



# Pathways



**MAKING ALL THINGS NEW**  
"OPEN DOOR FEELS LIKE FAMILY."



**REUBEN TODD**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

AND HE WHO  
WAS SEATED ON  
THE THRONE  
SAID "BEHOLD I  
AM MAKING ALL  
THINGS NEW"

— REVELATION 21:5

# DIRECTOR'S CORNER

## YOU HELP MAKE ALL THINGS NEW

Dear Friend,

Spring time is always about new beginnings, especially in the north country. As we celebrate Easter, we look around and watch the green things resurrect from their wintry graves and look forward to when the whole earth will be made new.

Here at Open Door Mission, lives are made new all year round. Your support gives our homeless neighbors a chance to restore their hope, reclaim their dignity and renew their relationships with God, their families and our community.

Some hurting people encounter the Lord for the first time at Open Door. His grace and mercy are revealed through the care and compassion you help provide. Others experience renewed faith, rediscovering the depth of God's love for them.

These life transformations are nothing short of miraculous, reminding us that when Christ rose on the third day, He opened the door to new life for everyone. All we have to do is accept this priceless gift.

Further, this beautiful act of restoration helps to end homelessness in our community, one life at a time.

This is a new season in my life as well, as Executive Director of Open Door. I pray that I can be useful in bringing God's kingdom 'on earth, as it is in Heaven' through this ministry. And I'm humbled and grateful to know I can count on your partnership in serving individuals seeking stability. Together, we can show them the way to a new life in Jesus Christ.

On behalf of everyone at Open Door, I wish you and all your loved ones a very joyful Easter season.

Grateful for you,



Reuben

GRACE SHOWN HERE. HOPE LIVES HERE. LIFE CHANGED HERE.

# YOU GAVE SCOTT A FRESH START IN RECOVERY

## "MY LIFE'S NOT OVER!"

Addiction doesn't care if you come from a well-to-do family. It doesn't care that you have a wife and children, a job, a home. Given time, it will rob you of all those advantages. Scott learned that the hard way. At 55, he had been to outpatient rehab twice. "I faked my way through the whole thing," he admits. "I kept drinking."

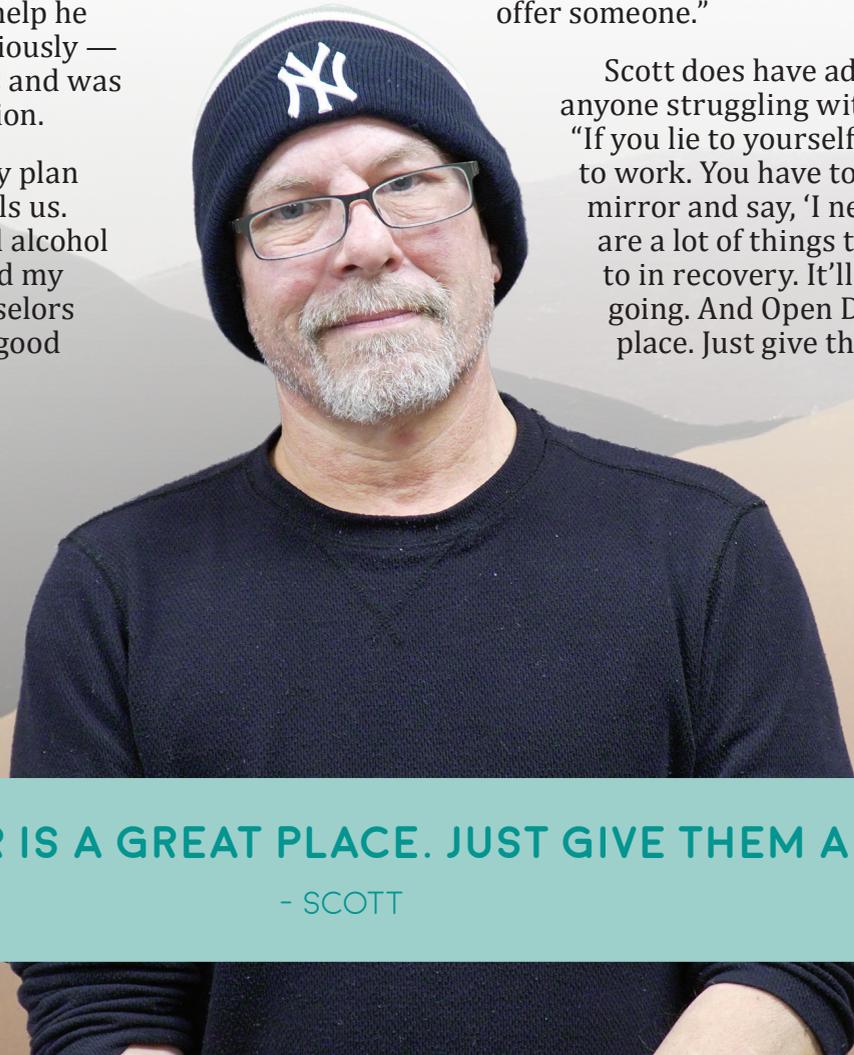
Then, Scott says, "I hit rock bottom. I lost everything: family, marriage, job, personal belongings, friendships. I became homeless. I was on the streets. I was scared. Being homeless definitely opened my eyes." Finally ready to accept the help he needed — and to take it seriously — he contacted social services and was referred to Open Door Mission.

