



Hope Sports Camp

A Summer Camp Filled with Hope!

It's almost time for our annual Hope Sports Camp for boys and girls entering grades 3-8.

- Boys' basketball camp will be held July 18-22
- Girls' basketball and volleyball camp will be held July 25-29

The camp is free for children!

Kids will not only learn new skills and become better players, but they'll do it in a fun, safe environment. They'll also learn from and interact with leaders who model wholesome, Christ-centered lifestyles.

To learn more about Hope Sports Camp, visit havenofrest.org/get-involved/events.



Men's Program Spotlight

Greg is grateful for your support!

“This Time It’s Different”

After years of false starts, Greg knows he’s finally on the right path, with your help

Greg has faced a lot of challenges in his 57 years. He admits that many of them are due to his own poor choices. But his life has changed since coming to Haven of Rest for help! He thanks God and friends like you for helping him get back on track ... this time, for good.

Greg grew up in a bad neighborhood, with an alcoholic father. After his parents divorced, his mother did her best to keep the family together. He credits her for raising him in the church, and keeping him focused on sports and off the streets.

But after his sister died of kidney failure, it all became too much. Greg started drinking at 17 and running with a bad crowd. Soon, he was using heavier drugs.

Over the next 30 years, Greg’s life swung back and forth. He got cleaned up, held steady jobs, married and had two daughters. Then something would knock him back out of control, like when his brother was murdered by a jealous rival. Another time, he says, it was just because he had too much time and money on his hands.

“They put their arms out for me, and they’ve been blessing me.”

“I took my eyes off the Word,” he says sadly. “I lost contact with myself. I failed again.”

Greg came to Haven of Rest almost 20 years ago for a meal and a shower. At the time, he wasn’t ready to commit, and walked back out again.



CEO's Message

Rev. Jeff Kaiser, CEO

A New Thing!

The people we serve come from all walks of life, with all sorts of backgrounds, and have all kinds of reasons for needing help.

Many of their journeys share a common theme, one that goes something like this: *I started hanging out with the wrong crowd.*

All types of troubles can spring from those early “wrong crowd” choices, and the problems can last anywhere from days to decades. Greg, for example, was addicted to drugs for more than 30 years before finding help here at Haven.

“Forget the former things,” God tells Isaiah. “Do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing!”

We see God doing new things every day at the Mission. Greg’s is just one of many stories that clearly illustrate the Lord’s work.

Your prayers and generous support for Haven of Rest have made you a vital part of the changed lives you can read about in these pages.

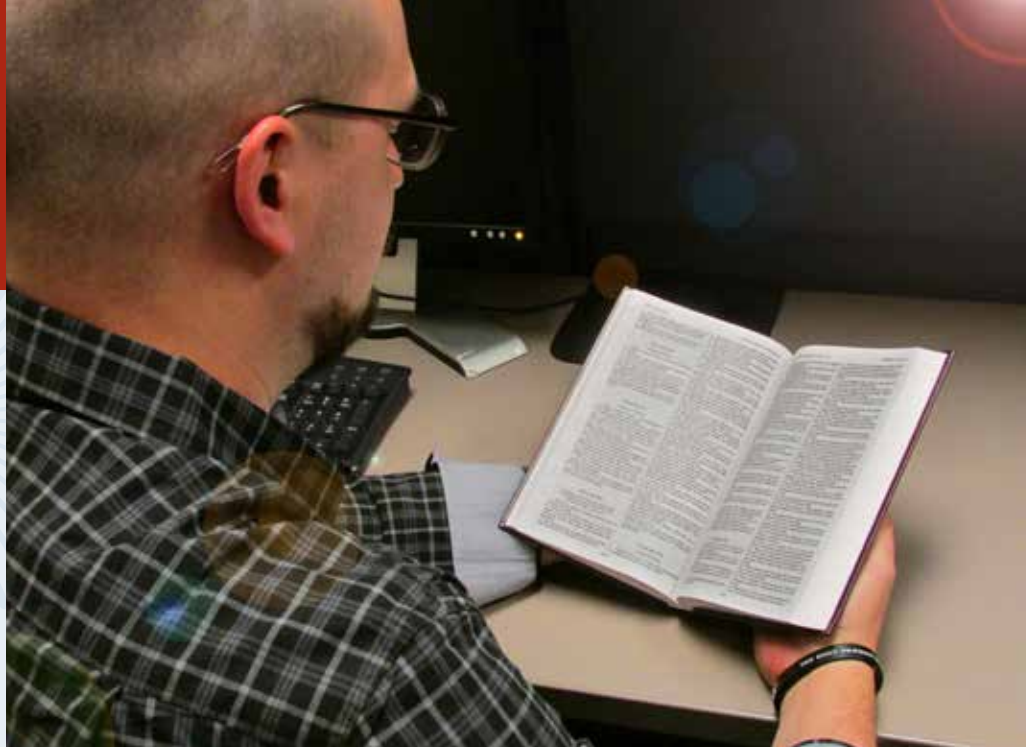
Thank you for making these stories possible!

Blessings in Christ,

Jeff Kaiser

Leave a Legacy!

Looking to create or update your will for FREE? GiftWise offers our private, secure link at christianwill.org/haven. Protect loved ones and pass on your values today!



“God Changed Everything”

How our men’s ministry transforms lives

Kenneth always wanted to be an elementary school teacher. But two years into his college career, he made some poor choices and ended up dropping out of school.

