

# MISSION

## UPDATE

*Stories of Rescue, Redemption and Renewal*



FORT MYERS  
RESCUE MISSION  
— A Christian Mission with a Mission —

## Accountability Builds Men Up

By Rev. Philip Ledger, Director

At Ft. Myers Rescue Mission, we live out the **biblical principle of accountability** every day.

Because of **your prayers and support**, the men who come through our doors are given more than food or shelter—they're given expectations that help them grow into Christ-centered, self-responsible men.

Each Friday evening, residents give an account of their week. Those who work contribute a portion of their earnings—**up to \$125**. Those receiving a check contribute **up to \$500**. **Everyone gives something**. Not because we demand it—but because we believe in **dignity** and **ownership**.

Men who aren't employed outside help with chores like groundskeeping, cleaning, kitchen service, and laundry. The residents of the mission **work together as a team** to keep the doors open.

Even street guests who join us for meals are expected to respect this environment. As Scripture says: **"Those who refuse to work shall not eat."** (2 Thessalonians 3:10)

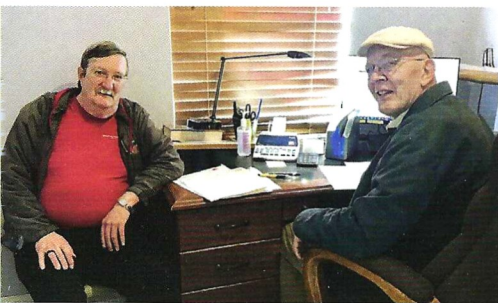
All residents are expected to take responsibility—regardless of past or physical limitations. Even small steps like **making your bed** or **taking a shower** are part of rebuilding a life.

Attitude matters too. We **don't tolerate cursing, arguing, or disrespect**. We offer freedom to grow—but also hold men to **higher standards** because that's how change happens.

Thanks to donors like **you**, our men also have access to GED prep, college, and trade programs—often fully covered by grants. **You make that possible**.

Yes, Jesus **breaks the chains of addiction**. But He also calls us to **take responsibility for our lives**. That's what we teach and model here.

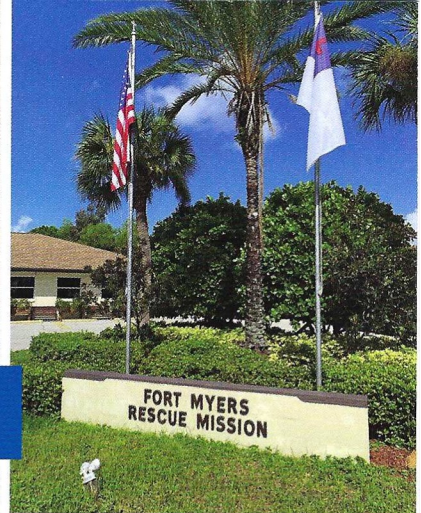
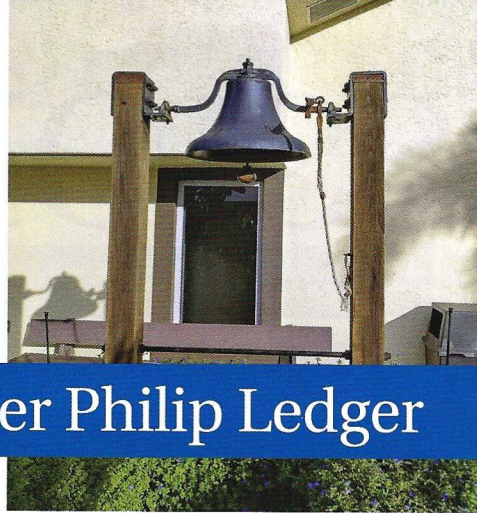
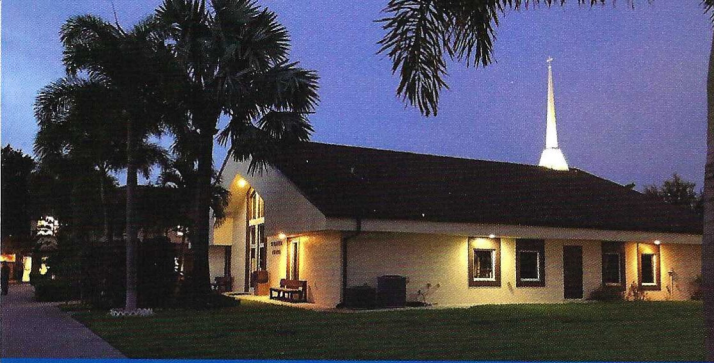
**Thank you for standing with us**. You help lead men to Christ and prepare them to live productively in this world—and the one to come.