"I didn't have a recovery plan when I came here," Scott tells us. "They had me do a drug and alcohol assessment, and that started my recovery journey. The counselors have all been great — very good people. It feels like family."

Scott loves the relationships he's made at the Mission and the programs he's a part of. His days are spent in classes, with his counselor or LifePath coach, in AA meetings or helping out at the Mission. "I volunteer any way I can," he says, "in the kitchen, at the front desk, doing laundry."

Five months sober, Scott feels good and is working toward a stable, satisfying future. "My life's not over. I look forward to getting my own apartment, getting a vehicle. I'd like to get a job again, and I'd like to have a relationship. It's been a long time since I had anything to offer someone."

Scott does have advice to offer anyone struggling with addiction. "If you lie to yourself, it's not going to work. You have to look in the mirror and say, 'I need help.' There are a lot of things to look forward to in recovery. It'll keep you going. And Open Door is a great place. Just give them a call."



"...OPEN DOOR IS A GREAT PLACE. JUST GIVE THEM A CALL."

- SCOTT

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# THREE NEW PROJECTS SERVE COUNTLESS NEIGHBORS

As the new year unfolds, Open Door Mission is committed to serving more people in the Greater Glens Falls area. Director of Development, Lorin Crider, outlines three important projects at the Mission that will benefit individuals in need for years to come.

These three projects will extend Open Door Mission's outreach to our neighbors in need, starting conversations about other ways we can serve them. "It enables us to be preventive," Lorin says. "Can we prevent another crisis, losing a job, homelessness? We want to do that."

Lorin continues, "We're grateful to our donors. The laundry area was funded by a couple of places locally. But we are still looking for the mental health clinic and the library and chapel project to be completed, and we could not do this without our donors. It's the only way to get this done, and it's for the good of all the community."

**For more information on how you can get involved or give to these projects, please contact Lorin Crider at 518-741-8394**

## MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC

"It can take four to six months to get into the mental health care system. Our onsite mental health clinic will fast-track the process to get folks screened, hooked up with a resource advocate and connected with the care they need," Lorin tell us. "They're onsite, connected with their case manager, LifePath coach or a resource advocate, and we can immediately transfer them into the process of getting mental health care."

## LIBRARY AND CHAPEL PROJECT

A welcoming library invites curiosity, dignity and self-directed growth. The chapel creates space for worship services and small groups fostering belonging, accountability and mutual support. "Together they support healing of the mind, body and spirit by providing an environment where guests can rest, heal and renew," Lorin says.

## LAUNDRY ROOM RENOVATION

Lorin explains how something as simple as having clean clothes impacts a person's dignity and stability. "We have folks in our community who can't afford to go to a laundromat. We want them to be able to do their laundry here, so they can go to work and to school and not be embarrassed about the way they look or smell. It seems like a small thing, but it really gives people their life back."



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