A concerned friend led Kenneth to Haven of Rest.

Through our Conquerors program, Kenneth was able to get out of a partying lifestyle. Better yet, he found Jesus — the cornerstone of all programs at Haven of Rest — and turned his life around.

In the residential program, a counselor is assigned to each resident to help them kick addictions, learn Biblical values and find community, employment and housing. Spiritual development is the foundation behind it all.

“I have hope for each new day.”

Haven of Rest also has an emergency shelter for men. We think of it as an entry point for those who are hungry, poor and/or homeless — a first step toward rehabilitation and stability.

Shelter guests are referred to our residential program, and are given resources for housing, job search, mental health, medical services and more. The program is rooted in Scripture, and guests are given the opportunity to follow Christ.

Our goal is to see lives transformed through the power of the Gospel — which is just what happened for Kenneth.

“I have hope for each new day,” says Kenneth, who has returned to school and even earned a spot on the Dean’s List. His dream of becoming an elementary school teacher is alive again! ✝

This Time It’s Different

continued from cover

Then, a few years ago, he started experiencing severe stomach pains. “Finally, I had to crawl to the hospital,” Greg remembers. That’s when he was told he had stage 4 colon cancer, which soon spread to his liver. After chemotherapy and three major surgeries, Greg knew things had to change.

“I wanted to get my life back together,” Greg says, “so I went to the place that helped me. Haven of Rest really put their arms out for me and welcomed me back. They’ve been blessing me since I’ve been here.”

As a resident of Haven of Rest, Greg is finally living the life he’s wanted for so long. “My health, my mind, I’m feeling good about myself,” he says. “I’m back in the Word, praying and studying every night, just working for God.

“This time it’s different, because I want to do this. I didn’t want to before, but this time I have the desire.” ✝



You helped Greg find his way.

Be Sure to Join Us for These Upcoming Events!



Chick-fil-A Food Drive Thursday, August 11

Bring two cans of fruit or vegetables to a participating Chick-fil-A restaurant and receive a coupon for a breakfast sandwich!

Participating locations:

Cuyahoga Falls
420 Howe Ave.

Fairlawn
47 Flight Memorial Dr.

Macedonia
8213 Golden Link Blvd.



RubberDuck Nights July 22 and August 12

Come cheer on the Akron RubberDucks, when \$3 from every ticket sale helps support Haven of Rest! We’re saving special sections for these Friday games.

Buy your tickets here:

July 22 vs Erie SeaWolves:
fevo.me/havenofrest0722

Aug. 12 vs Bowie Baysox:
fevo.me/havenofrest0812



Back to School Match September 1-30

Thanks to a \$5,000 matching gift, your donation to the Back to School campaign will double in impact. To give, go to our online donation page and click the “designated for” drop-down menu.

We also need items like backpacks, shoes and more. Last year’s campaign was so successful. Let’s do it again!

havenofrest.org/back-to-school



Don't Forget Your Neighbors

While we celebrate independence, let's remember those who are struggling

Every July Fourth, most of us take the day off, gather with family and/or friends, fire up the grill, play some outdoor games and top off the day watching fireworks. It's a great way to celebrate our independence and our nation's birthday.

Again, that's most of us. Some folks among us don't even have jobs from which to take the day off. Some have little to no family or friends to gather with. For some, their only celebration might come from a bottle in a bag. For others, it'll be just like any other night, sleeping on the streets or under a bridge.

According to the Summit County Continuum of Care, there are more than 4,000 homeless people in Summit County, and for them, the Fourth of July doesn't feel very celebratory, or like it has much to do with independence. Let's not forget them this summer. They're fighting a hard battle.

So maybe as you think about our independence this month, please take a moment to consider those who have so little at this time. Go online to havenofrest.org, and find the red button that says "Donate Now."

While celebrating America's freedom, your gift is a great way to help a struggling neighbor take a first step toward their own "independence day." ✝

▼ PLEASE CUT OFF THE REPLY FORM BELOW, AND RETURN WITH YOUR GIFT. THANK YOU. ▼

Restore more lives when you give monthly!

Faithful Friends is a special group of Mission supporters who give monthly to share not just a hand up but real hope. With each and every monthly gift, you'll provide people in great need across our community with:

-  **Food and safe shelter** that bring stability in the midst of crisis
-  **Critical services**, such as recovery, education and job-skills training – leading to work that pays a living wage and self-sufficiency
-  **An introduction to the loving God** who transforms lives

To become a Faithful Friend, please complete the enclosed reply form or visit donate.havenofrest.org and select "monthly recurring donation."

Tune in to our Sunday Morning Radio Broadcast

- 7:30 a.m. EST**
WNIR 100.1 FM
WAKR 1590 AM
WKVX 960 AM
WKJA 91.9 FM
- 8 a.m. EST**
WHBC 1480 AM



Follow us on social media

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I Want to Help Struggling Neighbors This Summer

Yes! I want to bring help and hope to neighbors in need this summer and all year long. Enclosed is my heartfelt gift of:

- \$16.40 to provide 8 meals and other care.
- \$26.65 to provide 13 meals and other care.
- \$53.30 to provide 26 meals and other care.
- \$_____ to provide as much care as possible.



Please mail this completed form and return it with your donation. Please make your check payable to Haven of Rest Ministries. To donate online, visit donate.havenofrest.org. Your gift is tax deductible as allowed by law. You will receive a receipt.

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