



www.Hiway80Mission.org

# Good News

Hiway 80 Rescue Mission • Men's Shelter • Women & Family Shelter • Tyler Outreach

Vol. 15 No. 5 • Holiday 2015

## “From death to life”

**C**huck was raised in a happy, godly home. “I grew up with wonderful parents, a good household, and a very stable father who walked close with God,” he says. “Life was great for me as a kid.”

Then, when Chuck was 24, his father was killed and his life was changed forever. “I turned to alcohol and drugs to deal with the loss,” he says. “I got wrapped up in my addictions and I just kind of went through life passively.”

**What happened next? Read more on page 3...**

Don't miss...

**page 2**  
Trees. Angels. Candles.

**page 2**  
Festival of Trees

**page 4**  
The Christmas Story in Words and Music

**Trees. Angels.  
Candles. Carols.  
Feasting. Presents.  
Rejoicing.**

This is how we celebrate Jesus' birth.

But perhaps there is something else we can do.

After all, Jesus made it very clear that He came "to seek and to save the lost." He engaged with people whom others called "sinners," who were open to hearing His message. He let them know they mattered to His Father.

People just like these find their way to Hiway 80 Rescue Mission every day.

We welcome them, meet their basic needs and share the Good News, just as Jesus would.

Amid the hustle and bustle of Christmas, please take a moment to reach out once more to "the least of these." Give a smile to a homeless person. Serve a meal here at the Mission. Give the precious gifts of your time, talents and treasure...just as Jesus would!

Road to a New Life  
Starts Here



Rev. Eric Burger  
Executive Director

P.S. I want to thank you for your gifts this year – your time, your prayers and your



donations – that have made it possible for us to serve others in His name.

Share the Christmas spirit...

**Fill a Love Tote** (Care Packages for the homeless)

Share the joy and spirit of the season with homeless neighbors!

In partnership with KVNE 89.5 and KGLY 91.3, Hiway 80 Rescue Mission is

**89.5 KVNE**

**91.3 KGLY**

preparing Love Totes – backpacks filled with necessities – that will be distributed to homeless neighbors during our special Christmas Luncheons in Longview and Tyler.

This will be the only gift many of these individuals will receive!

**This is a great project for your family, church group or co-workers.**

Just shop for these items and drop them off at the Mission or any of the drop off locations.

For more information, please contact Paige Brewer at (903) 759-8101 or [paigeb@hiway80rm.org](mailto:paigeb@hiway80rm.org).

*Gifts for Love Totes*

- 1 Adult toothbrush (individually packaged)
- 1 Toothpaste (6.4 fl. oz.)
- 1 Body wash (18 fl. oz.)
- 1 Deodorant (1.6 fl. oz.)
- 1 Chapstick
- 1 Disposable razor package
- 1 Body lotion (21 fl. oz.)
- Knit hat
- Knit gloves
- A handwritten note of encouragement  
(Please use your first name only)

If possible, please fill one or more totes by providing all items on the list. The estimated cost is \$20-\$25.

Donations can be dropped off at the Mission at 3117 W. Marshall Avenue, Longview and 601 E. Valentine St, Tyler. For information about other drop off locations check out our website, [Hiway80Mission.org](http://Hiway80Mission.org).

**Festival of Trees**

Hiway 80 Rescue Mission is excited to announce that we will celebrate our first ever Festival of Trees event this Christmas season, and we hope all of our friends will join in the fun!

We will kick off Festival of Trees with an evening gala at 7 p.m. on Friday, December 4, at Oak Forest Country Club in Longview. Our gala will offer a perfect "date night out" complete with musical entertainment, a delicious dinner, a silent auction (get your Christmas shopping done early!) and a live auction of Christmas trees decorated by local designers and sponsored by local businesses. Tickets are \$100 per couple, or \$400 for a table of 8.

On Saturday, December 5, we will



celebrate Christmas with family fun from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.! Events will include "Reindeer

Games" for kids of all ages, a visit with Santa, Christmas crafting, sweets and treats from Mrs. Claus, Christmas shopping and more! Admission price is \$3 for kids, \$5 for adults, and free for kids 2 and under.

We still need corporate sponsorships and silent auction items for the evening gala. For more information, please contact Kate Langston at (903) 746-4925 or [katel@hiway80rm.org](mailto:katel@hiway80rm.org).



# “Beat up, broken down and no place to go”

Chuck split with his first wife due to his “bad decisions,” but stayed clean and sober for 12 years during his second marriage. “The day that she left me, I turned to the things that I knew would help me deal with the sadness...and that was back to drugs and alcohol,” Chuck says.

This time, however, he not only used drugs, but got involved with manufacturing and selling them, which led to time in prison. “I was lost out there. **I was living in guilt and shame,**” he says. “I was living in such guilt that I told my family I was planning on being dead in three months, and that really was my goal.”

