



Breiel Church's double blessing

For the fourth consecutive year, our friends from Breiel Church spent a Saturday serving Hope House as part of their annual Go Serve Middletown Day.

Preparation for the day started in June. Before the painting began, Terry and Dee Tome generously volunteered for weeks patching small knicks and preparing the chapel walls, making sure everything was ready for the Breiel team to paint. Shawn Thomas spent weeks organizing every detail.

Seventeen volunteers completed two projects. They updated the Men's Center's chapel with a fresh coat of paint and stained the new chair bumpers.

At the Women and Children's Center, another group installed a new handrail leading to our picnic shelter. Many of our residents are older adults or have mobility challenges, so this improvement provides greater safety and accessibility.

Projects like these leave an impact far beyond the work that gets completed. Every meal served, wall painted, and improvement made reminds our residents that there are people throughout our community who are willing to invest their time and talents in their lives. We are deeply grateful to Breiel Church, Shawn, Terry and Dee, and every volunteer who helped make this day possible.

IMPORTANT: Please take our online survey about our merger with City Gospel Mission. Your voice is essential!

It is vital that we hear from our supporters as we prepare to merge with City Gospel Mission in 2027. In 2014, we became a wholly-owned subsidiary of City Gospel Mission, which has provided vital leadership, fundraising, and marketing support in our shared mission to serve homeless individuals with God and faith as a foundation for life change. Before we merge, it's important that we hear your thoughts and questions about organizational identity among other topics. Please scan the QR code now!



CONTACT US

1001 Grove St., Middletown, OH 45044
hhmission.org
office@hhmission.org
513-424-4673



In partnership with City Gospel Mission

CHRONICLES of HOPE

Breaking the cycle of poverty and despair ... one life at a time

Jason: 'Hope House Mission saved my life'

Addiction took everything from me. Hope House Mission saved my life.

My name is Jason. I'm 49 years old. 16 years ago, with the way I was going I wasn't going to make it past 30 because of drugs and alcohol.

I grew up in Canton, Ohio. I started to mess up when I was about 18 years old using methamphetamines. I would stay awake for days at a time. Literally you are so hopped up that sleep is impossible. At my worst, I stayed awake for five days straight. When I finally slept, I slept for two days. I was an alcoholic as well, and I was sick, physically and mentally. The whole process really ages you, it tears your whole world up.

I knew I was going to die if something didn't change.

I put my finger on a map and picked Middletown. I chose Middletown because I didn't know any of the dealers.

Hope House helped me get into a group home. Because all the drugs did something to my brain, I deal with several mental health issues including anxiety and major depression. I still struggle with mental health. It's not something that you can just turn off or on. I was assigned a court payee. Things were good for 14 years.

Two years ago, I lost

my apartment when my court-appointed payee didn't pay my rent for a couple of months. I was completely sober and still ended up homeless.

After two months on the streets, I came back to Hope House. I am still sober and will celebrate 16 years of sobriety in February.

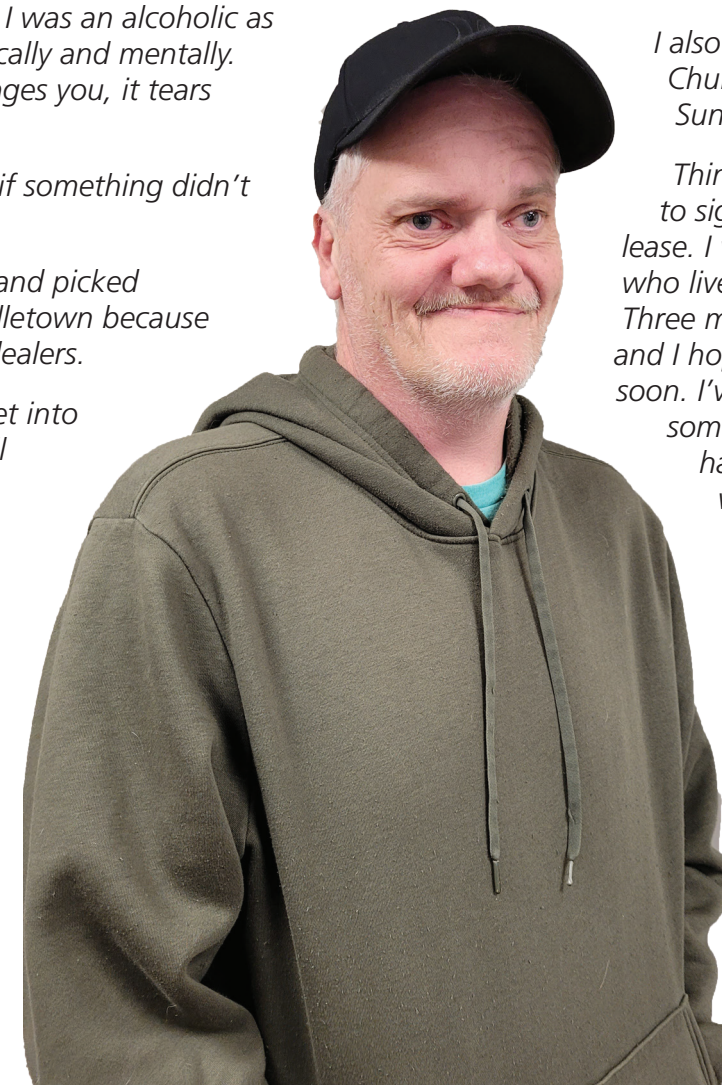
While I was at Hope House, I took Financial Peace and Employment Network (formerly known as JobsPlus) classes. They helped me learn how to budget and plan. The information really helped me.

