

February 2025

TARGET
DAYTON
MINISTRIES



PLEASE PRAY for the hundreds of people who come to our morning services each week to surrender to Christ!

MORNING MISSION

Dear Friend,

Our mission to reach the poor and homeless for Christ began over 25 years ago with evangelistic services and free dinners on the weekends.

In those early days of ministry, we got to know many homeless people who spent the nights shivering in the cold trying to sleep in their cars, abandoned houses, parking garages, tents or even dumpster enclosures. After barely surviving the cold nights, they had no place to go in the mornings to warm up or even get a hot cup of coffee.

We also got to know many homeless people who stayed in the homeless shelter at night but were forced to go back out into the cold every day at 6:00am in the morning... with no place to go.

When we saw how desperately poor and homeless people needed our help in the mornings, God's love compelled us to start our morning services with free hot coffee and breakfast!

That's how our mission to reach the poor and homeless for Christ got started in the early mornings! *continued >*





Doug spent most of his nights in a parking garage for almost seven years after he became homeless. He said, **"You can't imagine, you'll never know, how much your ministry mattered to me every day. Warming up with a hot cup of coffee, hot breakfast and encouragement from God's Word was all I had to keep going."**

Eric has been homeless for almost a year now. He currently sleeps in an abandoned trailer with no heat.

He said, **"Thank you for the free hot breakfasts. I would probably starve without you guys. Starting my day with prayer, worship, and God's Word is helping me survive this winter. Without Christ and the encouragement you guys give me, I wouldn't make it!"**



Our Target Dayton busses and shuttles begin transporting people from the homeless shelters to Target Dayton at 7:30am in the morning. And people who spent the night outside in the cold are waiting at our doors when we open. Within minutes our foyer and lounge fills with homeless people grateful for a warm place to be and a freshly made cup of hot coffee to drink.



Sherri said, **"I've barely survived being homeless for the past one-and-a-half years. But starting my day with prayer and God's Word at Target Dayton is helping me survive! And you'll never know how good that coffee tastes when you've been out in the cold!"**

Michael rides our bus from the men's homeless shelter every morning. He said, **"I would die if you guys weren't here for me with free coffee! And it's good coffee**

too! And I love the preaching! It has changed my life!"

After everyone has had a chance to warm up and get a cup of coffee we invite everyone into the sanctuary for our morning worship service. We have a powerful time of singing. We preach God's Word and invite people to surrender to Christ. And we pray. Every day people make decisions for Christ in our morning services. And many find the encouragement and strength they need to not give up.

Jill has been homeless for 2 years. She said, **"I surrendered my life to Christ in a morning service. I wouldn't make it without Christ and the encouragement I get from you guys!"**





**"I was hungry and you gave me something to eat,
I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,
I was a stranger and you invited me in!"**

Matthew 25:35

We estimate we have served more than a 1.5 million cups of coffee and nearly a half-million breakfasts to the poor and homeless in the early mornings. And every day people surrender to Christ.

While the morning service is taking place, a dedicated team of Target Dayton staff and volunteers make final preparations to serve a delicious hot breakfast to everyone when the service is dismissed.

Breakfasts like: freshly baked biscuits and gravy, homemade pancakes and sausage, homemade potato-egg-sausage-cheese breakfast casserole and everyone's favorite... our homemade breakfast burritos! And with every breakfast we serve orange juice and more hot coffee!



Amanda has been at the women's homeless shelter for about a month. She said, **"I love being able to get a free cup of coffee and a free hot breakfast in the mornings at Target Dayton. I deeply appreciate it! Your services help me find hope and strength to keep going in these hard days. You make me feel so welcomed and loved."**

Doyle has been at the homeless shelter for three weeks. He said, **"I love all your breakfasts! And the coffee is good too! Thank you! I surrendered my heart to Christ in a morning service."**



Rick has been homeless for five months. He said, **"I don't know what I would do without hot coffee and breakfast at Target Dayton! God bless you for serving us such amazing quality food! And everyone is so kind. Thank you very much!"**

People tell us all the time that they are used to being treated like homeless people in the shelters and other places they go. And the food they are given is barely edible and sometimes makes them sick. But at Target Dayton they are welcomed, loved and treated like real people. And the food we serve them is fresh, good quality and tastes like homemade!

That's because we know Jesus loves them and we do too. We see and feel the hardships they are suffering. And we want to help them! We want to show them God's love and lead them to Christ. That's our MORNING MISSION! That's our mission EVERY day! *continued >*



Can you imagine waking up in the morning after spending all night trying to sleep in your car in the middle of the winter? Or a parking garage? Or even in a homeless shelter? Can you imagine how much it would touch your heart for someone to welcome you in out of the cold with a hot cup of coffee and a hot breakfast? Can you imagine how much such kindness might open your heart to the gospel? That's the beauty of our MORNING MISSION!

Thank you for helping to make it possible in 2025!

Please partner with us as we step out in faith to do more, serve more and give more in 2025! If you are not already a monthly supporter will you please pray about becoming one? Your monthly gift of \$25, \$50, \$100 or even more will make it possible for us to continue our life-changing ministry for the poor and homeless in our city.

It's easy to sign up to start giving today! Visit our website, scan the QR code, or simply use the enclosed donation form to donate by mail. Thank you for your heart to share the gospel with the poor and homeless in our city!

Remember, Jesus said, *"I tell you the truth. Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me!"* (Matthew 25:40) Let's do more for Jesus in 2025!

Pastor Mark & Cindi ❤️

YOU MAKE IT POSSIBLE!

Through your service & monthly support...

YOU BRING THE POOR: You give them a ride to get the help they need...

YOU FEED THE POOR: You feed them with free hot breakfast or dinner...

YOU CLOTHE THE POOR: You clothe them with shirts, socks, shoes, hats, gloves & coats...

YOU SAVE THE POOR: You preach the good news to them & they are saved...

YOU DISCIPLE THE POOR: You disciple them & give them a place to serve Christ...



OUR GIFT TO YOU! Receive a free Target Dayton T-shirt with John 3:7 emblazoned across the back when we hear from you this month! Show your support of Target Dayton and share Christ's word everywhere you go!

Did you know that you can make a secure gift online at [TARGETDAYTON.COM](https://www.targetdayton.com) or by scanning this code?



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