MESSENGER

UNION GOSPEL MISSION TWIN CITIES

FALL 2025

OUR MISSION IS CHANGING LIVES

YOU are a blessing!

INSIDE: Ervin shares how your support gives him hope.

DON'T MISS...

2 Take action against hunger!

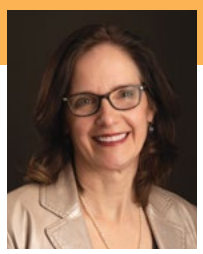
3 "I couldn't be happier."

4 Save the Date: Conversations on a Bench

For more information: 651-228-1800 ugmtc.org

Hearts and lives are full... thanks to YOU

A Message from PAM STEGORA AXBERG



As the seasons change, I'm reminded of Jesus' words to His disciples: ***"The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few."*** As one of our most devoted "workers," your support and care for our neighbors experiencing hunger and homelessness is a powerful source of hope. For the people who come to us for help. For our staff... and for me personally!

This month, you have a special opportunity to make a difference for our neighbors who are struggling. September is Hunger Action Month—and we're inviting you to provide 30 meals over 30 days for our guests experiencing hunger. It's a meaningful way you can be a force for change here in the Twin Cities.

In September alone, we're preparing to serve 16,500 meals—and more in the weeks leading up to Thanksgiving. Your support will help provide these life-changing meals that fill bellies with nourishment... and fill lives with hope.

Just read how your generous gifts are bearing fruit in Ervin's life, whose story is on Page 3. He is looking forward to a more hope-filled future because of the dedication of "workers" like you!

Thank you for investing in the lives of more people like Ervin during Hunger Action Month and throughout the fall season!

Blessings,

Pam

Pam Stegora Axberg
Chief Executive Officer

YOU'RE HELPING THEM ACHIEVE THEIR DREAMS...

Thanks to friends like you, men, women and children at UGMTC believe in themselves and have hope. Your prayers and support help residents in our recovery programs look forward to brighter futures.

"I have found healing through camaraderie here. I'm emotionally and spiritually stronger." *– Gregory*

"I feel worthy now. The Mission helped me get a job and I plan to go back to school and further my career." *– Marilyn*

Thank you for believing in fresh starts and making it possible for people to rebuild their lives!

To find out more about how you're helping transform lives, visit ***ugmtc.org/blog****.*

SEPTEMBER SPOTLIGHT: HUNGER ACTION MONTH

16,500

Meals Needed by Sept. 30!

September is Hunger Action Month! Join our community in this month-long movement to fight hunger... and TAKE ACTION to help even more neighbors experiencing hunger who we'll welcome this fall.

