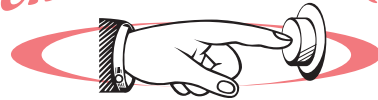




"I can't believe I have a doorbell!"



April XX, 2008



It doesn't look like much. Nothing special. Just a button to push and a chime that follows. It's just a doorbell. We all have them. Who really cares? Why are we even talking about such an odd thing?

Read on and you'll soon know how important a doorbell can be in the life of someone in need.

Meet Celestine. This special lady and her children came to the Mission in the fall of 2007, reeling from a long string of foolish choices and careless lifestyle decisions. This family was a mess.

Celestine had racked up an outstanding debt, that seemed impossible to pay. Having struggled with addiction to drugs and alcohol for the past 13 years, she had no job and no prospects for providing a stable, safe life for her children.

"We were in such a tough position because of the things I had done," Celestine remembers, "that I didn't think there was ever a way I would smile again. It just seemed impossible for my family to turn things around, but then I came to the mission and learned that with God all things are possible."

Working closely with the Mission staff, Celestine began to turn control of her life over to the Lord. She became accountable for her actions and motivated to change.

She has begun pursuing her GED, has applied to become a Mission volunteer, and is determined to avoid a return to the lifestyle that caused so much harm the first time around.

"If I see any of the people that led me astray, I'm ready for them," Celestine proclaims. "I'm going to tell them 'that is not my life anymore, so leave me alone or come to church with me!' I'm grounding myself in my faith, my church, and in good friends who want nothing but the best for me."

The Mission's Family Shelter Director helped her develop specific goals—one of which was to get her own home.

Within months a compassionate landlord decided to give Celestine a chance to demonstrate her newfound dedication to living a godly life. He made available to her a home that fit within the constraints of her very limited monthly budget.

Now, Celestine has her own doorbell!

She knows that much work remains in the days ahead. Healing with her family, growing in her faith, finding and maintaining steady employment—the list can look imposing unless you consider what this vibrant lady has already overcome.

"I know where I've been and I don't plan to go back," says Celestine. "I'm so thankful to the Mission for the ways everyone cared for my family. They really love us and some of the ladies that work there are more excited about me finding a home than I am," she laughs.

"I never thought there would be a day when I would have a doorbell to call my own and I thank the Lord everyday that He brought me to people who care enough to help someone in need."



I'm going to tell them that is not my life anymore, so leave me alone or come to church with me!

"I can't believe I have a doorbell!"



CRM0805A

Yes, Ken, I want to become a Family Shelter sponsor. Please find enclosed my gift to help women and children in need.

- \$300 sponsors 12 hours of operation or I pledge \$25 per month for 12 months
- \$100 \$75 \$50 \$25 Other \$ _____

Donor ID
Name
Address



It's so exciting to see a life changed. Who would have thought that a doorbell would mean so much to a family? It's often easy for us to forget the "little things" in life that those in need consider important like a bedroom of our own, food in the freezer, and our very own street address.

For more than 100 years, the Mission has served the needy with the love of Christ. We pray for the sort of life transformation Celestine has shared in this letter. We also pray that the Lord will allow us to continue helping families find healing, recovery, and hope.

Your generous giving is what makes all of this blessing possible. Without your support, there would be no Mission for Celestine. She wouldn't know healing. She wouldn't have her own doorbell. Thank you so much for your vital role in this ministry.

I'd like to invite you to help again by sharing a special gift so that families like Celestine's will know that the Mission is always there to help and to heal.

And, if you stop by her new home, please be sure to ring the doorbell!



Serving the Needy,

Kenneth R. Streeter
Executive Director

Thank you for your support of the Rescue Mission!

Your gift is tax deductible to the full extent of the law. We will send a receipt for your records.

No person is denied services based on race, creed, sex, disability or national origin.

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(please print)

Please charge my gift on my credit card: VISA MC

Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

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To charge by phone, call (989) 752-6051.

To give a gift online, go to: www.rescuesaginaw.org

More great ways to help: Have you included the Mission in your will? Yes No

Would you like information on this and other planned giving opportunities? Yes No