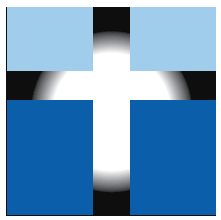


Holiday 2026



the MISSION

Stories of Second Chances

MERCEDES HAS
hope THIS
Christmas,
THANKS TO YOU!



RENO-SPARKS
GOSPEL MISSION
INC.

DON'T MISS...

2 Sharing the gift of hope!

3 "I have peace and joy."

4 Give Relief from the Bitter Cold

A Message from
LUIS SANTONI

Sharing
the gift of hope this
Christmas

On the night of His birth, Jesus' family was turned away because there was "no room at the inn." I find it so profound to think that they experienced the same fear and uncertainty our guests face when they have nowhere else to turn.

Here at the Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission, we are committed to welcoming and caring for every hurting person who comes through our doors. Yet many of our guests have endured years of homelessness, poverty and hardship that have left them feeling forgotten and alone.

During the holidays, friends like you help share God's compassion and remind them they are seen and deeply valued.

Your gifts to provide hot meals, safe housing and recovery support become meaningful expressions of God's love and care in their lives. Above all, you give the gift of hope and a second chance during these dark winter months.

This Christmas, I invite you to share love and grace with neighbors in need – like Mercedes, whose story you'll find on the next page. Through your generosity, you'll open a door when so many others are closed to them – and let them know that there is room for them here.

Thank you, and may God bless you throughout Christmas and into the New Year.



Luis Santoni,
Executive Director



A Christmas they look forward to, thanks to YOU!

Christmas Morning: Thanks to local toy & donation drives and the generosity of people like you, our Mission guests experience the joy of waking up to Christmas gifts.



Holiday Feast: Your gifts help provide a delicious Christmas meal for our residents – for many, the first holiday feast they've enjoyed in years.

The Miracle of Jesus: Worship, prayer, fellowship and an uplifting message of God's love. Our guests gather in the chapel to celebrate the peace and hope of Christmas together.

Thanks to you, our neighbors don't have to spend this Christmas alone and on the streets. Your support provides gifts, hot meals, fellowship and a reminder of the true reason for the season!

You Can End the Year Strong!

2X YOUR IMPACT 

This holiday season, weary neighbors face dark, cold nights. They're at risk of losing hope completely. They long for a helping hand and the chance for a brighter future. **Your gift today goes 2x as far to provide food, housing and life-changing care** for our struggling neighbors – thanks to our \$20,000 Year End Matching Challenge.

Make a tax-deductible gift by 12/31! →

✉ Return your special year-end gift in the reply card today.

🖨 Give online at **www.rsgm.org**.



“I have *peace and joy* that I’ve never felt before.”



Mercedes can trace the beginning of her struggles back to childhood. “My dad, who was my best friend, died when I was 14. So I lived with my mom and my stepdad who was very abusive,” she says. The instability and danger she experienced at home led Mercedes to act out. “I started doing whatever I wanted, using drugs and partying.”

Eventually, this behavior landed her in prison where she gave birth to her son. “I only got to see him for four hours. Then they took him and I didn’t see him again until he was almost 2.”

After she was released, Mercedes got into an abusive relationship and had a daughter. She also lost custody of her because of struggles with addiction. “I kept using to numb all the pain. I did not want to live anymore.”



“I remember praying to God because I knew I couldn’t do it anymore.”



After another arrest, Mercedes found an answer to her prayer. A judge gave her the opportunity to go to rehab instead of back to prison, and a spot opened at the Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission.

“I was so happy to be here, but it was also hard,” Mercedes says. “Everyone was kind and helpful. At first, I fought the support and the love. I thought, ‘You don’t even know me. How can you love me?’”

With the help of a caring community walking alongside her, Mercedes began to change her life for the better. “They opened my eyes to see that God is working in my life. **Since coming to the Mission, I am alive. I have a new life in Christ.**”

Through working in our clothing closet and pop-up pantry, Mercedes discovered a heart and a gift for serving. “I’ve learned that I love helping people. I’m really good with people and they love my energy.”

This Christmas, Mercedes is experiencing God’s grace at work in her life. Thank you for sharing the gift of hope with her! “I feel like a new person. I am thankful to the Mission because they gave me a second chance.”

Give Relief from the Bitter Cold

Falling temperatures will put lives at risk this holiday season.

With average lows of 25° in Northern Nevada – and elements like snow and piercing cold winds – our unsheltered neighbors are at risk of hypothermia and life-threatening illnesses this winter.

You can give them relief from the cold at the Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission:

- **Safe housing** includes a warm bed and a roof over their heads
- **Hot food** offers comfort and nourishment to cold, weary neighbors
- **Winter clothes** like coats, clothing and shoes are in high demand

To see our most urgently needed items, visit rsgm.org/needs.

Give a meal. Share the gift of *hope!*



**\$2.17
for 1 hot meal**



**SHARES
HELP & HOPE**



**That leads
to new life!**



For our neighbors experiencing homelessness or hunger, Christmas can feel more lonely than joyful... **but YOU can share the gift of HOPE.**

Just \$2.17 provides a nourishing Christmas meal – and opens the door to recovery and a fresh start this holiday season.



Please send your Christmas gift today!