



RESCUE CHATTANOOGA

News from Chattanooga Rescue Mission

FALL ISSUE 2015

www.chattanoogarescuemission.org

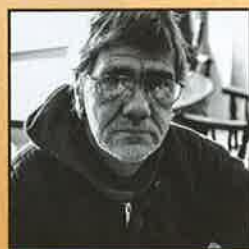
1512 S. Holtzclaw Ave., P.O. Box 3624, Chattanooga, TN 37404-0624

I can't read or write . . .

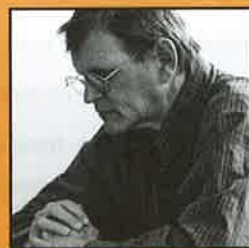
but that doesn't keep me from communicating with Jesus



An Encouraging Word from Dale Grisso, Director of Men's Discipleship Ministries
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Thank you for being a Thanksgiving friend
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Open arms and open heart in every season
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My name is Chris. I just want to say this Mission means everything in the world to me. Prison was my career, starting in my late teens. Whenever I had a problem, I would turn to drugs and alcohol. Before I came here, I didn't know what clean and sober meant. Those two words were not in my vocabulary. My lifestyle was so unacceptable my family didn't want to be around me. Over the years, I've hurt so many people, my parents, grandparents and my 13 brothers and sisters. One thing for sure: if I were not here at Chattanooga Rescue Mission I would be back in prison. No doubt about that.

From a life of drinking to praising God

I used to go to bed drinking, wake up drinking and look for a way to keep drinking throughout the day. Today, my heart is being changed by a loving God and what I'm learning at the Mission. My jobs here include doing laundry for the shelter guests and working in the kitchen as a cook.

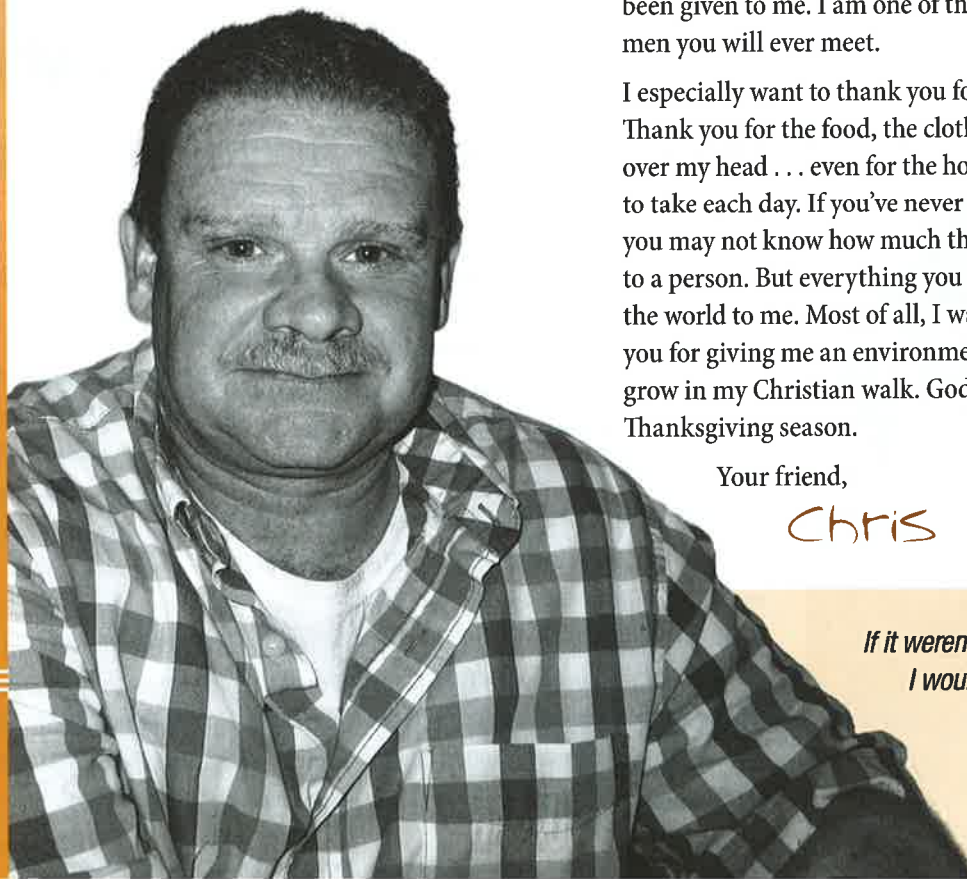
"I want to thank you for giving me an environment where I can grow in my Christian walk."

It feels good to give back. After all, so much has been given to me. I am one of the most grateful men you will ever meet.

I especially want to thank you for your donations. Thank you for the food, the clothing, and the roof over my head . . . even for the hot showers I'm able to take each day. If you've never been homeless, you may not know how much those things mean to a person. But everything you provide means the world to me. Most of all, I want to thank you for giving me an environment where I can grow in my Christian walk. God bless you at this Thanksgiving season.

