



INSIDE *Story*

WHEELER MISSION MINISTRIES *Changing Lives in Central Indiana Since 1893*
Fall 2017

Jesse was a
BROKEN MAN
when he came
to Wheeler.



Today, through your gifts and prayers, Jesse has a whole new life and a heart of thanksgiving!

READ HIS MOVING STORY ON PAGE 3.

"I ASKED GOD TO DO **WHATEVER** HE HAD TO IN MY LIFE."

Jesse's dad taught him construction – building houses to be solid and lasting. "I can build a house, the interior, exterior... anything."

But from a young age, Jesse's dad also taught him about addiction.

"When I hit about 8 or 9, I realized that my parents were addicts and alcoholics," Jesse says. "My mom would scare me to death driving home drunk. My dad died of a drug overdose when I was 30."

Jesse learned from his parents' example. He got in trouble for alcohol-related offenses as a teen. And at 16, Jesse's father introduced him to drugs.

As an adult, his drug addiction tightened its hold. "I just spiraled," he remembers. "It was compounded by the fact that I was full of rage too."

When Jesse found himself homeless, he came to Wheeler and joined our addiction recovery program. But looking back, he says, "I didn't really want to change."

Within a week of leaving our program, Jesse had returned to his addiction. As months passed, he felt broken. He finally knew he had to change his life.

God was already at work! Jesse bumped into two friends who'd gone through our recovery program at Starbucks one day.

"My wife and I were both sick from drugs. We hadn't slept in a few nights," he says. "These two guys could see that we weren't doing well and they called the intake manager at Wheeler... and, by the grace of God, he got us both into the program."

This time, Jesse was really ready to change everything. "I prayed and asked God to do whatever He had to do."

Through counseling, life-skills classes and work training, Jesse has finally let go of his anger and the unhealthy patterns he learned from his parents. And studying the Bible has strengthened his relationship with the Lord. "I read the Bible and it's alive to me now... God speaks to me through it."

Today, Jesse and his wife are both doing well and just welcomed a baby girl into their family! With a heart of thanksgiving, he shares these words: **"Wheeler Mission saved my life twice. I'm so grateful that they're here."**

*William Wheeler
Society*

WILL **YOU** ANSWER
THE CALL TO JOIN?

Join our William Wheeler Society – a group of very special friends who generously support our community's homeless by giving \$1,000 or more each year.

As a partner in ministry at this level, your compassion is felt daily by those in need as you help provide:

- Nourishing meals
- Safe shelter (especially for increased numbers of homeless women & children)
- Warm clothing and shoes
- Professional counseling services
- Life-skills classes (like anger management, accounting & parenting)
- Work training
- Opportunities to share God's love and healing with people each and every day

**To learn more, contact
Steve Kerr**

☎ (317) 635-3575

✉ SteveKerr@wmm.org

—“
At Wheeler, the counseling
I've gotten has totally
changed my life.
”—



THANKSGIVING CAMPAIGN

A Heart of Thanksgiving

Our guests may never meet you, but their hearts are filled with joy and thanksgiving for the care and opportunities you provide every day!



98,500 MEALS



43,000 BEDS



THOUSANDS OF HOURS
OF TRAINING, COUNSELING & PRAYER

**OPEN YOUR HEART
THIS THANKSGIVING**

FOOD. SHELTER. GUIDANCE. HOPE.
GOD'S LIFE-TRANSFORMING LOVE.

Your 2017 Annual Thanksgiving Campaign gift will bring a harvest of joy to people in need.



Give now using the enclosed reply card and envelope.



Give online anytime at WheelerMission.org.

THANK YOU
FOR BEING GENEROUS!

A MESSAGE FROM RICK ALVIS



*Your heart of Thanksgiving...
brings a harvest of joy!*

If all we do with your most generous gifts is feed hungry, homeless people in Central and South Central Indiana, **we're not doing our job!**

The people who turn to Wheeler Mission hunger for more than a meal. Their emptiness extends to all areas of their lives.

Food alone will not keep people from being homeless or addicted. They also need education and job-readiness training like they receive at our men's and women's social work enterprises.

Food alone will not give their tired spirits something to believe in. They need to discover God's love through faith-based recovery programs – and let Him transform their lives, inside and out.

Through your compassion, God's grace and caring staff who provide hope and encouragement, broken lives are filled with hope... and hurting hearts with thanksgiving.

As our busiest time of the year approaches, **I pray you will continue to demonstrate your heart of thanksgiving** to make absolutely sure people's physical and spiritual needs are met.

Donate food, or send a gift to purchase it. **Volunteer**, especially before the holidays. And **please pray** – for those who so desperately need our help, and God's, to live better lives.

Rick Alvis
President/CEO



The 2nd largest running event in IN!



A whole lotta running going on!
Join LOTS of fellow runners and walkers who have a heart for our community's homeless and want to **move their feet so others can eat!**

Ready, set, run! We'll see you at the starting line of our 15th annual Drumstick Dash at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 23, when thousands of people like you run and walk the streets of Broad Ripple.

Ready to register? Sign up now! DrumstickDash.org

Want to know more? Interested in being a sponsor? [\(317\) 635-3575](tel:3176353575) DrumstickDash@wmm.org

VISIT US ONLINE to learn more about our outreach, read stories of hope & securely donate anytime!

WheelerMission.org



VOLUNTEERS PLEASE!

Coordinating 20,000 runners is a big job... so our volunteers are a real blessing to us. Want to help? Visit WheelerVolunteer.org.