



Off The Streets!

A Newsletter for Friends and Donors

of the Idaho Falls City of Refuge

Men's Mission & Community Outreach

Fall 2009

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow!

Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.



**Calvary Chapel
food drive**

Thomas Ken penned those lyrics to what is commonly known as the "Doxology" in 1674. How appropriate those words are for this Thanksgiving season. We should all pause at this time of year to think about the blessings that have been poured out on us throughout the year. Among our blessings is Calvary Chapel Christian School who just completed a food drive when they heard how we are serving so many more meals that our food supplies were getting low. We count the blessings from area businesses like Olive Garden, Dominos, Pepsi, Pizza Hut, EIRMC, Farr's Ice Cream, Apple Athletic, the Aquatic Center, Big Lots, Melaleuca, Intermountain Anesthesia, and the Idaho Falls Chamber of Commerce Leadership Group who have made substantial donations to us this year. We also count Bearl a blessing, a former resident; he has been sharing his

skills as a handyman in our Thrift Store remodeling and Emma who spends hours cleaning, and Larry who drops in to help out. These are just a few of the multitude of volunteers that serve our mission in so many ways. We have also been blessed by the generous increase of monetary gifts from individuals, churches, businesses and organizations that has made it possible to add a discipleship program that provides men an opportunity to change their lives. Keep in mind that all of this is made possible because we have a great and caring God who knows how to give good gifts. After all, he is the God who gave us his Son so we could be reconciled to Him, the greatest blessing of all.

**Thrift Store
Grand Reopening**

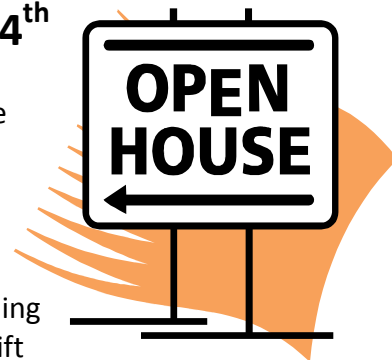
Join Us Saturday October 24th

You are invited to the annual City of Refuge Open House from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturday October 24th. Come enjoy refreshments and meet our staff. Tours of the facility will be provided.

Hope to see you here!

Visit our remodeled Thrift Store. Great values, clean, friendly and fun shopping experience for all ages. Check with us for your clothing and household needs and gift ideas.

Open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Saturday.



Happy, Happy, Thanksgiving!



I would like to take the time to thank each and everyone for their prayers and donations this year. It is because of these gifts that many people who would not get to enjoy a turkey dinner with family and friends will this year. We here at the City of Refuge Men's Mission and Community Outreach wish all of you the very best Thanksgiving. Thank you and God bless.

Sincerely,
Ronnie Lloyd
Case Manager/Lead Supervisor



City of Refuge Thanksgiving Plans

We plan to serve a traditional Thanksgiving meal at 6 PM on Thanksgiving Day. City of Refuge folks will be invited to participate in the Elks Club Community Thanksgiving meal at noon. Later in the day, we supplement our dinner with Elks Club leftovers for another great feast. Servers are needed, so call us if you are interested in being part of serving on Thanksgiving at COR!

From the Director

“...and Community Outreach”

*May God Almighty bless you and make you fruitful and increase your numbers until you become a **community** of peoples. Gen 28:3 (NIV)*

You may not have noticed if it wasn't pointed out but the City of Refuge refers to itself as a “Men's Mission and Community Outreach” A lot of people are familiar with us as a men's homeless shelter providing for the needs of adult men who don't have the resources to take care of themselves. This is an important part of our mission but there is much more going on here. Every day we feed the dinner meal in our community to anyone who has a need. This includes not just our male residents but women and families with children. We used to average about 25 meals a night but with people struggling to make ends meet we now average about 40 to 50 meals a night and by the end of the month when food stamps and the money runs out we have served as many 85 meals in one evening. We also provide food boxes to people in the community once a month. Other outreach activities include serving people in need with items of clothing and household goods from our thrift store. Hygiene items are dispersed and we provide shower and laundry facilities to many who are without..

Beyond the physical needs City of Refuge fills spiritual needs in our community offering a discipleship program to men who chose to change their lives, daily chapel services each morning at 8:00 a.m., and host regular evening bible studies after our evening meal.

One of the most meaningful ways of community outreach is often overlooked. City of Refuge provides a place for people to serve. Volunteers from many different faiths and churches, schools and businesses gather here to serve in just as many different ways. I guess you would say our community outreach goes both ways. The functional word is community. God has made us to live in community with Him and each other. City of Refuge strives to make our community a wholesome, healthy, productive, Godly community.

