"Since you are my rock and my fortress, for the sake of your name lead me and guide me."
Psalm 31:3

...FOCUS IN THIS EDITION
HUNGRY FOR STABILITY!
The Board of Directors for Cherry Street Mission Ministries is pleased to announce the appointment of Ann Ebbert as Cherry Street’s new President. I have had pleasure to work with Ann over the past years and see great things in store for our community through the leadership of Ann. Ann took the role of president officially in June 2019 and brings decades of experience to Cherry Street from the business world and ministry. Ann’s appointment is a clear reflection of the organization’s philosophy: ready to deeply engage the community, providing greater access to services and innovating ways to work in the lives of others. Ann has been with Cherry Street for nearly five years and has a rich background suited for the role of President at Cherry Street.

Having worked in ministry and the health care industry, Ann brings a foundation of logistics, running a 24/365 care facility, business operations, administration, organizational structure, developing leadership in others and purposeful discipleship. “The things I love to do at work are often boring to others. God has wired me to be a systems thinker. When our systems are designed well we can affect change in the lives of others more effectively,” Ann told me.

I’m heartened when Ann shares her views about our ministry when she said, “Before coming to Cherry Street I was practicing the things God was asking me to try out. I did find out I love discipleship. Our faith is not just an add-on. We are members of the Kingdom. I get to be an ambassador to His Kingdom”.

Her experience in the health care industry has set her up well to work at Cherry Street. Transitioning clients into a stable life are very similar processes. Ann explained, “When we talk about relationships as the crux of someone’s success; that has been my experience. It does not have to necessarily be a relative either. It can be friends, a church or even paid professionals. When people have that web or network of support to help them move into a new independent life they tend to do so far more successfully than if they try to do it alone.”

Ann is originally from Bryan, OH and has lived in the region all her adult life. She is married to Scott Ebbert for the past 31 years. Together they are dog parents to Montie, a terrier. Scott and Ann like to be outdoors, hiking, fly fishing, kayaking or gardening. Ann always has a book she is reading and likes a diverse variety of book topics.

For now, Ann is fulfilling the role of CEO as well as the President. The Board of Directors for Cherry Street has engaged an agency to assist in the search for a CEO. We are looking nationally to find this vital member of the leadership team.

Overall, the board is delighted Ann has agreed to take on the role of President. The team assembled around this ministry is just what Cherry Street needs to address poverty and the strategy around how to bring God’s vision into fruition.

To connect with Ann for a tour, or have any questions, please contact Cherry Street Mission Ministries at csmm@cherrystreetmission.org or 419.214.3007.

Sincerely,

Don Smucker,
Chairman of the Board
Discovering your rock bottom is a harrowing experience. For Denise, she created her own personal hell on earth. She experienced first-hand the depravity of other humans, the depths she was willing to sink and the losses she was willing to accept.

Having grown up around addiction, domestic violence and what she thought was a normal life, Denise had a head start for her own unhealthy habits. It began as alcohol, marijuana and sex before she started high school. Those things also led to abuses of opiates like Percocet and Oxytocin. Those were her way of numbing the emotions with which she never learned to cope. Eventually this led to an addiction to heroin and cocaine. Denise masked her addiction to family and friends until it took over complete control of her life. She handed her 3 children over to their father and grandmother. She then disappeared, everything she knew faded as the drugs took their place.

To finance the growing drug habit and addiction, Denise aligned herself with a man who started prostituting her out in the streets of Detroit, Michigan. “I can drive all through Michigan to Detroit, Grosse Pointe to Rochester Hills to point out all the places I have been trafficked. I can also point out abandoned buildings I have gotten high in and places in the city I have nearly died,” Denise said flatly. If you had asked Denise then if she wanted her kids back and her life restored, she might have said yes in a vague way.

At that time the allure of getting high was strong. She couldn’t see past the cloud that drugs had over her vision.

Through God’s planning, Denise got connected with Covered International. Covered exists to educate, advocate, and empower women affected by domestic violence, commercialized sexual exploitation, and trafficking. Our community has less nude bars because of the work Covered has done in our region. Cherry Street’s partnership with Covered brought Denise to our doors.

From that rock bottom place she found a firm foundation upon which to build up. Denise was in the first Call Center/Customer Service Workforce Development cohort. Workforce Development at Cherry Street goes beyond the skills for that specific profession. The programming includes handling difficult people, having healthy conflict, goal setting, time management, household budgeting, interview rehearsals, and so much more. Upon graduation, Denise got a job in a call center. Quickly, Denise became their top employees at the Toledo office. Her work at the call center is rewarding and she has a career path in front of her.