*Photo of Rev. Ledger (on the right) with Bob Kapernick, head of security*

INSIDE  
SUMMER 2025

FROM THE DIRECTOR | LEAVE A LEGACY OF HOPE | YOUR SUPPORT IS BUILDING MORE THAN BUILDINGS—IT'S BUILDING HOPE | BECOME A MONTHLY PARTNER! | WHEN GOD SPEAKS LOUDLY



## From the Desk of Brother Philip Ledger

Dear Friend,

It was a cold February in 1979 when I first came to Ft. Myers Rescue Mission—a young man in need of shelter and hope. I never could have imagined then how completely the Lord would transform my life.

Now, nearly 50 years later, I have the privilege of sharing that same hope with others: Jesus Christ is still the answer to life's deepest troubles.

Much has changed over the decades. The Mission has grown, and a new generation of men is walking through our doors—men who are lost, hurting, and searching for direction, just as I once was. But one thing remains constant: our calling to proclaim that those who trust in Christ will not perish, but have everlasting life.

Today, 84 men are receiving more than just food and

shelter. They're receiving compassion, community, and the Good News. Lives are being changed. Addictions are being broken. Families are being restored. Some of these men are earning GEDs, attending trade school, and stepping into productive lives in our community.

Our entire staff has walked this road—we know firsthand the power of redemption.

In a world filled with uncertainty, your generosity is a steady light. Because you care, hearts are being healed and lives are being rebuilt. Yes, the financial needs are great—but God is faithful, and He's working through you.

Yours for souls,

Rev. Philip Ledger  
Director

## Leave a Legacy of Hope

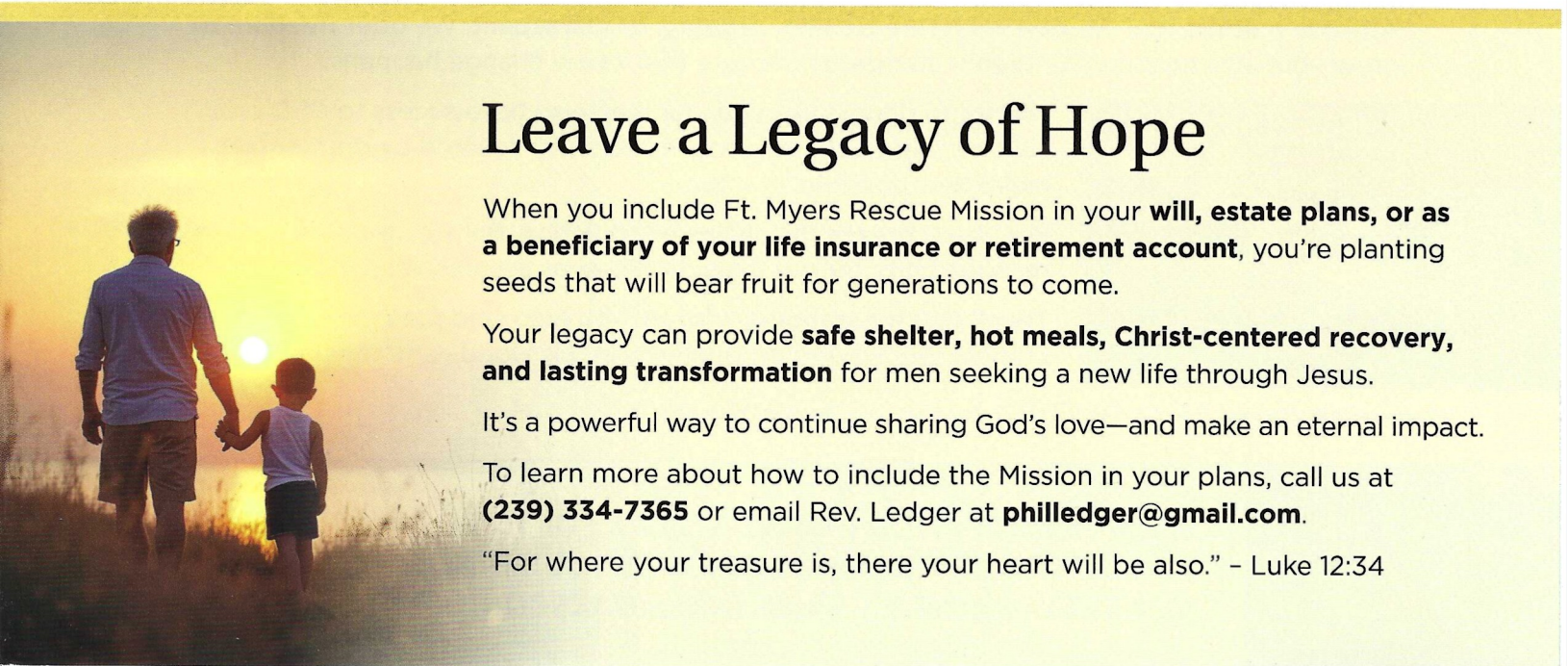
When you include Ft. Myers Rescue Mission in your **will, estate plans, or as a beneficiary of your life insurance or retirement account**, you're planting seeds that will bear fruit for generations to come.