Yours in Christ,

David McKinney



What is an Alternate Gift Fair?

What do you give to someone who has "everything?"

We have a tendency to accumulate lots of stuff. Our garages are full of cars so we build bigger garages to hold all of our toys. Our closets are full of the latest fashions and our kitchens and workshops have all of the latest gadgets. Eventually it all ends up in someone else's hands. Jesus tells this parable in Luke 12: 16 - 21 (NIV)

16"...The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. **17**He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.'

18"Then he said, 'this is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. **19**And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry."

20"But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?'

21"This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God."

So, how can we be rich towards God?

'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.' Matt 25:40 (NIV)

We can read that as; whatever gift you give in someone else's name to the needy, is a gift from both of you to God.

Join Us November 14th & 15th

Holiday Alternate Giving Fair

Community Outreach Center

301 South Boulevard

Idaho Falls, ID

From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day

- \$12.60 Feeds a homeless man dinner for a week
- \$50.00 Provides a Christmas food box for four
- \$550.00 Operates the City of Refuge for a day

COR NEEDS



- Coffee
- Fresh Fruit
- Salad Dressing
- Spaghetti, Pasta
- Paper Plates, Cups
- Canned Fruit & Vegetables
- Creamed Soups
- Canned Tuna
- Large Ziploc bags
- Disposable Razors, Deodorant
- **55 Gallon Trash Bags**
- Bleach
- Powdered Laundry Soap
- Sleeping Bags, Twin Blankets
- Winter Gloves and Hats
- Copy Paper
- Thrift Store Volunteers - Saturday
- Volunteer Cooks
- **Prayer** for: Finances, Leadership, Volunteers, Staff

Your 2009 Gifts at Work

(For Jan 1, 2009 - Sept 30, 2009)

- 2138 bed nights provided
- 106 different residents stayed
- 60% of residents moved to more permanent housing
- 14% were veterans
- 35% were under age 30
- 41% were age 31-50
- 20% were age 51-61
- 4% were age 62 and above
- 648 Bible devotion attendees
- 11,323 individual meals served
- 531 food boxes distributed
- 289 people helped with 1558 items from the thrift store



Keep praying for "Tim."

Memorials

(June through September 30, 2009)

In Memory Of:

Edward Sengel by Clifton and Norma Parker, **Audie Kite** by Glen and Barb Hayes, **Betty Reed** by Muriel Burnham, **Nelson E. Arave** by Phillip Schow, **Don Schorzman** by Charlotte Schorzman, **Dennis Hochwart** by Raeola Russell, **Robert W. Nelson** by Dorothy Allred, **Vern L. Cole Sr.** by Betty Cole, **Steve's Eide's father (who was a doctor in Minnesota)** by Mr. and Mrs. Darrel Beebe, **Alan Propp** by Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Narus, **Jeanne Smith** by Jeanette Bryant, **Winona Vaughn** by Mr. and Mrs. James Kilburn, **Theron Bradley** by Karen Bradley, **Jay C. and Alice Hawker** by Lynn Hawker **Geo Wachs** by anonymous.

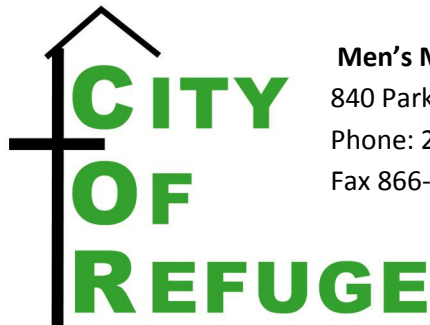
In Honor Of:

Our Nations Veterans by Mr. and Mrs. Barry Carlson, **Veterans** by Lynn Ackerman

The City of Refuge is a non-profit organization committed to providing emergency shelter, essential services, and hope to homeless men. COR is the only emergency shelter of its kind in a nine-county region of Eastern Idaho. Meals, food, and personal items are also provided to the hungry and hurting in our area.

Our Mission Statement

Demonstrating the love of Christ by providing opportunities for the homeless and impoverished to become self-reliant through the utilization of resources provided by God's people, for God's glory.



Men's Mission & Community Outreach

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City of Refuge is a self-supporting outreach of: **Family Care Center, Inc.** 1675 Curlew Drive, Idaho Falls 83406

Executive Director: John Oakley, D.Min, MBA



Happy Thanksgiving!

