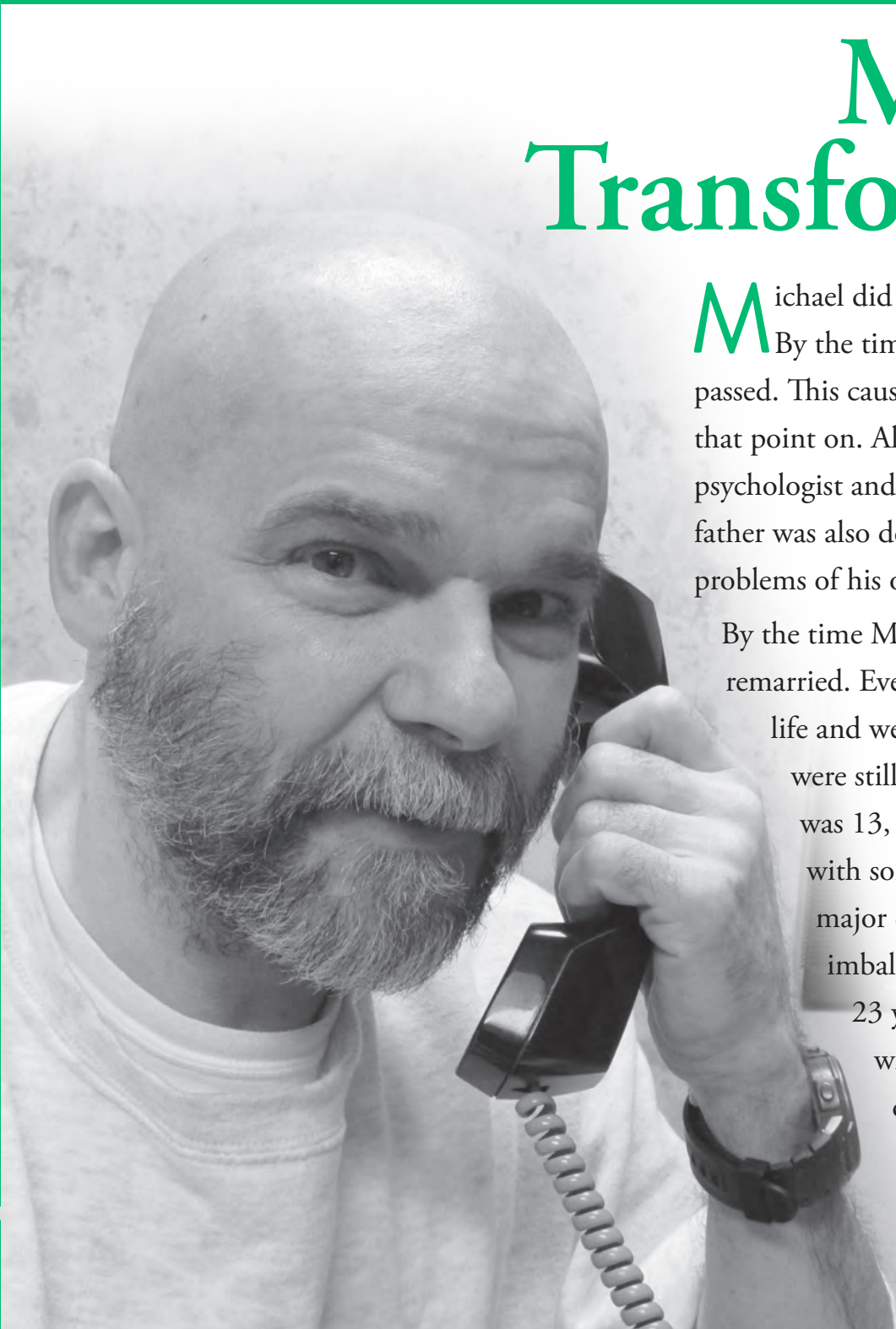


THE VOICE

HOPE AND A FUTURE

Michael's Transformation



Michael did not have the life of most children. By the time he was 5 years of age, his mother passed. This caused him to crawl into a shell from that point on. Although Michael's father was a psychologist and had tried to help his son, his father was also dealing with his wife's death and problems of his own. Michael remained depressed.

By the time Michael was ten, his father remarried. Even though he had a good family life and went camping and boating, things were still out of sorts. By the time Michael was 13, he was experimenting with alcohol with some older friends, which induced major depression because of his chemical imbalance. Then when Michael was 23 years old, his dad took his own life which contributed to Michael's downward spiral of chemical addiction.

Here is what Michael had to share.

continued on page 3



Rev. Jeff Kaiser, CEO

Spring is around the corner, and much is sown at Haven of Rest, from plants and flowers around our buildings, to encouraging words and Bible teachings that are planted into the soil of discouraged hearts. All of our programs and services have something to cultivate in our guest's physical, emotional, spiritual, and educational needs. Caring staff collaborate with other agencies and organizations to help our guests receive the most benefits. Thank you for being an integral part of helping men and women grow and overcome challenges.

