



MORNINGSTAR
MISSION MINISTRIES

CHRONICLE

Good News About Changing Lives

SUMMER 2019

Jump on the Bus

You're equipping children in need to thrive in school.

“**T**he supply list the schools hand out these days is ridiculous,” says Valencia, a single mother who is currently a guest of MorningStar Mission, along with her two young girls. “It’s not just notebooks and crayons and pencils anymore. They want specific notebooks and multiple counts of different items. It’s just overwhelming and expensive.”

Valencia knew there was no way she could afford all the supplies on the list. But thanks to caring friends like you who help support our Jump on the Bus program, both of her daughters received everything they needed to start the past school year off right.

“I literally did not have to buy anything,” Valencia says. “They received everything on their list. It’s such a blessing and helps so much. I’m truly grateful.”

Now, with another school year fast approaching, we’re gearing up for this year’s Jump on the Bus event and hope to equip over 276 girls and boys with the supplies they’ll need to thrive in the classroom.



Jump on the Bus is just one way you’re helping Valencia and her daughters. Read their full story on page 4!

Thank you for helping the children in our care in this special way through your generous support!

Another way you can support *Jump on the Bus* is to donate backpacks, school supplies and clothing before August 13. Simply drop your items off at our receiving center located at 350 East Washington Street, Joliet, IL.

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A Note From Sandi

You may not be aware of this, but summer is one of the most difficult times of the year here at MorningStar Mission.

While the needs of hurting and homeless people in Joliet and Will counties hold steady during the summer months, giving to the Mission drops off. It's understandable — many of our faithful supporters are away from home, traveling to visit with friends and family. The challenge for us is the strain this puts on our budget and ability to meet the needs of our community's most vulnerable people.

We never want to turn away a single soul. God has placed us here to be an open door for every man, woman and child seeking our help. But we'll need the support of friends like you to help get through the tough summer months.

As you read through the newsletter and discover the life-changing difference you're making in the lives of others, I hope you will continue your partnership with a special gift today. Thank you for all you do, and for giving of yourself so that others might find new life!

In His service,

Sandi Perzee
Executive Director



Hop on the Bus

You're Invited! Come hit the town for a night of food, fun and new friends — all for a great cause!

You're invited to join us for Hop on the Bus. This progressive dinner will take you and a bus full of new friends to four of the city's top restaurants — **Cemeno's Pizza, Heroes West Joliet, Jacob Henry Mansion** and **Merichka's** — where you'll sample signature dishes and drinks.

At the end of the evening, all of the buses will return to the Jacob Henry Mansion, where you'll enjoy delectable desserts, a silent auction, raffles and entertainment.

Radio host Kevin Kollins, who broadcasts on WJOL 1340 and Star 96.7, will be returning with colleague Lisa Jordan to co-host one of the buses, and he encourages everyone to get in on the fun.

"I do a lot of hosting and charity events and different things, and this really is one of the most fun events I've ever done," Kevin says. "The money you're giving goes to a great cause — MorningStar Mission — and you've got a fun time with great food on top of it. It's just a win-win for everybody."

Make Your Reservation Today

When: July 31

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Where: Jacob Henry Mansion (starting point)
15 South Richards Street, Joliet, IL

Cost: \$50 per person

Make your Hop on the Bus reservation today by contacting Eloise Crabb at 815-722-5780. All proceeds will support the programs and services of MorningStar Mission.



“At the Mission, there’s help everywhere!” — Carl

You Helped Carl Find New Life

“I was the saddest person in the world,” Carl says. “So, coming to MorningStar Mission has been a godsend.”

Carl has battled depression nearly half of his life, and in recent years, that was made worse by a chemical addiction. At his lowest, he was homeless and living out of a car. That’s when a friend took him to a local church to see if they could help, and they referred him to the Mission.

Our staff enrolled Carl in our 180 men’s residential recovery program, and God immediately began a new work in him. In addition to overcoming his addiction, Carl is rebuilding his relationship with God. “I didn’t study the Bible before,” he says. “But now it’s something I look forward to every day, because it’s helped me so much.”

Now sober for eight months, Carl is also repairing relationships with his four grown children and felt a huge breakthrough recently when his daughter took the initiative to reach out to him. “I’ve never been happier in my life,” he says.

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Helping others find new life is what the Mission is all about, and Carl is a testament to that. “I have a new life here,” he says. “My self-esteem and confidence are getting better and better, and I finally like myself. I finally have peace.”

Thank you for giving people like Carl peace and the chance for a new life!

