

February 2026

**TARGET**  
**DAYTON**  
MINISTRIES

**PICTURED:** Cindi welcomes ladies coming in from the women's homeless shelter for our morning service and breakfast!

# MORNING MISSION

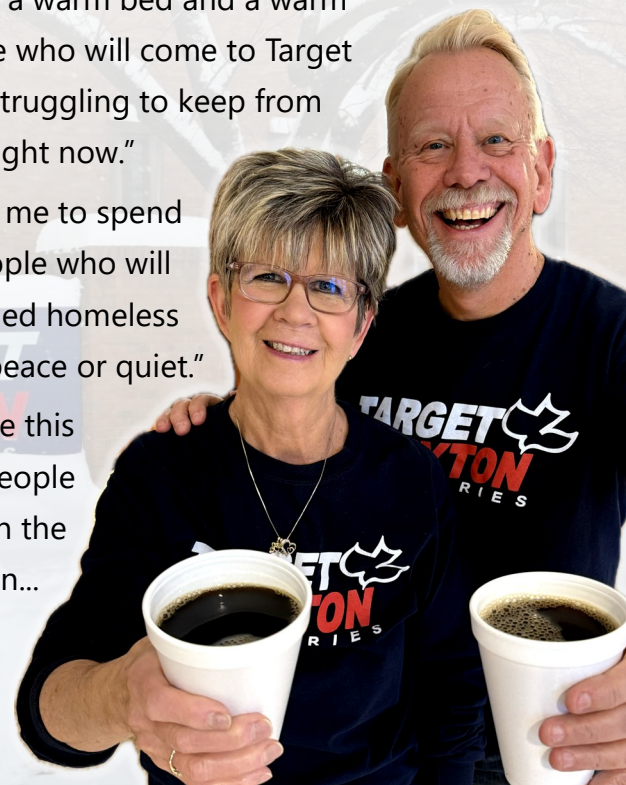
Dear Friend,

When I got up this morning at 4:30am to make coffee and pray, it was 7 degrees below zero outside... with 20 inches of snow on the ground!

I got down on my knees and prayed, "Lord, thank you for a warm bed and a warm house to wake up in this morning. I know most of the people who will come to Target Dayton this morning are without these blessings. Some are struggling to keep from freezing to death in a parking garage or abandoned house right now."

I prayed, "And thank you for this beautiful quiet place for me to spend time in prayer with you this morning. I know most of the people who will come to Target Dayton this morning, will wake up in a crowded homeless shelter with constant noise, fights and chaos. They have no peace or quiet."

I prayed, "And Lord, thank you for your presence in my life this morning... you mean everything to me! I know most of the people who will come to Target Dayton this morning are still alone in the darkness without you. And most are so beaten up... so broken... so discouraged... they have given up all hope." *continued >*







And I cried over them, as I often do, as I felt Jesus' love for them in my heart. I know that He deeply loves each one of them. He feels their suffering and suffers with them. He sees their tears and cries over them. He longs to relieve their suffering and dry their tears.

I believe that's why Jesus said, *"Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."* (Matthew 25:40). That means when we relieve the suffering of the poorest and the least, whom He loves, His joy knows no bounds! And that's what Target Dayton is all about. We're here to help *"the least of these brothers of mine"* for Jesus.

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**"I surrendered to Christ in a morning service! I wouldn't make it without Christ & all the encouragement you give me!" ~Jill**

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I prayed, "Lord Jesus, please use all of us at Target Dayton this morning to show them your love and lead them to you. Please help us to put ourselves in their shoes, and love them and treat them the way you would."

Then at 7:30am this morning, we opened our doors and invited *"the least of these brothers of mine"* who were out in the cold all night, into our warm ministry building. And our busses and shuttles began bringing many more

of *"the least of these brothers of mine"* from the homeless shelters. We welcomed each person like friends and family. Jesus said, *"I was a stranger and you invited me in."* (Matthew 25:35)

Men and women whose spirits have been crushed by sin, poverty, addiction and homelessness began flooding in. Soon our building became crowded with people without a home, without a job, and without a dollar. People all alone in the world with no one who cares. Some had ragged clothes and needed a shower. All were hungry, cold, harassed, and weary... and grateful for a freshly brewed cup of hot coffee to drink and a warm place to sit and rest.