Then one night, God gave Chuck a vision of heaven and hell. “One was sitting right here and one was standing right there and I had to make a choice,” he says. “That was my moment of clarity.”

Chuck had stayed at Hiway 80 Rescue Mission when he’d been between jobs in the past, and he decided it was time to return. “I was beat up, broken down, and had no place to go, and that’s where God wanted me,” Chuck says. “God knew **the only thing I could do was call out to Him.** He knew I had to surrender and that I needed somebody to guide me through the process of healing.”

Through the Mission’s New Creation Program, Chuck found that guidance, found his sobriety, and recommitted his life to the Lord.



“The fellowship with other people striving for the same goal, being around the mentors and teachers we have – I couldn’t ask for anything better,” he says. “This is a different life and I’m a totally different person. It brought me from death to life.”

Today, Chuck has completed the New Creation Program, moved out of the Mission and he’s now working! “**The old man is dead and the new person is in service to God,**” Chuck says. “Wherever He needs me is where I’m going to go.”

## Thanksgiving & Christmas Shopping List

You can make the holidays brighter (and help the Mission save money that can be used for other services) by conducting a food drive to help fill the Mission pantry.

Please bring donations to the Mission at 3117 W. Marshall Avenue.  
THANK YOU!

- Turkeys
- Hams
- Onions
- Celery
- #10-size cans of green beans
- Canned yams
- Cream of mushroom soup
- Potatoes
- Pies
- Cornmeal
- Chicken Broth
- Butter
- Granulated Sugar
- 10-lb. bottles of cooking oil
- Salt and pepper
- Garlic powder
- Poultry seasoning
- Baking powder and soda

## Hiway 80 Rescue Mission

3117 W. Marshall  
P.O. Box 3223  
Longview, TX 75606  
(903) 759-8101  
Fax: (903) 297-6904  
[www.Hiway80Mission.org](http://www.Hiway80Mission.org)

### Hiway 80 Rescue Mission Women & Family Shelter

(903) 234-2583

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Eric Burger

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A higher standard.  
A higher purpose.

The Good News is a publication  
of Hiway 80 Rescue Mission.

Tickets are selling out fast...

# The Christmas Story in Words and Music

*Behold The Lamb of God* will be the highlight of your Christmas celebration! And, as an added bonus, proceeds will benefit the work of Hiway 80 Rescue Mission.

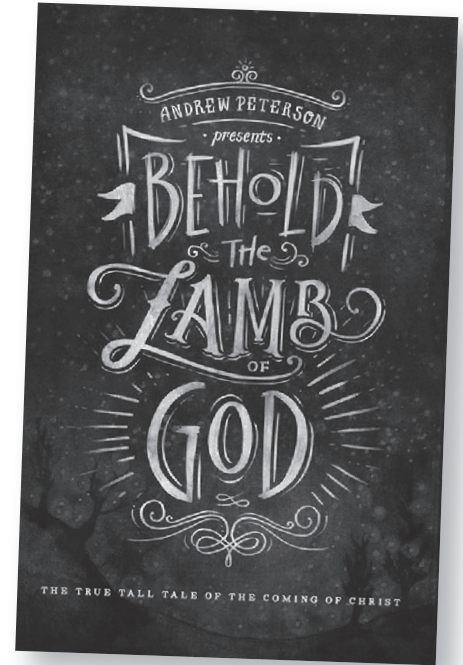
For tickets or more information, call 903-233-3061, or visit [www.belchercenter.com](http://www.belchercenter.com).

**One performance only:**

**Thursday, Dec. 17, 7 p.m.**  
**Letourneau University**  
**Belcher Center**



Presented by the  
Longview Greggton Rotary



Please join in on the fun for our 2nd annual “12 Cans of Christmas Challenge!” We are asking our Mission friends to commit to donating 12 canned food items between December 14-December 25. Post a picture or video on Facebook and challenge 3 of your friends to participate, too!

Cans can be dropped off at Hiway 80 Rescue Mission in Longview or at Gateway to Hope in Tyler. For more information, please contact Kate Langston at (903) 759-8101 or [katel@hiway80rm.org](mailto:katel@hiway80rm.org). Thank you, and God Bless!

## Eric, use my gift to bless hungry, homeless people this Christmas.

- \$19.69 to feed and care for 11 people
- \$50.12 to feed and care for 28 people
- \$75.18 to feed and care for 42 people
- \$\_\_\_\_\_ to help as much as possible
- I'm enclosing a special Christmas gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to make the holidays brighter for Mission guests.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY / STATE / ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed     Bill my credit card



CREDIT CARD #

CIV/SEC #

EXP. DATE

PHONE #

Donate online at [www.Hiway80Mission.org](http://www.Hiway80Mission.org),  
or call (903) 759-8101.

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