

**SHOEBOXES OF LOVE**

**November 1 - December 17**

Help City Rescue Mission spread hope and joy this holiday season. CRM is now collecting Shoeboxes of Love for our neighbors in need. Simply fill a shoebox or like-sized box with items from the list, wrap it in a blanket, and drop it off at the CRM McDuff Campus, 426 McDuff Ave. S. Visit [facebook.com/crmjax](https://facebook.com/crmjax) for a full list of items needed.

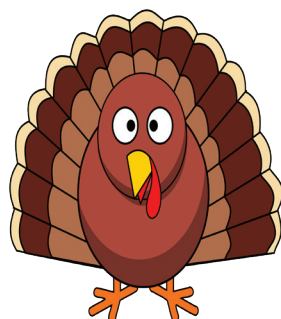


**City Rescue Mission's MISSION WARM FEET Now - November 19**

CRM wants you to organize a sock drive with your friends, family, church, etc. Socks are the number one clothing need for the homeless population. We need socks of all types, sizes, and colors for men, women and children. Donations can be dropped off at the CRM McDuff Campus at 426 S. McDuff Ave. S.

**Turkey & Ham Donation Drive Now - November 16**

CRM asking for your help to collect turkeys, hams, and gift cards to feed our neighbors in need this Thanksgiving! Donations can be dropped off at McDuff Campus at 426 S. McDuff Ave. S.



For more information about any of our donation drives, contact Kimberly Crockett at (904) 421-5149 or [volunteers@crmjax.org](mailto:volunteers@crmjax.org).

**The Nativity You Never Knew**

Every December we display Nativities that include the "three wise men." Here are a few surprising things we know about them:  
 1. There may have only been two. Because the magi brought three gifts, it's often assumed there were three, but the Bible doesn't offer a number.  
 2. They didn't arrive the night Jesus was born. Matthew records the men arrived, "after Jesus was born" at the "house" where Jesus was. It's believed Mary and Joseph were no longer at the stable but in another location of the city, at a later time.  
 3. They were the first Gentiles to worship Jesus. The Bible says they knew Jesus was the "King of the Jews." And even though they were astrologers they were overjoyed to worship the baby as King. For the full version of this article, request a FREE copy of "Surprising Facts About the Nativity" by contacting **Angela A. Washington** at (904) 421-5147 or [awashington@crmjax.org](mailto:awashington@crmjax.org) - or bless your family today with a God-honoring Will at [christianwill.org/crm](http://christianwill.org/crm).

**WE NEED YOUR HELP**

City Rescue Mission is in need of the following items:

- Replacement of windows on McDuff Admin Building - \$275,000
- Add a house - *Homes of Hope* - \$60,000
- New roof and steeple repair on chapel - \$55,000
- Fencing for McDuff Campus - \$50,000
- Computers for Workforce Program Learning Center - \$35,000
- Men's LifeBuilders Dorm Fire Alarm System - \$25,000
- Emergency Lighting in Critical Areas - \$13,000
- White twin sheet sets and pillows
- White towels and washcloths
- Bottled water
- Travel size shampoo and conditioner
- Sanitizing Wipes
- Socks for men, women, and children
- Shower shoes
- Comforters for Queen (15) and Twin (5) for *Homes of Hope*
- New or gently-used clothing, jewelry, and household goods for the CRM Thrift Store

Please contact Angela Washington for more information at (904) 421-4147 or [awashington@crmjax.org](mailto:awashington@crmjax.org).

STAY CONNECTED



CITY RESCUE MISSION

[CRMjax.org](http://CRMjax.org)



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CITY RESCUE MISSION

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*New Life* NEWS  
NOVEMBER 2021

**FROM A DARK PLACE**

LEARNING GRACE AND ACCEPTANCE

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## From a Dark Place - TishShaunna's Story

Before coming to City Rescue Mission, I was in a very dark place. I had been in a dark place since I was 15 years old. By that time, I had already been in many abusive relationships and was on my own, due to being abandoned by my parents at a very early age. I didn't know how to do anything but be in toxic relationships with men and I had an addiction to drugs.