SCHOOL SUPPLIES LIST

- Backpacks (Girls, Boys and Universal)
- Ziplock Bags (Gallon and Quart)
- Pens
- Headphones and Ear Buds
- Kleenex and Disinfectant Wipes
- Flash Drives
- Index Cards (3x5 and 4x6)
- 3-Prong and 2-Prong Folders
- Spiral Notebooks (1 Subject, 3 Subject and 5 Subject; Wide Rule)
- 3-Ring Binders (2 Inch)
- Highlighters
- Dry Erase Markers
- #2 Pencils and Erasers
- Markers and Crayons
- TI-30 Calculators
- Colored Pencils
- Erasable Pens
- Loose Leaf Paper (Wide Rule)
- Dictionaries (Also English/Spanish)
- Calculators
- Protractors
- Compasses
- Composition Books
- Scissors (Pointed and Round Tip)
- Soft Pencil Pouches
- Water Color Paints
- Pencil Sharpeners
- 3x3 Post-Its
- Paper Towels
- Lanyards
- Glue Sticks

IN HONOR OF

- Jean W. Hanson — *Jan Peters*
- Matt & Brittany Lowen — *Kevin Ladesic*

IN MEMORY OF

- Dolores Bertino — *The Family of Dolores M. Bertino*
- Dolores Bertino — *Susan Bertino*
- Dolores Bertino — *Barbara Bossingham*
- Dolores Bertino — *Michael & Mary Carpenter*
- Dolores Bertino — *Jim & Mary Ann Crater*
- Dolores Bertino — *Gerald & Jane Kobe*
- Dolores Bertino — *Joel & Linda Micetich*
- Dolores Bertino — *Bridget Neville*
- Dolores Bertino — *David & Paula Soave*
- Dolores Bertino — *Patrice Primiano Suberlak*
- Dolores Bertino — *Luann Zanzola*
- Lori Cockburn — *Michael Crehan*
- Marilyn Farmer — *James Rendel*
- Evelyn Jonker — *William & Martha Hurley*
- Kelsey Kruspe — *Bruce & Barbara Malm*
- Michelle Marek — *Jerry Marziarz*
- Brigid Naughton — *Anna Sherony Wadsworth*
- Bryan Slinkard — *Mrs. Stella Slinkard*
- Richard Tantillo — *Lisa Wrobel*
- Elder Roger Torbik — *Fernando Garcia*
- Brother Tom — *Alice Randall*

SUMMERTIME NEEDS

Your generous support today will go a long way to help meet the many needs that come with summer.

- Canned Fruits and Vegetables
- Fresh Fruits and Vegetables
- Canned Soup
- Dry Spaghetti and Sauce
- Rice
- Coffee and Juice
- Milk and Eggs
- Mashed Potatoes and Stuffing
- Pancake Mix and Syrup
- Sugar
- Ketchup, Mustard and Relish
- Salt and Pepper
- Seasoned Salt
- Garlic Powder and Chili Powder
- Deodorant and Lotion
- Bar Soap
- Shampoo and Conditioner
- Disposable Razors
- Baby Hygiene Items
- Soft Scrub
- Laundry Soap and Bleach
- Towels and Washcloths
- Furniture Polish
- Window Cleaner

Thank you!

Better Days Ahead, Thanks to You!

“I was literally on the brink of losing everything,” Valencia says. The single mom of two girls, ages five and six, had recently had her car stolen. Without transportation, she soon lost her job, and then came the eviction notice.

With her world crashing in, Valencia took her young daughters to a local shelter facility. “We tried it for two nights, but it was scary and I couldn’t do that to my kids. I was trying my best to shield them from our struggles.”

Thanks to caring friends like you, we were able to welcome Valencia’s frightened family with open arms. In addition to providing them with safe shelter, encouragement and food, our staff has worked with Valencia to help her identify a strong career path. And she is now back in school, studying social work.

“The Mission has changed my life,” Valencia says. “The last year or two I was starting to feel like a failure as a mom. But now I know I’m strong and that there’s better days ahead. I just can’t say thank you enough.”

Please continue your support today to help more families like Valencia’s. Thank you!



▼ Please cut off the reply form below, and return with your gift. ▼

Help Struggling Neighbors During the Tough Summer Months

Yes, I want to help hungry and hurting people this summer. Enclosed is my gift of:

- \$21.70 to provide **10 meals** and other assistance
- \$32.55 to provide **15 meals** and other assistance
- \$65.10 to provide **30 meals** and other assistance
- \$_____ to provide as much care as possible.

Please mail this completed form and return it with your generous donation.
Please make your check payable to MorningStar Mission.
To donate online, visit www.MorningStarMission.org
Your gift is tax-deductible as allowed by law. You will receive a receipt.

- VISA
- MasterCard
- Discover
- American Express

\$

Card Number Amount of Gift

Expiration Date CVV (security code)

Cardholder’s Name (please print)

Cardholder’s Signature (required)

Address

City, State, ZIP

Email Address



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