

NEWSLETTER

FALL 2025

YOU are 
a blessing!

INSIDE: Cody shares
how your support gives
him hope.



DON'T MISS...

2 Take action against hunger!

3 "Oliver Gospel helped me see
who I really am."

4 Find a bargain, bless a life!

“Oliver Gospel helped me see who I really am when I didn’t even see it.”



“I had my doubts spiritually, but I held onto faith in the corner of my heart.”

As the youngest of six kids, Cody grew up in a stressful environment. His father would often get drunk and be abusive toward him. As a result, he tried to get away from his father’s influence. “But he put his mark on me mentally,” he says.

To try to avoid the emotional pain he carried from childhood, Cody turned to substances... and eventually became dependent on them.

“For a time, I had my own place,” he recalls. “But I squandered my inheritance... put it to ill use... and lost my apartment.”



For a time he experienced homelessness. As Cody slept on the streets, he noticed he was sleeping across from Oliver Gospel. “It was like I found a missing piece in my life. I knew I had to try coming here.”

The day he walked into Oliver Gospel, everything changed for Cody.

Cody joined our 30-day Refresh program, which lived up to its name. “Knowing that I had some place to go at night, that I could start over in a sense, was very refreshing.”

He says the faith-based environment at Oliver Gospel helped his healing journey tremendously.

Cody is now working full-time as a cook and hopes to find a place of his own someday. He has also worked through his feelings toward his father and has come to peace with his experiences growing up. “I

don’t hold it against him now. I’m not angry at him. It’s been freeing in ways I can’t comprehend.”

Your gifts are bearing fruit in the lives of people like Cody. Now, his heart is full of hope this fall... thanks to your kindness!

“Since coming to Oliver Gospel, I’m more capable of sorting out my feelings and powering through the troubles that come with my life.”



Hearts and lives are full... thanks to YOU!



A Message from KYLE HARDING

As the seasons change, I'm reminded of Jesus' words to His disciples: ***"The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few."*** As one of our most devoted "workers," your support and care for our neighbors experiencing hunger and homelessness is a powerful source of hope. For the people who come to us for help. For our staff... and for me personally!

This month, you have a special opportunity to make a difference for our struggling neighbors. September is Hunger Action Month – and we're inviting you to provide 30 meals over 30 days for our hungry guests. It's a meaningful way you can be a force for change here in the Midlands.

In September alone, we're preparing to serve 8,033

meals – and more in the weeks leading up to Thanksgiving. Your support will help provide these life-changing meals that fill bellies with nourishment... and fill lives with hope.

Just read how your generous gifts are bearing fruit in Cody's life, whose story is on Page 3. He is looking forward to a more hope-filled future – because of the dedication of "workers" like you!

Thank you for investing in the lives of more people like Cody during Hunger Action Month and throughout the fall season!

Kyle Harding, Executive Director

Oliver Gospel Roastery is headed back to the State Fair in October!



We're excited to announce that this year, we'll not only be selling our signature coffee, but also serving in the iconic Cookie Kitchen! Here's how you can help:

- Stop by for a coffee or cookie – every purchase supports life-changing programs.
- Volunteer individually or with your company to serve with purpose.
- Share the news with friends, family, your church or coworkers.

We'd love for you to be part of this impactful opportunity to spread the word about Oliver Gospel and the work happening right here in the Midlands. The State Fair runs October 8-19, and we will be out there every day!





SEPTEMBER SPOTLIGHT: HUNGER ACTION MONTH

8,033

Meals Needed by Sept. 30!

September is Hunger Action Month! Join our community in this month-long movement to fight hunger... and TAKE ACTION to help even more neighbors experiencing hunger who we'll welcome this fall.



Sign up to serve a meal



Donate canned goods



Pray for others



Invite others to join you

For just \$3.65, YOU can provide a nourishing meal to end someone's hunger. Send your gift today OR online at **olivergospel.org**.

Scan to take action now!



FIND A BARGAIN BLESS A LIFE!

When you make a donation or shop at Oliver Gospel Thrift, you're blessing others in so many ways!

Our impoverished neighbors find well-priced necessities. Our program guests receive on-the-job training. And thrift store proceeds directly support our ministry that uplifts and transforms our neighbors experiencing homelessness and hunger.



Shop or drop off your donations at 10012 Two Notch Road in Columbia, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

For more information, contact us at ☎ (803) 865-8292 or ✉ thrift@olivergospel.org.



JOIN US IN CELEBRATING HEALING & HOPE!



The road to recovery is long and challenging, but for many men at our Men's Center, it's also a road to lasting transformation. At Oliver Gospel, we walk alongside unhoused

men battling addiction – offering Christ-centered, holistic care that heals the spiritual, emotional, mental and physical wounds that fuel addiction.

This National Recovery Month, we celebrate the incredible progress of the men in our recovery program and the powerful work God is doing in their lives. Through one-on-one life coaching, career readiness training and purposeful activities, they're finding freedom, purpose and hope.

Your support helps break the cycle of addiction and gives more men the opportunity to build sober, stable and thriving futures. To meet these courageous men and hear their stories of healing, visit olivergospel.org/menscenter.

INVEST IN SAVING LIVES!

Make a lasting impact for our neighbors in need... while experiencing benefits for you and your family! Don't forget about these special giving opportunities before the year ends.

IRA Charitable Rollover

Are you 73 or older? If so, you can save on taxes while meeting your IRA's Required Minimum Distribution! A gift from your IRA is considered a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD), so it's not taxable income.

Donor-Advised Funds (DAF)

A DAF acts as a charity savings account that you can use to send money to Oliver Gospel. If you put money in today, you'll get a tax deduction for 2025. The money sits in the fund and can grow tax-free!

For more information, please contact Nicholas Charalambous, Major Gifts Officer, at (803) 254-6470, ext. 1002 or nicholas.charalambous@olivergospel.org.

** This material is not intended as legal, tax or financial advice. Please consult your own attorney, CPA or advisor for personalized guidance.

