

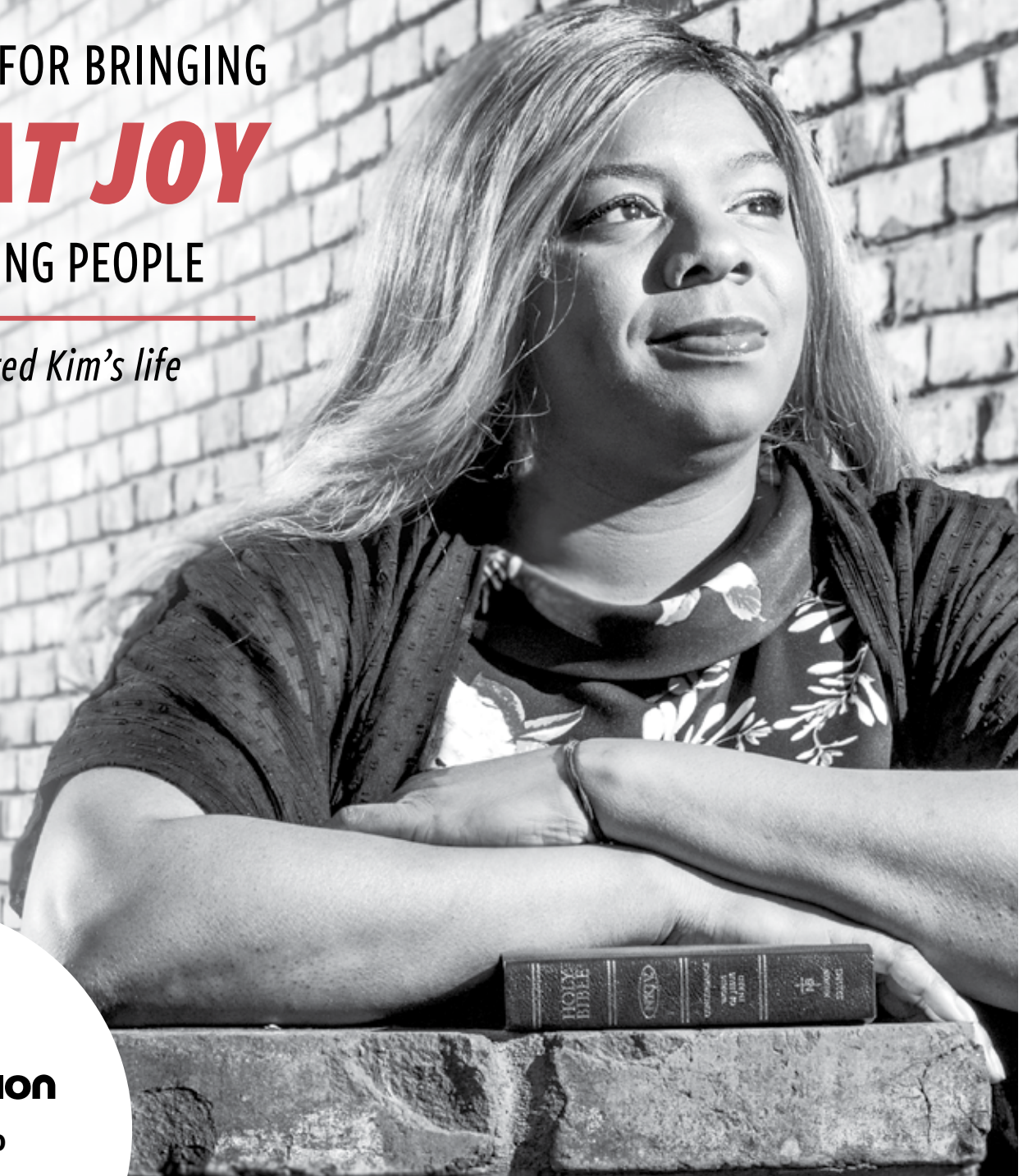
# MISSION INSIDER

CREATING COMMUNITY. TRANSFORMING LIVES.

A newsletter of the Fresno Mission

THANK YOU FOR BRINGING  
**GREAT JOY**  
TO HURTING PEOPLE

*You changed Kim's life*



fresnomission

HOLIDAY 2020

**DON'T MISS...**

- 2** Celebrating God's gifts this Christmas
- 2** Your gift goes twice as far!
- 3** "I've found peace."

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





**“FOR THE FIRST  
TIME IN MY LIFE,  
I’VE FOUND PEACE.”**

**K**im would do anything to earn her mother’s love, but it always left her empty.

“I had a really unhealthy, codependent relationship with her,” she says. “My mom used drugs to numb her own pain and taught me to do the same.”

So when, at just 19, Kim lost her mom, she felt like she’d lost part of herself. “I didn’t know who I was

“Every time I would get a job or try to go to school, he would give me a black eye... so I just stayed in the house.”

**A prisoner in her own home, Kim longed to escape.** When the abuse started happening in front of her young son, depressed and fearing for their lives, she made the brave choice to leave.

Coming to the Fresno Mission

control and started trusting God.”

Through daily chapel services, Christ-centered counseling and the support of other women in our program, Kim experienced God’s love filling the void in her heart.

Today, Kim enjoys extending that love to others, working part-time in our Community Care Program to welcome other guests in crisis as she once was.