I also started going to Liberty Heights Church. I still go every week on Sunday nights with my roommate.

Things are going well. I am about to sign another 12-month apartment lease. I visited my folks, and I see my son who lives in West Virginia when I can. Three months ago, I became a grandpa, and I hope to see my new grandson soon. I've also started drawing again, something I've loved my whole life. I have always wanted an art gallery with a drawing workshop.

I am grateful to still be clean and for what God has done in my life. I'm grateful for my home, for the people who live there with me, and for my church family. I am grateful to you who give and volunteer.

Thank you. What you do does not go unnoticed.



YES! I'll help feed & care for others this fall

I'm enclosing \$_____ Please allocate my gift to:

☐ Where it's needed most ☐ Men's Shelter ☐ Women & Children's Shelter

☐ Make this donation monthly.

☐ I have included Hope House Mission in my Will or Estate Plan.

☐ I would like info on including Hope House Mission in my Will or Estate Plan.

☐ Bill my credit card: ☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐ AMEX ☐ DISC

CREDIT CARD# CIV# EXP. DATE PHONE#

To give by credit card online, visit hhmission.org. To give by credit card by phone, call 513-424-4673.

Name Address

City State Zip Email HH1026NL



In partnership with City Gospel Mission

THANK YOU!

Please return this completed form with your donation. Your gift is tax deductible as allowed by law. You will receive a receipt for your records. Please make sure your check is payable to: HOPE HOUSE MISSION

HOPE HOUSE MISSION

1001 Grove St.
Middletown, Ohio 45044

Gifts received

- In Memory Of
- Gregg Clark
 - Kathy Frost
 - Betty Lay Graft
 - Barbara Hudson
 - Joe McNamara
 - Elaine Meeks
 - Robert (Bob) Miller
 - Dorice Perkins
 - Jerry Slama
 - Glen & Shirley True

- In Honor Of
- Frank McQuinn

Be a blessing
– Volunteer!

- Critical Needs
- Meals: Providing and Serving
- Other Needs
- Cleaning
 - Haircuts for Residents
 - Maintenance/Repairs
 - Painting
 - Plumbing
 - Professional Services

Letter from the Vice President

Sowing seeds to learn, grow, and transform as a ministry

As we close in on the end of the year, I have been reflecting on transformation. Just as we hope the men, women, and children we serve will grow and transform over time, we also recognize that, as a ministry, we must continually grow and transform as well.

As we grow, it is important that we remain open to learning from others, evaluating our practices, and looking for opportunities to improve. We want to give each person who comes through our doors the best opportunity for lasting success.

This summer, I attended the Citygate National Conference for faith-based homeless ministries, where I had the opportunity to learn alongside ministry leaders from across the country. During the conference, I asked the regional director a simple question: What shelter is the best of the best in our region? Without hesitation, he answered, “Evansville, Indiana.”

At the end of August, we took 18 frontline staff members from City Gospel Mission and Hope House Mission to visit Evansville Rescue Mission. It was an opportunity to learn from a ministry that is doing exceptional work and to consider what we could bring back to strengthen our own programs.