Your friend,

Chris



If it weren't for this Mission I would be behind bars again today

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Dale Grisso, Director of Men's Discipleship Ministries

Dear Friend of Chattanooga Rescue Mission,

You and I live with many lists . . . TO DO lists, wish lists, project lists, shopping lists . . . and the list of lists goes on and on. At this Thanksgiving season I want to add one more list to the list . . . *my gratitude list.*

- I'm grateful to you who volunteer, give your hard-earned money and speak well of Chattanooga Rescue Mission in our service area.
- I'm thankful for a staff that has the opportunity to make an impact on people's lives every day.
- Many of the folks here see me as a father figure, and I accept that responsibility with humility. So many have not had a caring person to listen to them or help steer them in the right direction. I take seriously my long hours of listening to and counseling people in need.
- I'm grateful for the notes I received from a friend like you . . . messages that tell me the Mission is at the top of your prayer list and that you are committed to support the Mission in the long run.
- I'm thankful for a community that continues to embrace this place of rescue. Not only during the Thanksgiving and holiday season, but throughout the year.

"... I would like to know what you are grateful for at this Thanksgiving season."



Now I would like to know what you are grateful for at this Thanksgiving season. Please drop me a line. I would love to hear from you.

Your servant to the needy,

Dale Grisso

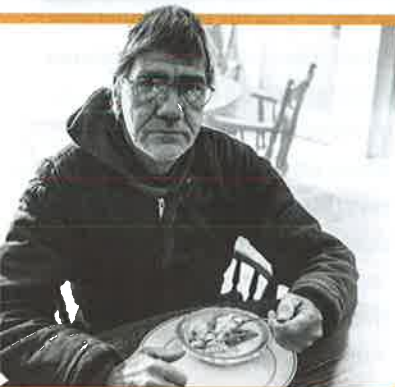
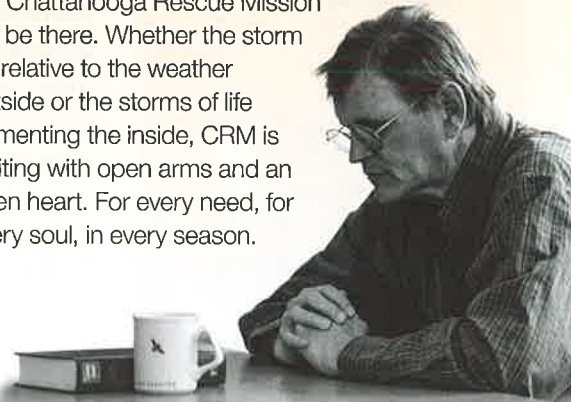
Dale Grisso
Director of Men's Discipleship Ministries

In Every Season

What does a sweltering day at the end of summer have in common with a cold, dreary day in November when people are bundled up against the cold, trying to stay warm and dry while homeless? Both days are equally miserable. It is very likely that the one experiencing both firsthand are the same person. It is even more likely that the best solution, whether it be summer or winter, is to find refuge at the Chattanooga Rescue Mission.

Our shelters are open every day of the year, and that is because misery knows no seasons. While we tend to presume that the focal point of suffering is related to the weather, the truth of the matter is that it goes far deeper. Hunger, thirst and physical exhaustion happen daily to each of us. Inner hurts and feelings of rejection are not season dependent. But even more compelling is the spiritual hunger, that yearning for fulfillment that can only be satisfied in Jesus Christ. No matter what brings a person to the doors of the Mission, we are here to help.

How we thank you for partnering with us throughout the year so that the homeless can be assured that the Chattanooga Rescue Mission will be there. Whether the storm be relative to the weather outside or the storms of life tormenting the inside, CRM is waiting with open arms and an open heart. For every need, for every soul, in every season.



"You continue to bless us by reaching out to those who are hungry, homeless and without a friend."

Thank you for being a Thanksgiving friend to those in need

Dear Friend of Chattanooga Rescue Mission,

The entire Mission staff thanks you for your overwhelming support of this ministry of rescue during the past several months. It would be an understatement to say these are challenging economic times. For many, *unprecedented* would be a more appropriate word.

But as tough as it may be during these days of uncertainty, it's even more difficult for those men and women who stream through our doors during the Thanksgiving season. These are the homeless, the ex-offenders, those who suffer from addictions and others who have simply lost their way. The good news is those who choose to make positive changes in their lives are finding new hope, new opportunities and new life as

they make the decision to follow *in the steps of Jesus.*

God bless you for giving from a grateful heart

You continue to bless us by reaching out to those who are hungry, homeless and without a friend. We cannot thank you enough for your generosity — not only during the Thanksgiving season but throughout the year. Now to continue to touch the lives of others in our community, please send your donation to the Mission today. For your convenience, you can either use the remit slip enclosed or make your donation online at www.chattanoogarescuemission.org. Thank you for being a friend to so many who need your kindness . . . people like Chris, who is so grateful for your compassion.