**“I ASKED GOD TO PUT ME AROUND OTHER WOMEN WHO  
WOULD TEACH ME TO LOVE HIM AND TO LOVE MYSELF.”**

anymore... I was so confused.”

To fill this void in her life, Kim turned to substances more and more and sought out the approval of men. She started dating a man she thought loved her... Together, they even had a son, but it wasn’t long before he turned abusive.

was an answer to Kim’s prayers.

Kim and her son found a safe haven staying in our emergency shelter for families. And after two months, Kim felt God leading her to join our long-term program. “I had so many walls up, I couldn’t even trust myself... but I surrendered

**This year, Kim will be celebrating Christmas as a new creation, filled with the great joy of God’s love.** “It’s truly a blessing to be at a place like the Mission where they love and care about you.”

## Celebrating God's gifts this Christmas

In a year of so many uncertainties, this Christmas, I thank God for what is certain – His unfailing love.

Every day, I'm reminded of God's love through caring friends like you who reach out to help the struggling men, women and children who turn here.

You'd go to great lengths to care for the most vulnerable in our community, just as God has gone so far to help this world He loves. Because of God's miraculous gift – His Son, Jesus – you and I and every weary guest coming to the Fresno Mission can look to the future with hope.

With every challenge we've faced this year, it's often been impossible to look ahead more than a few days at a time, let alone plan for the future! At the Mission, it has felt like wandering in the desert, depending on God for mana, His daily provision to meet every need.

### **But God is faithful.**

As the old carol goes, "A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices..." **This Christmas, we rejoice in God's provision of hope for our weary neighbors – His "mana" of food, shelter, spiritual guidance and more, made possible through generous friends like you.**

I pray you'll continue to remember your neighbors who still need this "mana" in the new year, and join us "on mission" in Fresno to transform even more lives. May hope fill your heart and anchor your soul in peace through every unknown.



Matthew Dildine  
Chief Executive  
Officer

## *It Starts With You...* You make transformation possible!



This has been a hard year for everyone, especially for your neighbors in Fresno County who lost jobs or experienced unexpected difficulties due to the pandemic. But they have hope thanks to YOU!



Your compassionate support provides:

- Safe shelter and clean clothing
- Life skills classes and biblical counseling
- The message of God's life-changing love



Just \$2.05 provides a meal and care for one person... and could be the first step toward lasting transformation.

### **Please Send Your Gift Today!**



**\$2.05**  
for 1 hot meal



**a night**  
of restful sleep

**CAN GIVE  
SOMEONE**



**A new life healed  
by God's LOVE**

**READ KIM'S STORY TO LEARN MORE!**

## **YOUR GIFT TODAY... =** **GOES TWICE AS FAR!**

### **DEADLINE TO GIVE: DEC 31**

Great news! **Any gift you make will be matched through the \$50,000 challenge grant** from a generous group of partners to become \$100,000 to provide food, shelter and care! *This is truly a double blessing.*

Your year-end gift will provide **twice the hope** for your neighbors who are struggling to get back on their feet due to the pandemic!

- ✉ Add your special year-end gift to the reply card and send it today.
- 📄 Give online at [fresnomission.org](http://fresnomission.org).

**THANK YOU  
for blessing  
others through  
this year-end  
challenge!**

# Share your Blessings this Christmas



## December 1 GIVING TUESDAY

Please remember your hurting neighbors by joining together as a community to support **Giving Tuesday**. On this special day, your gift to the Fresno Mission will provide basic essentials and guidance that can transform lives.

This has been an especially difficult year due to the unexpected hardships of the COVID-19 pandemic. Your help is needed now more than ever for our neighbors trying to rebuild their lives. Thank you for caring!

☑ Mark December 1st on your calendar and don't forget to give at [fresnomission.org](http://fresnomission.org).

**Thanks to the recently passed CARES Act, your gift today could qualify for a greater tax deduction. Please check with your tax adviser for more information.**

## FILL THE TABLES



Donate these foods for the thousands of meals we'll serve throughout the holiday season. Please deliver them to **263 G Street in Fresno** by December 20.

turkeys & hams \* boxes of stuffing  
instant potatoes \* canned fruits and vegetables \* coffee, creamer & sugar



## GIVE GIFT CARDS



Gift cards to these merchants allow us to purchase holiday gifts and year-round necessities for our guests. Simply mail or deliver them to **263 G Street in Fresno**.

Walmart \* Target \* Amazon \* Kohls \* Smart and Final

## MEET URGENT NEEDS



These items are a vital part of the Mission's everyday operations and the comfort of our guests. Please drop off your donations at **263 G Street in Fresno**.

garbage bags \* paper towels & toilet paper \* laundry detergent  
hygiene products \* hand sanitizer

**THANK YOU FOR HELPING!**

**Matt, please use my Christmas gift to bless my struggling neighbors who have had such a challenging year:**

- \$20.50 to feed and care for 10 people
- \$51.25 to feed and care for 25 people
- \$75.85 to feed and care for 37 people
- \$92.25 to feed and care for 45 people
- \$\_\_\_\_\_ to help as much as possible

Plus, my Challenge gift to provide double the help: \$\_\_\_\_\_

*This really helps!*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY / STATE / ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK ENCLOSED  BILL MY CREDIT CARD

VISA  AMERICAN EXPRESS  DISCOVER

CREDIT CARD # \_\_\_\_\_

EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**Donate now! ☎ (559) 268-0839 ☑ [fresnomission.org](http://fresnomission.org)**

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