

Norfolk



Mission

111 N. 9th Street, Norfolk, NE 68701
(402) 371-6484 • (402) 371-2339 (fax)

www.norfolkrescue.org



*Helping the Hurting and the
Homeless
in the Name of Jesus Christ*

"And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's Glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit". (2 Corinthians 3:18)

If I can describe in one word what the last season of this pandemic has brought is **TRANSFORMATION**. What a beautiful sight to see when not only the gardens of flowers are blooming but also the opening of a community that has been shut down with such a feeling of isolation. How lonely that feels to be isolated from anything that gives us Joy.

Transformation back into a new normal is what we are all anticipating. Although we have been running our day-to-day operations as normally as possible and keeping up with the front lines, **we long for the day when it just feels like home again.**

For me transformation comes in many forms. One in particular is a gentleman who joined our New Life Program about a month ago. I wish we had a before and after picture because as you see this gentleman around campus you would not recognize him. Just as Christ cleans us up from the mud and mire that once enslaved us, **his life is being cleaned up with God's Truth** and Word that he is learning to apply to his life.

To come along side our men and women in the Discipleship program and witness such radical transformation is utterly magnificent. We can definitely see that God is on the move. We are equipping them to be contributing members of the Church and society by the transforming power of our Lord.

They are learning new work skills and owning their areas of responsibility, showing their sense of pride. Whether they are processing donations in the clothing room or shed or cleaning the office, they are preparing for future employment. This builds good work ethic and they're learning to have a servant's heart. We have been so encouraged by the fruit developing in their new lives.

Unfortunately, we have seen some turn away from the Word and attempt to do it their own way. It does sadden us as a team for in their transformation we have served them and invested in their lives every day. **Pastor Tom used to say, "God has called us to faithfulness, not results"**. This has made a huge impact on the way I see things. I have learned that though I cannot fix them, my Lord can.

We have also witnessed our Lord once again transforming our Nation. Though many things are out of our control that we cannot "fix", our Lord is mighty, big, and... Yes, He Can.

This past weekend we celebrated Memorial Day and I know we have several of you who have served and wore a uniform for your Country or had family members who did. We are so indebted to you all for sacrificing for us. John 15:13 says, *"Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends"*. We are here and proclaiming Jesus' name because of the freedom we have. For the men and women that went before us and paid the ultimate sacrifice, we honor them today.

He brought me out into a broad place; He rescued me, because He delighted in me. 2 Sam. 22:20 ESV

We are forever grateful for all of the donations that have been coming to our Rescue Mission during this pandemic. We barely get the back of the freezer cleaned off and have items put away before a knock on the door leads to another amazing blessing. When I say we cannot do this ministry without you, we mean this 100%.

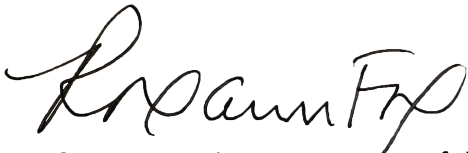
We are super excited to announce the Book Sale will go on as planned and will be bigger than ever! We are so thankful for the *Sunset Plaza Mall* in partnering with us to lend us a bay to hold this sale for the past several years. We take books all year round. When they are unloaded from your vehicles, they are taken to the book sorting area where they are sorted into over 50 categories, and then they are packed back into boxes ready for the Book Sale. When we are setting up for the sale, a total transformation takes place. In just a few days, an empty bay is transformed into a full-blown book store, wonderfully organized and ready for the whole family to enjoy.

Our Book Sale opens on Friday, August 21 through Sunday, August 23 and reopens for a second weekend August 28-30! Yes that's right... two book sale weekends in a row!!!

On behalf of the Norfolk Rescue Mission team, we pray that this new season of opening and transformation back into a normal routine once again will give you all a sense of security that God is in control. We as a team will honor and covet your donations and are good stewards of all God's provisions. This is one thing that no pandemic can disturb. **We will keep our doors open and continue to share the love of Jesus.**

If you or your family has any prayer needs please let us know. We would love to pray for you. The power of prayer is amazing and has gotten us through these past 16 weeks. We look forward to hearing from you.

In His Name, Roxann Fox



P.S. As we continue to see more of the community benefit from our food pantry and enjoy hot meals in our dining room, we are also seeing our supplies diminishing. Most of our meals are now being cooked in-house which means that we are using the meat in our freezers faster than we anticipated. Any help you can give at this time would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you, Pastor Will



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