Through her steady employment and network of support, Denise has a stable life. Denise has a home of her own, has a church and a church family and she is saving for retirement. Most importantly, she has a healthy relationship with her children.

Today, Denise ministers to other women coming out of the sex industry. She actively shares her story with others to encourage and change our community. Denise is also politically minded and advocates for policies that are addressing the opioid crisis in America. “I came from a dark place. But I put in the work. I overcame and now I’m here to lift up others,” says Denise. “The training and wrap around support I got from Cherry Street and Covered has been what changed my life.”

When you support Cherry Street, you are helping create opportunities for collaborations to more effectively help a person like Denise. You are supporting her career development and making your region a better place.

"HE WILL BE THE SURE FOUNDATION FOR YOUR TIMES, A RICH STORE OF SALVATION AND WISDOM AND KNOWLEDGE; THE FEAR OF THE LORD IS THE KEY TO THIS TREASURE."
ISAIAH 33:6
As summer draws to a close we think of the fresh beginning of a new school year. As Cherry Street’s Workforce Development advances, Pillar of Hope supporters can make a direct impact in the life of a student.

**BOOKS**

Students and the instructors need textbooks or instruction manuals to complete the course of study. Your support of $25 a month could go toward assisting a guest or community member in reaching their personal goals.

**INSTRUCTORS**

Cherry Street often subsidizes a portion of cost to hire instructors and pass the savings on to students. Your support of $50 a month could go toward the total cost for instructors from accredited college programs.

**TUTORING**

Acting as a coach, mentor, advocate and tutor is the work done by Cherry Street. Your support of $75 a month could go toward assisting a guest or community member in reaching their personal goals.

**MATERIALS**

Metal used to practice welding, piping to practice drilling, material to practice fabricating a die are an expense often overlooked. Outside of Cherry Street, a student would be expected to pay a lab fee to pay for materials used while honing their skills. Instead Cherry Street and the instructors cover the cost. Your support of $100 a month could go toward providing the raw materials needed while gaining hands-on practice.

As a monthly Pillar of Hope donor, you agree in providing opportunities for success. You make success possible by investing each month in the men and women that come to Cherry Street. For seven decades, investment from people like you makes it possible for trust and consistency to be built in the lives of your brothers and sisters who are hungry for change.

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**DEAR FUTURE STUDENT:**

Students of the recently graduated Call Center/Customer Service cohort wrote letters to anyone who is considering continuing their education through Cherry Street. Anyone interested in Workforce Development can connect Cherry Street at 419.214.6776 for details.

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**CONGRATS TO THE NEW GRADUATES!**
Experts in disaster preparedness suggest a 30 day supply for shelters such as Cherry Street. Proper emergency preparedness entails having 1 gallon of water, per person, per day for drinking only. At the time of Cherry Street’s request for water donations, Cherry Street had a 5 day supply. Cherry Street sees nearly 400 people through one of its many doors, every single day. A 30 day supply for 400 people is 12,000 gallons of water. Thanks for helping us get close to our goal for safety.
UNDER A NEW ROOF

When Cherry Street purchased the building now known as the Life Revitalization Center, capital improvements were a known need. Operating in phases, Cherry Street has been improving areas internally and addressing the needs of the buildings fundamentals. Replacing the entire roof and drain system associated with the roof has been a top priority.

The first phase of the roof was to cover the largest section of the 242,000 square foot building. The second phase was to address the portion of the roof over the gym and auditorium. Upon recommendation of the contractor, Cherry Street allowed the roof to settle and took time to re-assess where further repairs were needed. The extra time was to also allow Cherry Street to raise more funds toward the expenses associated with the next phase of construction.

However, a wind storm in March 2019 caused the final portion of the roof to peel away and fail. This roof failure caused the project to be accelerated and caused some damage in the interior of the building. Costs to roof replacement increased due to insulation getting wet and needed to be replaced. Originally, that was not planned for. As a result of water infiltrating into the building, staff had to spend time redirecting water and pumping water out of the interior of the building.

The contractors, Lathrop, Nordmann Roofing and Bayes Supply sprang into action. They were able to secure supplies quickly and at a significant discount. Both organizations worked efficiently to reduce costs and helped substantially lower the total amount due.

