

# MISSION INSIDER

CREATING COMMUNITY. TRANSFORMING LIVES.

A newsletter of the Fresno Mission



## Johnny has a **NEW LIFE** this Easter!

Thank you for opening  
the door to his  
transformation.



fresnomission

EASTER 2025

**DON'T MISS...**

**2** All things new...

**3** "They've helped me  
find purpose..."

**4** Shop for a  
Worthy Cause!

For more information: (559) 268-0839 • [fresnomission.org](http://fresnomission.org)



“They’ve helped me find purpose **BEYOND JUST THE WORK.**”

Johnny was born here in Fresno, the second oldest of five kids, to hardworking parents. But though they did their best to raise a loving family, Johnny’s home life could be challenging.

“My dad had a drinking problem, and in his fits he would physically abuse my mom, which was the most traumatic thing I saw growing up,” he says.

But despite his desire to escape the pattern, Johnny found himself falling into the same struggle with addiction.

“My dad had a drinking problem and now I have one. I didn’t want to fit into that mold but it happens.”

Though Johnny was always able to keep a job and a place to live, eventually his drinking caught up with him. He was arrested for DUI and spent several

months in jail, grieving for the way his life had turned out.

As soon as he left jail, Johnny came to the Fresno Mission – determined to create a better life for himself.

At the Mission, Johnny began the process of rebuilding his life. He found a community of support to help and encourage him along his journey, and that made a huge difference in his recovery.

**“BEING AROUND THIS COMMUNITY SHOWED ME THAT I DON’T NEED ALCOHOL TO BE THE PERSON I’M MEANT TO BE.”**

“It takes a group effort. Everybody here is wanting to make their life better and you need someone to help keep you accountable.”

Johnny was able to take his years of experience in the kitchen and translate it to working here – serving as the team lead to ensure everything runs smoothly



in the Mission’s kitchen. He hopes to go back to school and continue

on the path of helping others.

**This Easter, Johnny is experiencing the gift of new life! He has been transformed and empowered to begin his next chapter – thanks to your support.** “Before I came here I was selfish. Now I want to be selfless and kind and contribute to the community.”



### The Gift of New Life in Christ

*“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.” - 2 Corinthians 5:17*



A Message from MATTHEW DILDINE

*All things new...*

Men and women – some with children – often come to us on the worst days of their life. They're tired, hungry and struggling with shame. For many, the Fresno Mission is a last resort.

But the fact that they come to us at all means they still have a glimmer of hope. Because they're trying to change, part of them still believes a new life is possible. **Generous friends like you provide the services and programs that help rebuild their lives!**

We believe God is "making all things new" (Rev. 21:5) for our hurting and homeless neighbors. Whether they come for a meal, a safe place to sleep or life recovery – your generosity helps transform lives like Johnny's, whose story you can read on page 3.

Especially now during the Easter season, the hope of new life carries a special meaning. We're reminded of the empty tomb – a symbol that nothing is impossible with God. We hold that promise for each of our neighbors in need.

**Thank you for believing in our homeless, hungry neighbors.**

Through your gifts and prayers, you show that you have faith in their future and the power of Christ's redeeming love!

Happy Easter... and God bless!

Matthew Dildine  
Chief Executive Officer



## YOU changed lives last year!

In 2024, friends like you joined together to make an incredible impact for our Fresno neighbors who are homeless and hurting...



**664,475**  
meals filled  
hungry bellies



**130,900**  
nights of shelter  
kept people safe



Your compassion  
opened the door to  
other life-changing  
services & care

### Thank you!

Because you showed you care, our community's most vulnerable men, women and children are looking forward to a brighter future!



## This Easter... EVERY MEAL MATTERS

Just \$3.03 for a meal & hope for a new life!

Each meal served with love at the Mission is so much more than a plate of food. It can also open the door to life-changing services like safe shelter, Christ-centered care and healing in our recovery programs!

**Every meal you provide this Easter matters!**

Just \$3.03 provides a hot, nourishing Easter meal to someone in need... and shares hope for a new life in Christ.

✉ Give now using the enclosed reply card and envelope.

✨ Give online anytime at [fresnomission.org](https://fresnomission.org).





# SPONSOR A NIGHT FOR JUST \$25!

## BECOME A GOOD SAMARITAN

By becoming a Good Samaritan Monthly Membership partner, you can sponsor a bed for someone in need... and help change a life.

**Just \$25 a month provides one night in a safe, comfortable bed for a struggling neighbor, plus:**



3 healthy meals a day



Access to showers and laundry



Support to find housing and more!

## SHOP FOR A WORTHY CAUSE!



Whether you donate your gently used items or shop at Mission Thrift Fresno, you're blessing others in so many ways!

Here, you can find clothing, furniture, electronics, household goods and more. **Your purchase goes directly to support the Fresno Mission's life-changing programs and services.** You'll help our struggling neighbors by providing food, shelter, job training, biblical counseling and education programs.

Thanks to you, local men and women can overcome the challenges of homelessness and poverty to build a brighter future!

Shop or drop off your donations at one of our two locations from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday – Saturday (closed Sunday): 181 E. Sierra, or 6036 N. First St.

To learn more about Mission Thrift Store or schedule a pick-up, contact us at ☎ **(559) 440-0870** or 📧 **fresnomission.org/missionthrift**.



*Sponsor a bed, change a life. Give monthly now!* →