I went into foster care at the age of 17 after the birth of my daughter. I aged out at 18, leaving my child behind at the foster home. I couldn't be the mother that she needed, due to my addiction to cocaine.

I came to City Rescue Mission twice - first in 2011 and the second time in 2014. I was exposed to Christianity as a child, but I resented it because of the abuse in my family. I was abused by the same person that forced me to go to church every Sunday, so that relationship was tainted. The first time that I came to the Mission, I graduated, but I went back into the area from where I was rescued. I didn't apply the tools that I was taught and repeated the same behaviors as before. I was living in a crack house and was in another abusive relationship with a drug dealer.

The second time that I came to the Mission, I had met a man that I knew from the streets. He seemed healthier and happy from when we first met and he told me that he had gone through the program and was working for City Rescue Mission. He gave me a card for one of the RA's and told me to call her if I decided that I was ready to get help. The very next day, the house that I was staying in was raided by the police and I had nowhere to go. I

got on my knees and prayed, pulled out the card and called the Mission. They came and got me and I went into LifeBuilders for the second time.

I was ready to grow up this time. I had a taste of living the drug-free live. I was taught that I can do this, with the help of others and with my belief in Jesus Christ. I now have faith in myself and in Christ. Five years later, I am in my own place and I work every day at a job at Humana Pharmacy.

Coming to the Mission has changed my life because I have peace. I am happy and I value myself. I am working to mend my relationships with my children. My daughter is 22 and my son is 18, and I believe that Christ will restore my family.

I am most grateful to the City Rescue Mission for showing me grace and showing me the meaning of grace. Everything about the City Rescue Mission is awesome!



**GIVING TUESDAY**

**YOU CAN BE A  
HOMETOWN HERO**

**Help our struggling neighbors  
on Giving Tuesday!**

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**GRAND OPENING**

**CRM**  
**THRIFT STORE CHARIS CAFE**  
CITY RESCUE MISSION



**Wednesday, November 17, 2021**  
**10:30 am - 1:30 pm**  
**7200 Normandy Blvd.**  
**Jacksonville, FL 32205**

SAVE THE DATE for the Grand Opening of the CRM Thrift Store and Charis Cafe at our new location at 7200 Normandy Blvd., Jacksonville.

CRM has operated a thrift store as another means of financial support for its mission to provide hope, healing and change for those experiencing homelessness and addiction here on the First Coast. It has operated out of the current location for approximately 20 years, but the new location will fill a 27,000 square-foot vacancy and become the anchor store of the strip mall.

Our new location will allow for more retail and operating space, as well as space for the new CHARIS Cafe. The cafe will not only feature signature CHARIS treats such as brownies and chocolates, but also special blend coffees, breakfast pastries, sandwiches, bagels, popcorn, pretzels,

For more information, please contact Christa Martin at (904) 421-5141 or [cmartin@crmjax.org](mailto:cmartin@crmjax.org).

## Paul's Ponderings

The Bible has much to say about thankfulness. Clearly, thankfulness should be characteristic of Christians. The word, "thankfulness", is mentioned 71 times in the New Testament. One example is 1 Thess. 5:18, "In everything give thanks." Thankfulness is defined in the dictionary as "showing oneself grateful, to be thankful, to give thanks."



Psalm 100:4-5 says that we are to "Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations." The words, "thanksgiving and thanks", used here in the original Hebrew means "to hold out one's hand, to revere or worship."

God has given us all so much that thankfulness is the only way we can respond.

I can't express the amount of thankfulness our students have in being here at City Rescue Mission. Only they and God know the situation from which they came. Many were on the brink of death, and now they experience life. Many truly know the meaning of John 10:10 - "the thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

Because of your faithfulness in giving to the Lord through the Mission, lives are pulled from the grip of the enemy, lives are transformed, lives are saved, and they are experiencing that fullness of life that God intended.

May the Lord bless you and keep you, may you experience abundant thankfulness in your life, and that fullness of His grace, mercy, and love during

*Paul*