Sign up to serve a meal

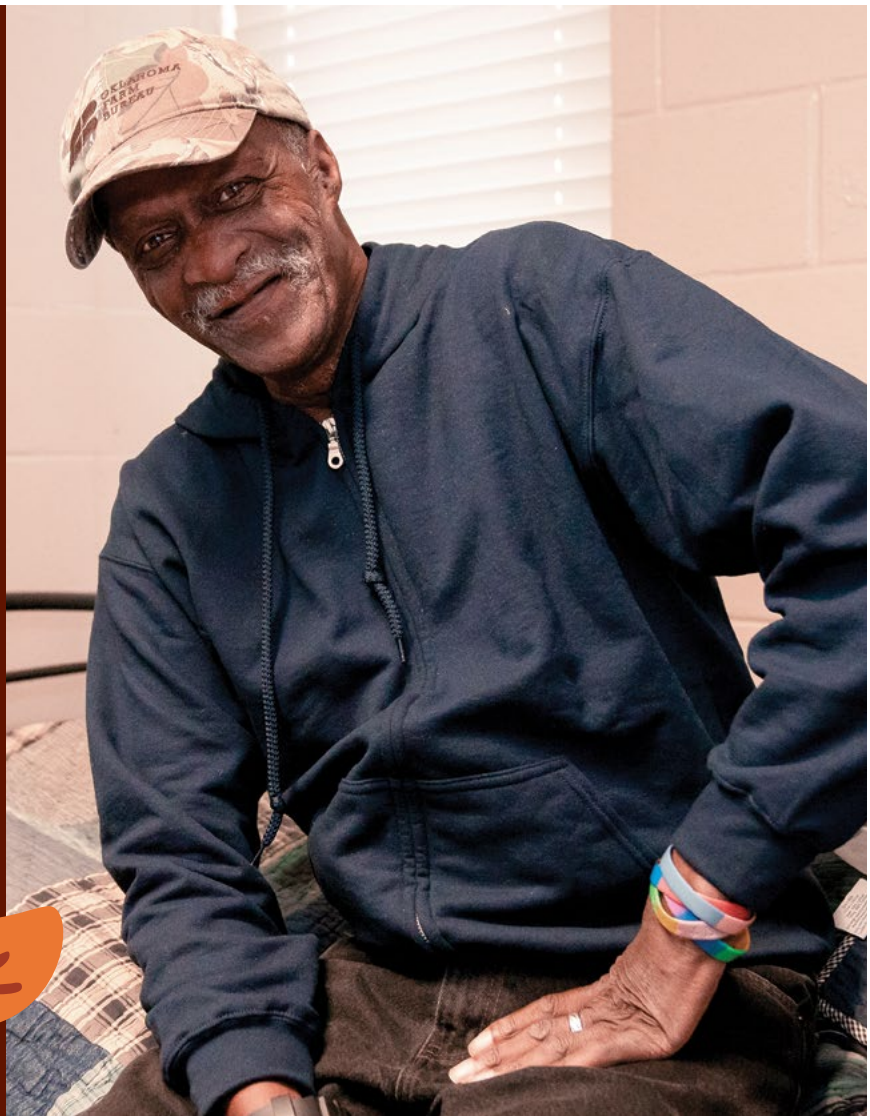
Volunteer for food rescue

Invite others to join you

For just $2.82, YOU can provide a nourishing meal to end someone's hunger. Send your gift today OR online at **ugmtc.org**.

Scan to take action today!

“I couldn’t be happier.”



Ervin and his identical twin brother were very close… they even experienced homelessness together. When his brother died, Ervin was crushed by grief and felt like he was on his own for the first time.

He came to the Mission to get his life together. “It was the happiest day when they told me they had a room for me. I’m adjusting to living by myself, but I’ve had no problems or complaints,” he says. “They feed you, give you clothes and anything you need.”

Ervin has also received help scheduling doctor’s appointments, obtaining important documents like his Social Security card and searching for apartments.

He’s grateful for the many resources available for veterans like himself as part of our Veterans’ Housing Program, which serves as a bridge to stable housing and includes mental health services and life-skills classes to help men like him get back on their feet. “Every Tuesday, the people at the VA come here to see if I have questions or need something. I couldn’t ask for more,” he says.

> “It makes me feel good knowing somebody cares. There are people I can sit and talk to.”

One thing Ervin is especially grateful for is being part of a community. After his brother died, he thought few people cared about him. At the Mission, people will knock on his door just to make sure he’s all right.

As Ervin looks to the future, he is sure about one thing: he needs to keep busy. He wants to volunteer in healthcare or as a cook, giving back to the community.

Your gifts are bearing fruit in the lives of people like Ervin. Now, his heart is full of hope this fall… thanks to your kindness! “I’m grateful for the Mission because they gave me a place to stay, three meals a day and helped me get more resources through the VA. I couldn’t be happier.”

SAVE THE DATE: OCT. 9–10!

conversations on a BENCH

WORLD HOMELESS DAY

Join us on World Homeless Day as we focus on long-term solutions to support our neighbors in need. We invite you to "Conversations on a Bench," a special 24-hour event on October 9–10. During this time, our CEO, Pam Stegora Axberg, will engage in meaningful conversations with community partners dedicated to serving individuals experiencing homelessness.

10th October WHD World Homeless Day

Tune in and be part of this important dialogue by joining us on our Facebook page at **facebook.com/ugmtwincities** or YouTube channel at **youtube.com/ugmtc**.

OUR CURRENT NEEDS

Donate essential items this fall!

Throughout the busy fall season, we'll welcome even more guests than usual here at Union Gospel Mission Twin Cities! And with more people to care for, our needs also increase.

This fall season, you can give hope and healing by providing for these and other immediate needs of our neighbors.

Our 3 most needed items:

- ❑ Bath towels
- ❑ Travel-sized bar soap
- ❑ Travel-sized toothpaste

Visit **ugmtc.org/NeedsList** to see our current needs list.