As a guiding principle, Cherry Street does not solicit our donors for emergencies unless it truly is an emergency. The roof repairs were an emergency need, so Cherry Street elected to send a special appeal asking for donations specifically for the roof. The needs of the roof resulted in just over 2,000 donors to send in their support to Cherry Street. Some of those individuals came in for a tour of the damage.

VOLUNTEER FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Hard to believe but we are planning for Thanksgiving and Christmas already. We have volunteers already filled in for Thanksgiving and Christmas. But we need people for the days and weekends surrounding those holidays. Our staff foregoes their holidays to serve others at Cherry Street. Volunteers make it possible for staff to be able to have a holiday meal the day after or the weekend after.

Cherry Street serves three meals a day, every day of the year. If you have plans for the holidays we have spots open the rest of the year.

Contact the volunteer department at 419.214.3357 or volunteer@cherrystreetmission.org for details.

PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING FOR THESE DATES:

- Friday, 11.29.19
- Saturday, 11.30.19
- Sunday, 12.1.19
- Friday, 12.20.19
- Saturday, 12.21.19
- Sunday, 12.22.16
- Monday, 12.23.19
- Thursday, 12.26.19
- Friday, 12.27.19
- Saturday, 12.28.19
- Sunday, 12.29.19
- Monday, 12.30.19
- Tuesday, 12.31.19
- Wednesday, 1.1.2020
One Year in the Library

This November will be the one year anniversary of the opening of the Appold Learning Center. In partnership with the Toledo Lucas County Public Library, there has been an operating library in the Life Revitalization Center. The space is open to all and open to the public. Equipped with computers, internet access, a printer, quiet space, work tables, comfortable lounge chairs, and an entire collection of books from the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library’s Friends of the Library, the Appold Learning Center is a place for many in our community. Guests of Cherry Street and community members are using the library for:

- Job searches
- Locating housing
- Updating resumes
- Researching on the internet
- Studying
- Completing homework

The library’s hours of operation depends on volunteers being available, but is generally open Monday through Friday from 9am to 4:30pm.

Be a Library Volunteer!

As a member of the Cherry Street Library team, you will:

- Create a welcoming atmosphere
- Offer information through conversation to anyone utilizing the library to help them access all CSMM and partner services
- Assist library guests with IT and computer skills
- Perform basic administrative functions
- Shelve books and provide general library maintenance

We’re looking for volunteers who are:

- People oriented
- Friendly and firm
- Knowledge of basic computer skills

Volunteers have provided over 2,000 hours toward the library over the last year.

Contact the volunteer department at volunteer@cherrystreetmission.org or 419.214.3357 for details.

Meals for the Holidays

Located within the Life Revitalization Center, Mac Street Café will be serving lavish meals with all the traditional sides, linen table cloths and live music for the upcoming holidays. Meals are open to the public and reservations are not required. Fueled by supporters like you, donations allowed Cherry Street to provide a fine meal for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

You can provide towards meals at www.cherrystreetmission.org/donate.

With $20 you can...

At your favorite grocery, purchase 250 eggs to donate to Cherry Street.

Donate $20 to Cherry Street & we’ll use our quantity discount to purchase 333 eggs.

An average week of meals requires approximately 1,200 eggs.

Give now at cherrystreetmission.org/give
For more information about Cherry Street or the Voice of Compassion, contact Nikki Morey at nmorey@cherrystreetmission.org or 419-214-3410.

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Mr. Don Smucker,
Chairman of the Board

Donate Food
Your donations of food enable us to provide homeless and near-homeless men, women, and families with over 600-800 meals each day, in the form of hot meals. Food donations must have been prepared in ServSafe® method or donated as a whole, uncooked food.

Please bring your donations to:
Cherry Street’s Life Revitalization Center Building
1501 Monroe Street (former Macomber School)
Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Donate Non-Food Items
Your donations of non-food items provide dignity to our guests 365 days a year. We accept donations of toiletries, winter gear, socks, scrubs and underclothing for both men and women.

Please bring your donations to:
Cherry Street’s Life Revitalization Center Building
1501 Monroe Street (former Macomber School)
Weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Call 419-214-3007 for more information.

Donate Assets
Cherry Street accepts stocks, bonds, trusts, jewelry, real estate, boats, RVs, and other vehicles. If you would like additional information on ways to donate, contact Cherry Street at csmm@cherrystreetmission.org or 419-214-3007.

For more information about Cherry Street or the Voice of Compassion, contact Nikki Morey at nmorey@cherrystreetmission.org or 419-214-3410.