

— SINCE 1910 —

# Washington Street Mission

ACCEPT

TRANSFORM

CARE

408 N. 4th Street  
Springfield, IL 62702  
(217) 544-9011

Hours:  
6:30 - 11:30 am (Summer)  
7:00 - 2:00 pm (Winter)  
Donations: 12:00 - 4:00 pm



## A New Normal

These are strange times for all of us. Nothing is normal. Nothing is the same. Kids are out of school. Many people are working from home. Others are laid off. Stores are closed. Grocery stores are understocked. And there is no Toilet Paper! (I've heard there is a plant called "farmer's friend" that may be important to learn to identify.)

The good news is that this crisis will not last forever. However, in the midst of this crisis, we have all had to adjust to the current situation. Even at the Mission we have had to make a difficult decision to remain closed during this time so that our guests practice "shelter in place" at the overnight shelters, their apartments, and homes, and minimize their risk of exposure to the Coronavirus.

During a crisis, things that were important are not as important as they were. Personally, I have realized that many of my priorities had gotten out of alignment, and other less important things had taken their spot. Personally I am viewing this time as a recalibration, a reordering, a re-connecting time.

After this crisis, life will go on. There will be a post-Coronavirus time. No one knows how long this crisis will last. No one knows how many people will be infected and affected by this disease. But things will change. And that change will depend on people like us who will be able to bring hope, comfort, peace, and leadership during this time. It will be a new "normal."

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*House Supervisor*

EASTER 2020



## Our Mission:

To share the love of Jesus Christ with the People of Springfield by providing opportunities that meet their spiritual and physical needs.

## Connect Online:

### Visit our webpage:

[www.washingtonstreetmission.org](http://www.washingtonstreetmission.org)

### Sign up to give through Amazon Smiles:



### Give Online:

[www.washingtonstreetmission.org/donations](http://www.washingtonstreetmission.org/donations)



### Join our Prayer Team:

[www.facebook.com/group/prayforthemission/](https://www.facebook.com/group/prayforthemission/)



At the Mission, our staff are all working from home. I'm excited to see the insights, ideas, and plans that they bring to the table as they have time to reflect, think, and evaluate how we operate at the Mission.

Our chaplain has been working hard to establish a weekly Saturday service for our guests. Every week we have been averaging over 80 people and many churches and groups have signed up to help bring breakfast, lead worship, and share a message of hope with our guests. When they resume after this crisis, we anticipate that this number will grow to over a 100 people who are weekly hearing the good news of Jesus Christ.

Our case manager has been working closely with our guests and learning their needs, researching local resources, and helping connect our guests with people and organizations that can help them move forward in their lives.

Our transitional house ministry continues to serve homeless men and encourage them to work and get themselves back on their feet over the course of a year. The two men currently there are both working hard to save and find a place to live that they can afford.

All of our staff are taking time to reflect, to rest, and to prepare themselves for our guests when we reopen our doors so we can best serve them and help them work through some next steps in their lives.

We are grateful for our volunteers who help us weekly in a variety of ways: serving coffee, sorting clothing, teaching basic computer skills, playing piano, and visiting with our guests. We look forward to your continued service with us!

This Spring, we will be contracting to put a new roof on the Mission so that we can continue to provide a safe and dry place for our guests to gather and so that we can continue our mission to share the love of Jesus with everyone who comes through our doors. Our current bids suggest that it will cost around \$110,000 for this project to address all of the issues that exist. We are grateful for everyone who has already contributed to this project and we greatly appreciate your additional support during this time to help us meet this need.

Blessings!  
David Swihart, Executive Director