illustration is about commitment to discipleship, sacrifice, priorities. Its about dedication to the Lord, ministering to others and overcoming obstacles in the world. When an advancement is made in a ministry, like the new Samaritan Inn, new challenges come with it, even a struggle with forces opposed to preaching the Gospel. The new Samaritan Inn project began more than three years ago, first out of recognizing the need, then from faithfully pursuing every glimmer of hope. Numerous obstacles were thrown in the way. The project died at least twice. We persevered. Now delays in the process of getting construction plans have slowed down this project. As of this writing, we have construction drawings, permits and contractor bids are expected the first part of December, with closing later in the same month. Remodel construction should begin in January, with a completion date in April or May.

Lynn Antis, Executive Director



**Items Needed:**  
**Pancake Mix**  
**Syrup**  
**Canned Veggies**  
**Cooking Oil**  
**Oatmeal**  
**Coffee**  
**Pajamas**  
**Disposable Razors**  
**Towels**  
**Deodorant**

**Remember the  
Roseburg Rescue  
Mission in your  
Estate Planning**