

January 2025 Newsletter



A Journey of Hope

From our Administrator:

January 2025: New Year, New Opportunities

A Journey of Hope: 70 Years of Compassion in Action

As we step into 2025, we are filled with gratitude and excitement. This year marks a significant milestone: our 70th year in ministry. Since our founding in 1955, we have been on a journey of service, compassion, and hope, dedicated to making a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve.

From the very beginning, this has been the ministry of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We are humbled and honored to be ministers in His Work, serving as instruments of His love and compassion. It is His mission, carried forward through us, that has made this journey possible.

Our theme for this special year, “A Journey of Hope: 70 Years of Compassion in Action,” reflects both our history and our future. It celebrates the countless lives touched over the decades and reaffirms our commitment to the ongoing mission of compassion.

The New Year brings with it new opportunities—to serve, to grow, and to walk alongside those in need. As we honor our past, we look forward to continuing this journey, strengthened by the support of our community and inspired by the hope that has carried us through 70 remarkable years.

Together, let us embrace the possibilities of 2025 and continue the work that our Lord began so many years ago. May this year be one of renewal, growth, and endless opportunities to show love and kindness.

Thank you for being a part of this journey. Here's to a New Year filled with hope and compassion in action!

With gratitude and hope,

~ Aimee Izer

Remembering Our Past



In January 1954, a small group of men and women began meeting for prayer at Christ Lutheran Church in Hagerstown. Jimmy and Ellen Resh cast a vision for a rescue mission in Hagerstown. In July 1954, the mission was officially named “Hagerstown Union Mission” and on May 19, 1955, it officially opened its doors to the Hagerstown, MD community.

Since our founding, our mission has remained steadfast: to meet the physical and spiritual needs of those facing challenging circumstances through life-changing programs, compassionate services, and the unwavering message of hope found in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Committed to Our Present



Our Foundations Life Recovery residential program continues to break the cycle of homelessness and addictions. It encourages individual accountability and responsibility using a Biblically-based class curriculum, work assignments, and counseling. The men in this program receive daily Bible classes to help them understand the changing power found in following Jesus Christ. We are seeing lives changed, families restored, and hope given.

Striving Toward Our Future



We are looking optimistically to the future, and as we journey ahead, God has given us a vision for expanded programs and services such as:

- A shelter for women
- A long-term program for women

- Day program for transients (homeless)
- Expanding Camp Wild to include electricity, plumbing, and buildings at the campsite
- A new facility outside of Hagerstown for our Foundations Life Recovery residents

December in Pictures



December had a flurry of activity as we prepared to celebrate Christmas with our residents, guests, and staff. We hosted a Foundations Christmas party where our residents enjoyed good food, fellowship, and received Christmas gifts. Our staff enjoyed a Christmas party and we had fun decorating tables in various holiday themes. Our staff also had fun participating in a Christmas Ugly Sweater day. And once again, our local schools helped us collect coats for the needy as part of our Coats4Kids campaign.

❄️ CURRENT NEEDS LIST ❄️

- CANNED PASTA
- CANNED MEAT (CHICKEN OR ROAST BEEF)
- BARBECUE SAUCE
- SUGAR & BROWN SUGAR
- BLEACH
- SPAGHETTI/PASTA SAUCE
- LAUNDRY DETERGENT

Please help us with our needs list. These are the most needed items for our food pantry and shelter ministry.

Donate in person at our Administrative Office, Monday - Friday, from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Our parking lot is at 215 W. Church Street. Or conveniently shop from our Amazon Wishlist (<https://bit.ly/3NOGog3>).

If you use an online retailer, please have donations shipped to:
125 N. Prospect St
Hagerstown, MD 21740

PANTRY ITEM
of the Month



**January Item:
Canned Pasta**

We still need canned pasta. At this point, we will run out in just a couple of days. These items are included in our food bags and meal ministries.

To purchase directly from our Amazon Wishlist, go to <https://bit.ly/3NOGog3> and have it shipped directly to The Hope Center, 125 N. Prospect St., Hagerstown, MD 21740.

Year-to-date Numbers (as of November 2024)



YEAR-TO-DATE NUMBERS

Help for today... Hope for tomorrow

<i>Food Bags.....</i>	<i>871</i>
<i>Meals Served.....</i>	<i>52,937</i>
<i>Bednights.....</i>	<i>16,491</i>
<i>Chapel Attendance.....</i>	<i>20,416</i>
<i>Clothing Articles Given.....</i>	<i>13,589</i>

Did You Know?



In 1955 we started this ministry relying on the financial support of our community. Seventy years later we are still community-funded! We rely on generous givers in our community to support the many free services at The Hope Center.

January Birthdays

Volunteer Today!



January 29- Aimee I. (Administrator)
January 31- Terry S. (Foundations
Vocational Advisor)



Volunteers are essential to the operation of The Hope Center. Gather up some friends and come volunteer with us.

Email
volunteer@hagerstownhopecenter.com



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