Your legacy can provide **safe shelter, hot meals, Christ-centered recovery, and lasting transformation** for men seeking a new life through Jesus.

It's a powerful way to continue sharing God's love—and make an eternal impact.

To learn more about how to include the Mission in your plans, call us at **(239) 334-7365** or email Rev. Ledger at **philledger@gmail.com**.

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." - Luke 12:34



# Your Support Is Building More Than Buildings—It's Building Hope

**Thanks to generous friends like you**—and the grace of Jesus—big things are happening at Ft. Myers Rescue Mission.

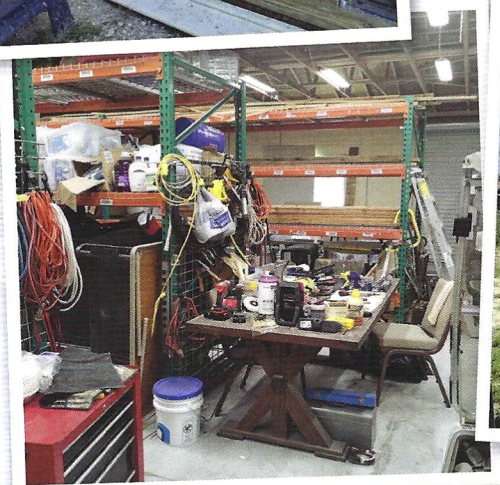
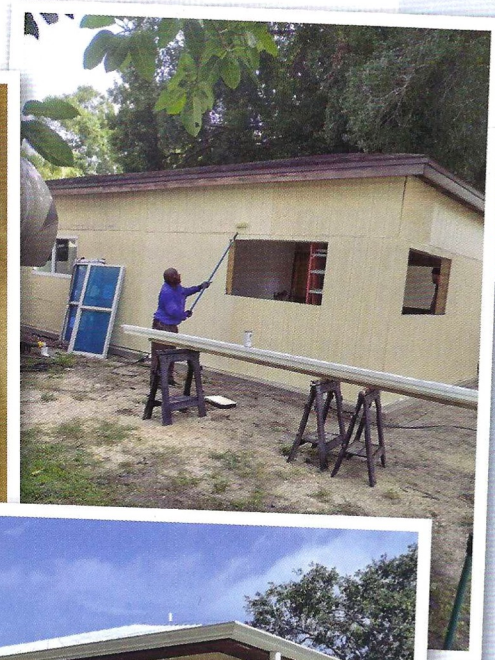
The new **1,500 square foot Maintenance Center** is now complete and ready to serve our 8-acre campus. It's packed with the tools and supplies needed to keep things running smoothly—made possible by your support, faithful volunteers, and the hard work of our residents.