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www.havenofrest.org



*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*



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Help and hope found here

MISSION
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MISSION RADIO BROADCASTS SUNDAY MORNINGS

7:30 AM

WNIR 100.1 FM

WKVX 960 AM

WAKR 1590 AM

WKJA 91.9 FM

8:00 AM

WHBC 1480 AM

Thanks for listening!

THANKFUL FOR UPGRADED SECURITY!



Women's Auxiliary raised \$9,000 (between May and August) for a new security system upgrade. Thank you again to everyone who made this possible! In December, the building entry ways in the Mission lobby and Men's Day Room were replaced with new upgraded doors. The video intercoms and remote access software were installed in February.

The security system has been expanded to include the installation of interior and exterior cameras on our 207 E. Market Street and 175 E. Market Street buildings. This is a major improvement in our ability to monitor activity and provide a safer environment for all those who are ministered to at the Mission.

The next Women's Auxiliary fundraising project is for new carpeting throughout the office area at the Mission building. At present, they are half way to their goal of raising \$25,000. We are very grateful for each of you! Find out more about the Women's Auxiliary at www.havenofrest.org/who-we-are/womens-auxiliary/.

30TH ANNUAL AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY CELEBRATION

In February, another wonderful celebration took place in honor of African American History at the Mission. Thank you to all the church partners and visitors who came to hear Pastor Lorenzo Glenn, from Macedonia Baptist Church in Akron, speak on this year's theme "Timeless Faith", taken from Lamentations 3:22-23. If you would like more information about the Mission and all the wonderful things it has to offer, please go to our website at www.havenofrest.org.



One of the reasons I developed major depression was because of the chemical imbalance and tried to beat it on my own. I fell in love and married at age 25, had two biological daughters and a stepson. However, I was unfaithful to my wife, was bipolar, snapped, disassociated from life, and tried to commit suicide. We divorced, and afterwards made five more suicide attempts.

In 2019, I was found walking down the middle of the street in traffic and a police officer tried to help me. I reached for his gun to try to kill myself, but the police officer restrained me and charged me with assault. I was in prison for 18 months. During my stay there, I spent the entire time reading the Bible, praying for a place to go. After I was released, I came straight to the Mission.

“If I had not come to Haven of Rest, I probably would have gone out to get an ordinary job and cycle back into depression and drinking.”

I didn't know what to expect when I came. However, I focused and took part in many of the programs and services like the Bible-based classes, Career Development, Work Therapy, and Discipleship program. I have become a better Disciple because of the programs here.

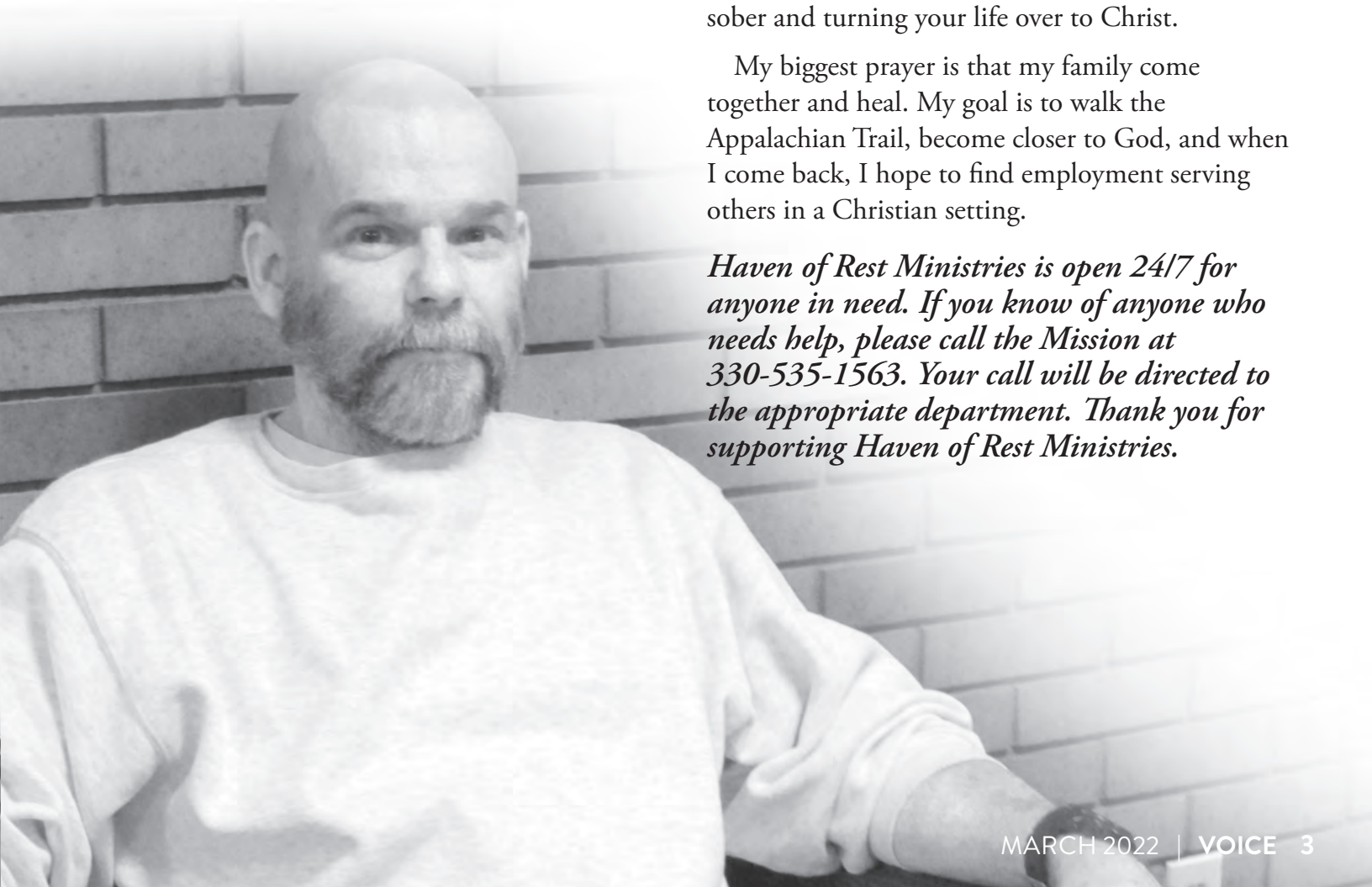
“Serving Others is Helping Me Heal.”