In recent months, we have also had the opportunity to connect, both in person and virtually, with more than a dozen other faith-based rescue missions. Each conversation has allowed us to learn from others.

One of the greatest encouragements from our visit was realizing that we are already doing many things right.

At Hope House, we work with partners to provide behavioral health support and substance use disorder counseling. We encourage participants to take part in chores and contribute to their community, reinforcing the idea of a hand up, not simply a handout. We offer transformational classes focused on life skills, financial literacy, and job readiness. Most importantly, through Bible studies and spiritual encouragement, we introduce people to Jesus Christ, where all true transformation happens.

At the same time, we recognize there is always room to grow. In the coming months, our team will continue these conversations and carefully consider what we have learned and explore improvements.

We serve a God who is continually shaping us and making us more like Him. Our prayer is that He will continue to guide and refine us as we seek to provide the very best care and opportunity for the people we serve.

Thank you for believing in Hope House Mission and for making this work possible. Your generosity allows us not only to meet immediate needs, but to continue learning, growing, and improving so that we can offer hope and the opportunity for lasting transformation.

May God bless you for the blessing you continue to be to so many.

Barry Baker, Executive Vice President



Barry Baker

Volunteer Spotlight: Ken Dickerson

For Ken Dickerson, leadership isn’t about titles or authority. It’s about influence, encouragement, and helping others discover the potential God has placed within them.

Ken teaches the Leadership Class at Hope House Mission’s Men’s Center, but he doesn’t stand. Instead, he pulls up a chair and sits with the men. “I want to be approachable,” he says.

His classes are designed to be conversations rather than lectures. Ken enjoys hearing the men’s perspectives, and some of his favorite moments happen after class when a lesson sparks enough interest that someone stays behind to keep discussing the class.

After spending his adult life leading teams, beginning with his first management position at age 21, Ken believes everyone is called to lead at some point in life.

“My gift is encouragement. Lead with the gift God gave you. Leading with anything else sets you up to fail.”

Ken credits much of his growth, second only to God, to seven mentors who invested in his life. Today, he is committed to doing the same for others. In addition to teaching at Hope House, he also teaches the same leadership class at City Gospel Mission’s shelter.

When asked what advice he would give other volunteers, Ken points to the example of Christ. “Know your role is to



be a servant like Jesus. There will be things outside your control, so you’ll need thick skin or you’ll get discouraged.”

Outside the classroom, Ken enjoys life with his wife of 44 years, Jeanenne, in Liberty Township. Together they have two sons, one daughter, and grandchildren. As a family, they’re working toward visiting all 32 professional baseball stadiums. Their recent trips included Coors Field in Denver and T-Mobile Park in Seattle, along with a visit to the Space Needle. With only six stadiums left, they’re getting close to reaching their goal.

Take advantage of a donation match!

If you’ve supported Hope House before, your increased giving can have twice the impact thanks to a matching gift from generous donors David and Amy Deger.

Now through Dec. 31, every dollar that you give above your previous year’s gift total **will be matched - up to \$50,000** - doubling your investment in changed lives.

Your generosity comes at a critical time when men, women and children are

turning to us for a safe place to stay, compassionate care and the support they need to rebuild their lives. Your increased gift can help provide the shelter, resources and opportunities that make a lasting difference.

Will you consider increasing your gift today? Together, we can make the most of this matching opportunity and help more lives move from crisis to hope, stability and a brighter future.

Here’s our **FALL** list of critical needs

Have you been blessed & would like to pass on that blessing? Our guests will be most grateful. Our current critical needs include:

Gift Cards

- Grocery stores, home improvement stores, etc.

Food

- Coffee, creamer
- Sugar
- Milk
- Canned fruit, vegetables, and soup
- Instant potatoes
- Cooking spray

Household/Personal Items

- Trash bags (13-gallon tall, 30-gallon, and 55-gallon)
- Cleaning products
- Paper towels
- Cleaning supplies

*****IMPORTANT*****
Clothing donations
Because of our generous community partners and limited storage in our facilities, **we no longer accept gently used clothing or household items.** Please consider donating clothing to St. Paul’s United Church of Christ (937-993-5464) in Middletown. You can donate furniture to New Life Furniture Bank (513-313-0530).

