



# Roseburg Rescue Mission

*A Beacon of Hope  
for the Homeless*

**52** *Years*  
1964-2016

JANUARY 2016

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

## When His Marriage Broke Up Paycheck To Paycheck Lifestyle Caused Homelessness

Joseph said, "I was having issues with my wife. We had a fight, screaming at each other over something stupid. I went to work. I called to apologize, but that turned into a fiasco in itself. We had problems before, but were not taking care of them." After his shift at work was over, he went to the Mission. A few months later, they were divorced, their differences being irreconcilable. Five weeks later, they were remarried at the county court house, after what Joseph now refers to as "some crazy drama." He said, "It was starting to go good. I got a second part-time job. Of the problems in the marriage, finances were 30%, not the biggest problem. The second job helped with the finances and marriage, but the biggest problem was that we just could not get along. Things went back to the way they were. She said it was done." He was back at the Mission, a place that had helped him give his marriage a second attempt.

Joseph said, "If there were no Mission here, I would have gone back to my parents in (another state), rather than stay here and have a relationship with my (three-year-old) son. I want to be there for my son and help him grow into the man he will be one day. I couldn't have maintained the relationship. I had no money for renting an apartment. The Mission

provided the means to preserve his father and son relationship.

Then the Mission facilitated something even greater. After chapel one night, laying on his bunk in our dormitory, he accepted the Lord. Joseph said, I had heard other people's testimonies (in chapel). I found out that I can talk to God, nothing half-baked, just let it all out, telling God what my needs are and they happen. Chapel is every night. Things were hit and miss. Sometimes they just click, and I could look at what I was doing at that time. It gave me insights about how to deal with anger or with problems. I have seen God work in my life and in others. I said a prayer by myself right before going to

sleep. Laying on my bed, I closed my eyes and started praying for help. I couldn't do it myself; I need my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ." Joseph testified, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" 2 Corinthians 5:17.

Joseph concluded by saying, "I used to have preconceived notions until I came here. Then it hit me like a freight train. Some people just lost their job; some are trying to break the vicious cycle of addiction. The thing we have in common is that we are all right here. They have their spiritual battles and I have mine."



**After chapel one night,  
laying on his bunk in our  
dormitory, he accepted  
the Lord.**

# Samaritan Inn Update

## Remodeling For More Mother's Rooms

If the ratio of mothers and children to single women from the old Samaritan Inn had held the same, our single women's dormitory would have filled up and singles would be sleeping in family rooms. The new design has half the bed capacity for each of the two groups, which is in itself an increase for mothers and children. However, the increase in families has outpaced our expectations.

In the first few months of operation, the new Samaritan Inn has housed more mothers and children and fewer single women than expected. Of the 14 family rooms, 12 are already occupied. There

were 12 mothers with 25 children plus single women the other night. Families were more than half the population of Samaritan Inn. So we are remodeling two additional rooms to have a total of 16 family rooms.

The improvements in the new facility of more space, families and singles separated from each other, a larger kitchen, dining room and chapel, better security and a preferred location have made it more attractive to mothers. Also the state Department of Human Services finds it more suitable for rejoining families.

**There were 12 mothers with 25 children, plus single women the other night.**

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



## Mission Books & Bargains Demolished

### Parking Lot Paving & Landscaping

This building was at the corner of SE Pine St and SE Cass Av. It was demolished on November 16, 2015. It was built in 1949 and served various owners as a Christian book store, floor covering store, antique store and at last a thrift store for the Mission. The northeast corner of the foundation was sinking, and the walls were pulling away from the roof structure. It was made of cinder block that was not reinforced. Repairing the damaged portion would have been expensive, and we still would not have a building with a long life expectancy.

When this property became available because of a foreclosure from the previous owner, we made the bank a low offer that was accepted. We gained ownership in September, 2011. The property was purchased at the

value of the land alone. It was acquired with a view toward future planning and gave the Mission ownership of the whole block. Now we can concentrate parking on the north end of the block so that future building can be done on the south end among other buildings. Indeed, a recently amended Conditional Use Permit designates the area west of our Thrift Store as a future building site.

Paving and landscaping the area of the old store will be done soon. Then, in the next year or two, more required paving and landscaping will be done on the north end of that block. Eventually, the parking spaces that back directly out onto SE Pine St. have to be removed and replaced by parallel parking.