After everyone had a chance to have a cup of coffee and warm up, we invited *"the least of these brothers of mine"* into the sanctuary for our morning worship service. And during wor-

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**"Starting my day at Target Dayton with prayer & God's Word helped me survive being homeless the past year & half!" ~Sheri**

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**"Thank you for the free coffee & hot breakfasts! I would probably have starved to death without your help." ~Eric**

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**"I was hungry and you gave me something to eat,  
I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,  
I was a stranger and you invited me in!"**

Matthew 25:35

**We have served more than a 1.5 million cups of coffee and nearly a half-million hot breakfasts to the poor and homeless in the early mornings. And every day people surrender to Christ.**

worship and the preaching of the gospel, hearts began to soften. Hands lifted. Tears fell. And some of *"the least of these"* surrendered their hearts to Jesus! They came through our doors discouraged and feeling like giving up... and left with new faith and strength to go on. They came without hope and without God... and left with Jesus! And His joy knows no bounds!

And while the morning service was taking place, a dedicated team of Target Dayton staff and volunteers were busy in the kitchen cooking and preparing to serve a delicious hot breakfast for *"the least of these brothers of mine"*. So after the morning service, we served them homemade potato-egg-sausage-cheese breakfast casserole with homemade biscuits. And we served them real orange juice and more hot coffee with their breakfast!

If they needed a Bible, we gave them one for free. If they needed a hat, or gloves or a dry pair of socks, we gave them what they needed. Because Jesus said, *"Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."* (Matthew 25:40).

That's our MORNING MISSION! That's our mission EVERY day for Jesus! And I believe, His joy knows no bounds! *continued >*

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**"I was homeless for 7 long years! You can't imagine how much your ministry mattered to me every day! You kept me alive!" ~Doug**

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Can you imagine waking up in the morning after spending all night trying to sleep in your car in the freezing weather? Or a parking garage? Or even in a homeless shelter? Can you imagine how it would touch your heart if someone welcomed you in out of the cold with a hot cup of coffee and a free hot breakfast? Can you imagine how such kindness might open your heart to the gospel? That's how our MORNING MISSION changes lives every day!

**Thank you for helping to make it possible!**

Will you join Cindi and I in making a fresh consecration of our lives to Christ in 2026... and step out in faith with us to do MORE THAN EVER BEFORE for *"the least of these brothers of mine"* in 2026? Will you pray more, serve more and give more than ever before for Jesus... so His joy will know no bounds?

It's easy to sign up to start giving today! Visit our website, scan the QR code, or simply use the enclosed donation form to donate by mail. And sign up to serve at one of our services in the new year! Visit our website, use our TD SERVE app, or just give us a call!

Because Jesus said, *"Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me!"* (Matthew 25:40) Together, let's do more than ever for Jesus in 2026!

*Pastor Mark & Cindi* ❤️

## **YOU MAKE IT POSSIBLE!**

*Through your service & monthly support...*

**YOU BRING THE POOR:** You give them a ride to get the help they need...

**YOU FEED THE POOR:** You feed them with free hot breakfast or dinner...

**YOU CLOTHE THE POOR:** You clothe them with shirts, socks, shoes, hats, gloves & coats...

**YOU SAVE THE POOR:** You preach the good news to them & they are saved...

**YOU DISCIPLE THE POOR:** You disciple them & give them a place to serve Christ...

**OUR GIFT TO YOU!** Receive a free Target Dayton T-shirt with John 3:7 emblazoned across the back when we hear from you this month! Show your support of Target Dayton and share Christ's word everywhere you go!

**Did you know that you can make a secure gift online at [TARGETDAYTON.COM](http://TARGETDAYTON.COM) or by scanning this code?**



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