The internship program I am in now is helping me heal. I help assist Clients throughout the day with their needs, answer phone calls, and help with their questions so that the Case Manager and Social Workers have time to serve the Clients in the Men's Day Room.

I would say to someone who just came to Haven of Rest and is still struggling, to know this is a wonderful place to start if you are serious in getting sober and turning your life over to Christ.

My biggest prayer is that my family come together and heal. My goal is to walk the Appalachian Trail, become closer to God, and when I come back, I hope to find employment serving others in a Christian setting.

Haven of Rest Ministries is open 24/7 for anyone in need. If you know of anyone who needs help, please call the Mission at 330-535-1563. Your call will be directed to the appropriate department. Thank you for supporting Haven of Rest Ministries.





NURTURE CENTER PLAYGROUND PROJECT

Haven of Rest's Harvest Home, where moms and their children find respite and enjoyment, will be upgrading the playground soon. The need for a safer ground covering has been in the plans for quite a while, and the Mission is currently raising funds for the new flooring, equipment, play sets, and picnic tables. A customized flooring for the 30' x 40' space is designed with falls zones in mind, having a smooth, nonskid grip surface that will replace the uneven pebbles that are there now, to help limit falls, scrapes, and injuries.

The Nurture Center is central to Harvest Home's efforts in helping moms get back on their feet and learn how to best take care of their children when they leave. A Child Advocate and Assistant Child Advocate supervise and care for the children while moms meet with a case worker, go to classes, study, search for employment, build their resumes, utilize computers, make phone calls, fill out applications, interview, and much more.

A generous gift from Marsha Cross honoring the bequest of her mother Evelyn Parks will provide new playground equipment for the children at Harvest Home. For more information, please call Harvest Home at 330-434-1149.

GARDEN PROJECT KICK-OFF

The garden project has officially started and we would appreciate your help! Gift cards are needed from local garden centers and stores like Home Depot, Lowes, and Walmart. These gift cards will be used to purchase gardening supplies such as plants, soil, shovels, etc. Please specify on the gift card "Garden Project" and mail them to the Mission at 175 E. Market St., Akron, OH 44308, or drop them off at the donation drive-thru, open Monday -Friday 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The drive-thru is closed Sunday. Thank you!

THANK YOU FOR ALL OF YOUR PRAYERS!

Haven of Rest Ministries strives to do everything for God's glory and Kingdom, according to His will. We praise and worship God in both word and deed. We sense the movement of God through the prayers of our supporters. Thank you!

Philippians 4:6 *"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God."*

JANUARY MISSION HIGHLIGHTS



64,997

pounds of clothing
were donated



647

people came for
FREE clothing in the
Clothing Store

1,551

miscellaneous items were
donated such as housewares
for residents moving out
to permanent housing

JUST A REMINDER!

We are still collecting
Hope Totes until April
8th. Our goal is 3,000
totes which we hand out
to those in need.



175 E. Market St., P.O. Box 547, Akron, OH 44309-0547 • 330-535-1563