

WWW.LIMAMISSION.ORG

PUBLISHED BY LIMA RESCUE MISSION

The Gift that Lasts

By Ruthela Welty, originally published December 1986.

“Give the gift for all seasons... the gift that says you care all year long...the ideal gift — a pleasure each month.” Such phrases are designed to promote the idea of a Christmas gift delivered each month during the coming year; perhaps a magazine, candy, a flower arrangement, fruit, or some other welcome present, as a reminder of your thoughtfulness. The concept is good. And not only does the one who receives the gift benefit, but also the giver. As one advertiser so

aptly stated: “No crowds, no driving, no slush, no hassle, no returns.” Yes, a gift that lasts all year is a twelve-fold kindness and an

easy way to shop. No matter how you do your Christmas shopping, your gifts should be first of all an expression of love.

The first Christmas was a truly lasting gift, one of infinite love. “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son...” — the Son who came into this world to be our Savior. This marvelous, priceless gift of salvation, which began in a manger in Bethlehem and was completed on Calvary's cross, is a lasting gift, given not only for those living in that day, but for everyone born since then, and everyone yet to be born. The gift is for everyone, just as the angel told the shepherds that night so long ago: “I bring you good tidings of great

joy, which shall be to all people.” No one is excluded, and yet some refuse to accept God's wonderful gift of salvation.

For the most part, the gifts we give to one another are not lasting. Either they are consumed, deteriorate, or become outdated. Thus their value does not increase. But God's gift not only is eternal, but becomes more precious with the passing of time. The joyful knowledge of sins forgiven is but the first step in a new life as a child of God. The more we grow in the Christian life, the more blessings He is able to en-

trust to us. Peace in the midst of turmoil, patience in trials, comfort in sorrow — all these and much more can be ours when we reach

out with hands of faith to receive God's gift of salvation. The gift goes on and on until finally the presence of Jesus abiding with us here results in our abiding in His presence eternally.

May the gifts you give this Christmas Season remind you of the gift of love God offers you. No gift was ever planned for so long, chosen with such care, or purchased at so great a price — the death of the Son of God. Then may the gifts you receive remind you that God is waiting for you to accept His gift. He wants you to enjoy all the blessings and benefits that He has in store for His children. “Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift.”

“Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.”

2 CORINTHIANS 9:15

Building repair update

A project to make necessary repairs to the exterior of our building was completed in October.

This included repairing mortar joints, replacing any broken bricks, replacing or repairing steel lintels, and cleaning and sealing the entire exterior. These repairs will ensure that our building remains safe and structurally sound.

The total cost was \$64,000, and just over 90% was funded by donations designated for the project. The remaining amount was paid from savings. Thank you to everyone who has given generously to this project!

Banquet summary

We recently celebrated our 113th anniversary with a banquet on Friday, November 1st. We were blessed by the music and ministry of Soul'd Out Quartet, and we are thankful for the time we had with friends of the Mission. In addition to a time of fellowship with supporters, our banquet is an opportunity to raise funds in support of our daily ministry. This year's event raised around \$20,000. Thank you to everyone for giving!

We're thankful for this year's Presenting Sponsors: Tom Ahl Family of Dealerships, Thermal Gard Window & Door, and Randall Bearings. Thank you to all sponsors who helped make the event possible. All event expenses are covered by sponsors, and all donations made at the banquet are used directly for our ministry.



Memorials

The Lima Rescue Mission would like to thank everyone who recently contributed in memory of the following individuals:

Mike Bastian
Ruth Conkle
Emerson Diller
Bob Humes
Ed Widmark

Leaving a Legacy

We're thankful for friends who have made arrangements for a gift after their passing. Legacy gifts help provide financial stability and allow for ministry expansion and special projects.

There are several options for making a legacy gift, including a fixed amount or percentage listed in your will, a payable on death account, an IRA, life insurance policy, or other options. Your attorney or financial advisor will be able to help arrange the best option for you.

Thank you for considering a gift that will leave a legacy!

Year-end giving

We appreciate your year-end donations! Please note that to be credited for calendar year 2019, gifts must be received by our office or postmarked no later than December 31. For your convenience, you may donate online at www.limamission.org.



MISSION
MEMBER



**LIMA
RESCUE
MISSION**

216 E. WAYNE ST.
LIMA, OHIO 45801
419-224-6961

Donate online at www.limamission.org

Seasonal Reflections

The article "The Gift that Lasts", featured in this newsletter, is one of many written by Ruthela Welty for the Mission Messenger newsletter. Mrs. Welty was the wife of Rev. James Welty, who served as director of the Mission from 1952-2008. In addition to writing for the newsletter, Mrs. Welty was involved in daily ministry through greeting visitors, answering phone calls, book-keeping, and a variety of other activities.

The articles written by Ruthela Welty over a 39-year period are included in a devotional book called Seasonal Reflections. The book is available at no cost to anyone interested. You may contact us if you would like to pick up a copy, or we can mail one to you.



Ruthela Welty

Love in action

At our banquet last month, we heard from Timothy, who came to the Mission years ago when he had nowhere else to go. His parents had asked him to leave days before Christmas because of his drug use. He said that while at the Mission, he saw love in action. Although he didn't surrender his life to Christ at that time, a seed was planted.

Eventually, Timothy did give his life to Christ. He says that when

he did, all his desires for drugs and alcohol went away. He truly experienced new life in Christ.

Today, Timothy is married and has two children. He also comes to the Mission monthly to share at our evening chapel service, telling others who may be facing the same struggles that he once was about the transforming power of Christ. That's love in action.

Current needs

Donating items from our needs list is a great way to make a difference in the lives of the poor and homeless, and anyone can get involved by collecting these items. The best time to bring donations to the Mission is on weekdays from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. or weekends from 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

Our current needs include a variety of items to be used in our daily ministry:

- Bleach
- Laundry detergent
- Dryer sheets
- Disposable razors
- Small/travel size personal care items
- Lip balm

- Hand warmers
- Mechanical pencils
- Spiral notebooks
- Crossword/word search books
- #10 cans of fruits/vegetables
- Cream soups
- Sloppy joe sauce
- Sugar
- Instant coffee
- Miracle Whip/mayonnaise
- Pre-filled salt and pepper shakers
- Hot sauce
- Chopped dried onion
- Coarse kosher salt
- Napkins

A complete and up-to-date list can be found on our website at www.limamission.org.