

2024



CARPENTER'S PLACE™

PROVIDING THE TOOLS FOR REBUILDING LIVES™

# MARCH

*Inspired by Christ's compassion, Carpenter's Place offers direction with accountability to people with broken lives, helping them find peace with God, themselves and their communities.*

## JESUS UNDERSTANDS THE HARDSHIPS OF THE HOMELESS

The hardship and suffering experienced by our guests on a daily basis is disheartening. Not only do many of them have to live without the comforts most of us are accustomed to, their status makes them targets for crime and assault. Even with the case management available to them, some of their hurdles that prevent them from being housed are overwhelming. The life expectancy of someone experiencing homelessness is over twenty years less than the average American.

The story of Jesus is also one of hardship and suffering. He was a man who had no place to lay his head. He was despised and rejected. He was betrayed by a friend, falsely arrested, beaten and even put to death in one of the most excruciating ways.

But that's not the end of the story. Jesus rose again from the dead, proving his teaching and authority is true. His promises of life and redemption are now open to everyone.

Our guests' hardships are not the end of their stories. Because we follow Jesus' commandment to love one another, to feed the hungry and clothe those who have nothing, there is hope. Because Jesus lives, people's lives are being turned around. Thank you for being his hands and feet in service to our community.

Happy Easter,  
Pastor Jason Hladik  
Director of Guest Services



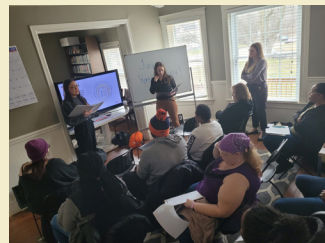
## ANTHONY'S KINDNESS WAS APPRECIATED!



While walking on W. State Street, guest Anthony found a box of 5 Lantus insulin pens. He knew how important this medicine would be to someone and was hoping to find the owner to return it. Anthony called the pharmacy that was listed on the box and gave them his information. The pharmacy tracked down the woman prescribed the insulin and she was grateful that someone had found it. She picked up the medicine from Anthony at Carpenter's Place. When she arrived, she gave Anthony a big hug and asked if she could have him over for dinner. The woman shared that the insulin was worth \$300. She then offered Anthony a ride to where he needed to go and they left getting to know each other.

## FAMILIES BEGIN STEPS TO FINANCIAL SUCCESS

The Family Service Program kicks start another year with the Financial Empowerment Workshop. This workshop hosted by Midland Bank gives our families an opportunity to learn how to navigate the financial world and become good financial stewards. We are so grateful for the United Way of Rock River Valley and Midland Bank.





# MEETING THE NEED

## GET TO KNOW...COREY



Corey joined Carpenter's Place in November of 2023 as a case manager for the Family Services Program. Corey enjoys his work in the human services field as he sees himself as being an extended family member of those that we serve, encouraging them to reach for the stars. Corey believes in the importance of the family unit and enjoys spending quality time with his family and

traveling. Corey also believes that the way to someone's heart is through his cooking, and baking, which he has so graciously shared some of his amazing treats with his professional family here at Carpenter's Place.

## MARCH NEEDS

- 16 oz disposable bowls
- 8 oz disposable coffee cups
- Travel Size Shampoo
- Men's Deodorant
- Men's Razors
- Women's Deodorant
- Powdered Creamer
- Coffee
- Sugar

If you have any questions regarding our in-kind needs, please do not hesitate to reach out to Patti at [PattiF@carpentersplace.org](mailto:PattiF@carpentersplace.org) or call Patti at 779-210-2975.

## OPEN MEALS

### MARCH:

#### BREAKFAST:

11, 13, 15, 18, 19, 20, 22

**LUNCH:** 12, 19, 20, 25

#### TO SECURE A DATE:

Email Patti at

[PattiF@carpentersplace.org](mailto:PattiF@carpentersplace.org)

or call Patti at 779.210.2975.

To make a **DONATION**, visit:

<http://weblink.donorperfect.com/cpdonate>.

## GYM SHOE DRIVE: STEP UP!

Our homeless guests walk miles every day, so having good walking/gym shoes is a need. Each Maundy/Holy Thursday, Carpenter's Place hosts a special event where every guest current with their case manager will receive a new pair of gym shoes, along with 2 pairs of socks and foot powder. We continue to give shoes out through summer. If you are able to donate NEW gym shoes, your support would be greatly appreciated. Our main need is men's sizes between 9 and 12.

### Here's how you can donate:

- Drop these items off at Carpenter's Place, 1149 Railroad Avenue, Rockford, IL 61104 Monday through Thursday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm or Friday from 8:00 am to 2:30 pm
- Order through CP's Amazon wish list and have it delivered directly to us (please include a gift receipt so we know who made the donation). Here's the link: <https://a.co/2kiKZLL>
- Drop your new shoe donations off at Carpenter's Corner, 1715 Rural St, Rockford, IL and receive a 10% off your next purchase coupon.

For more information, please contact Patti Floyd at: 779-210-2970 or email: [PattiF@carpentersplace.org](mailto:PattiF@carpentersplace.org).

## LET'S TALK...

Would your church, social group, or service club like to learn about homelessness in our community and how Carpenter's Place is addressing the problem?

We would love to share Carpenter's Place with your group! Contact Nancy Ramos at [nancyr@carpentersplace.org](mailto:nancyr@carpentersplace.org) to schedule a presentation.

## WE GIVE THANKS...

"Being confident of this, that he who had began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

— Phillipians 1:6



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