

LIGHTHOUSE NEWS

"A Door of Hope to the Hopeless" | March 2025

WELL DONE, **GOOD AND FAITHFUL** SERVANT.



In Memory of Thomas Ferguson

Entered this life on June 25, 1947. Departed from this life and entered his heavenly home on Jan. 29, 2025.

You might ask, "Who is Thomas Ferguson?" Around the mission he has always been known as Tommy. The mission has been his home for the past 61 years. Tommy has been a part of my life since the young age of four, when he entered the Mission home at 602 West King Street. Tommy was special. When Tommy was asked to do something, he would try his best to complete whatever the task might be, and it was usually done with a smile on his face. He loved Jesus and he loved people. For the last 50 years he helped in our Thrift Store to keep things clean. He knew all our regular customers' names and they all knew Tommy. He would greet them with a smile. He knew what kind of car they drove and would wave at them when they drove by. Tommy enjoyed going to the Mission chapel services in the evening. His favorite hymn

was Amazing Grace." His favorite meal always included fried chicken. His favorite pizza was cheese and pepperoni. His favorite TV shows were westerns and cartoons He liked to color and take walks to the park. Every morning, he would stop by my office to get his medicine, and I would get my morning hug. Then, he would go and get his cup of coffee. He often would tell me he was praying for me.

When Tommy was diagnosed with cancer in November and was placed under the care of Hospice of the Panhandle inpatient facility, he became their "ray of sunshine" as one of the nurses put it. He said, "I am not afraid to die. I am going to see Jesus." I had the privilege to be with him when he passed into the arms of Jesus. Tommy is greatly missed by his Mission family. I am thankful and blessed to have had him as a "brother".

Written by Sharon Wolford





BARGAINS
Lots of bargains can be found at our Thrift Store at 606 W. King Street.
Our Thrift Store is open Monday - Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Remember proceeds from our Thrift Store help support the ongoing programs and services provided by the Mission.



"For I was hungry, and you gave me food. I was thirsty and you gave me drink. I was a stranger, and you took me in." **MATTHEW 25:35**

HOPE HOUSE UPDATE

While developing faith and learning to walk in the path of our Savior. It is human nature to think we know what is best for us. Sally arrived at Hope House in November of 2023. She gave her life to Christ and joined a local church where she was baptized. She obtained employment and did all the right things. She was twenty-five years old; her focus was the normal aspirations of life, finding a mate, and having a home. Without realizing it we return to our old way of thinking. Much like the disciples who doubted Jesus' abilities, they lacked faith and commitment, even Peter denied him three times. It didn't take time for our lady to realize you can never return to who you were once you have come to the saving knowledge of Christ. Sally has overcome many obstacles; however, she suffers from physical and mental disabilities which limit her success. Her Case Manager advocated for her by working

with local employers to offer part-time employment, extended hands-on training time, and reasonable accommodations for her disabilities. Today, Hope House has 3 of our 9 beds filled with ladies in our transitional work program. Their focus is serving Jesus while learning to "be in the world and not of the world." This program offers support while ladies save their money, overcome obstacles such as transportation while learning to see themselves as Jesus does. Thank you for your prayers and support. Hope House needs Paper Towels, 13-gallon white trash bags, Swiffer wet pads and Toilet paper and Floor cleaner.

God Bless, Pastor Tim Guerino



HAVEN HOUSE UPDATE

The Bible emphasizes the focus on families. God has blessed and encouraged families. "I have chosen him so that he will direct his children and his household after him, to keep the way of the lord by doing what is right and just..." Genesis 18:19

Haven House remains filled. Since opening the 6 apartments have become a home and a place of encouragement. It is an opportunity for parents to renew their strength in The Lord and redirect their children to the paths of righteousness. This ministry provides opportunities to share God's Word and support families in their Christian Walk. Our families are committed to joining local church families and developing their relationship with Christ. Our hope is for them to transition from hopelessness to a miraculous new life in Christ. Our families are locating employment, maintaining sobriety, creating loving family relationships, and becoming a productive member of society

fulfilling The Great Commission. Mathew 28:19 and 20.

If you would like to volunteer, we would love to speak with you. Please go to the *MartinsburgUnionRescueMission.com* Please fill out the volunteer packet and choose Haven House. Haven House needs include baby wet wipes, paper towels, cleaning pads and Swiffer pads.

PATRICK'S PROJECT UPDATE

Patrick's Project has done it again! We have nearly doubled the number of warm hats and gloves we have collected for men, women and children. No more cold hands and ears around here. Thank you all so very much.

I guess there is very little time to rest up. We need to be at it again. Our next project is bleach. Yes, I know. Bleach! Why in the world would you have a special need for bleach? Well, as you know, the Rescue Mission is kept very clean. Bleach is part

of that process. Bleach is added to the water used to clean all of the surfaces in the Mission.

We are in pretty close quarters here, and we clean and disinfect continuously. Please do help us and join this Project for February. Drop off donations at the front desk or go to our Amazon Wish List at: https://amzn.to/41YqWqC

Thanks in advance, Patrick's Project Team