Right next door, **a new laundry facility is taking shape**, and it's already blessing lives. Every day, over 80 men receive clean clothes and bedding—restoring dignity and offering a fresh start. Two residents take responsibility for each load, learning discipline and pride in service.

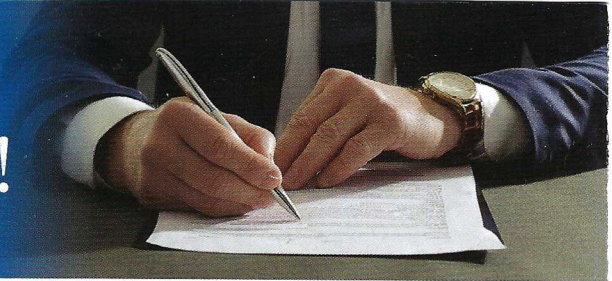
Once completed, the space will include five commercial washers and five gas dryers, lowering utility costs and improving efficiency. The estimated cost is **\$15,000**, and every gift helps.

To be part of this effort, just mark your donation: "new laundry."

**Thank you** for helping us care for the men we serve—*body, mind, and spirit.*



# Become a Monthly Partner!



Our monthly partners play a critical role in making it all possible by having a gift drafted monthly through a credit card or checking account.

When you become a monthly partner, your giving becomes a constant lifeline of support to those we serve. Each gift you send provides hope for a better life today and the promise of a brighter, more secure future tomorrow. Moreover, your monthly gift saves us administrative and fundraising costs.

For more information, please **contact Fort Myers Rescue Mission at 239-334-7365.**

## When God Speaks Loudly

The smoke pit at the Rescue Mission wasn't anything fancy—just a patch of ground between the dumpster and the slop buckets. But for the men here, it was the one spot they could go to satisfy a craving for nicotine.

One afternoon, I looked out the window and saw one of our older residents slowly make his way over. He was alone. He sat down on a cement block, pulled out his tobacco and papers, and started rolling a cigarette.

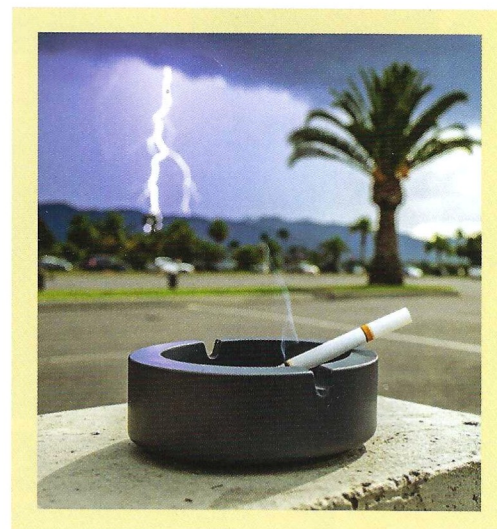
Then—out of the clear blue sky—a bolt of lightning struck a tree just a hundred feet away. The sound was deafening. His cigarette, papers, and matches flew as he jumped up and ran, yelling:

***“No more, Lord! I promise—no more!”***

I don't know if he ever quit smoking for good... but he didn't go back to the smoke pit that day!

That moment still makes me smile, but more than that—it reminds me how God meets men right where they are. Sometimes through a whisper. Sometimes with thunder. Always with love.

Here at Ft. Myers Rescue Mission, we've seen again and again how God uses moments like these to stir hearts and start transformations.



FORT MYERS  
RESCUE MISSION

239-334-7365 | Visit us on Facebook - Scan the code for a direct link

Ft. Myers Rescue Mission | 6900 Mission Ln., Ft. Myers FL 33916

*\*Names have been changed to protect the identities.*

