

**G**od is obviously taking care of him. A few months ago Maurice had a rupture in his abdomen. He went to a hospital emergency room in pain, needing surgery.

When people without money or health insurance need urgent medical care in the city there is little help available, except possibly a bandage and a list of busy doctors to call and see if any will help.

That's the way it is if you have no money or insurance and you get seriously ill. You usually have to live with the pain. Add to this the results of broken families, high unemployment, crime, drugs and rampant violence and you have desperate times for many.

No wonder drug use is an attractive escape from misery ....until it takes its terrible toll.

And no wonder crime can be seen as an expected way of getting by.

We were able to help Maurice. A doctor on the board of **Hope Street** heard about Maurice and performed a complete surgery for him, free of charge.

Maurice is doing fine and will continue to do well in the future. He still has his work skills and will find a better paying job. Relationships with his family are building up again too.

Maurice is blessed. Like other **Hope Street** graduates he is ready to pass on his faith in Jesus Christ to others in the city living desperate lives. Together, their influence and service will change one household after another.

They have the compassion because they were once stuck in despair and they know the way out.

Maurice will be an influence for good and provide the only lasting answer to overcome the poverty of our city....faith in Jesus Christ. Everyone who trusts Jesus Christ is never disappointed. He provides!



**But Maurice and others would not have gotten this far without you playing your part.**

**T**hat's because when Maurice first came to Hope Street he had no money or job.

***Normally we expect residents to pay a portion of their rent. It is part of the "hand up, not a hand-out" responsibility training we follow.***

But Maurice came to us at a good time. We had money in our Hope Fund to provide for him for a couple of months until he found a job. When this fund is empty we often turn people away. That means sending them back out on the street to care for themselves as best they can at a vulnerable time in their life.

Sometimes I cannot bear to do this. So I get on the phone and call some of our friends and ask them to send some money so we can keep someone here.

***So this is an appeal to you today to help keep the Hope Fund full and ready. Your gift will allow us to say "Yes" to someone who we feel God has brought to us.***

Thank you. Thank you for your partnership. Thank you for reading this letter and thank you for standing with us, supporting our work to care for the hurting in our city. There are many joys watching lives change. God is in this, so we remain hopeful and rejoice.

God bless!

Scott  
Pastor, Hope Street

P.S. Please come and see us sometime. Worship is on Sunday nights at 6 or Wednesday morning at 9. Or just stop in. If you can send a gift it will be most welcome. We will use it to provide a place where God turns lives around and makes them strong and ready to go and pass on hope and confidence in a dark and hopeless place.

Please join with us and share in the excitement of overcoming a huge problem that grips thousands of people by seeing the magnificent God of the universe at work in people.

*(Please see over)*

**God invites us to care for those in our city facing injustice, oppression and poverty.**

6 “Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke?”

7 Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter - when you see the naked, to clothe him, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?

8 Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the LORD will be your rear guard.

9 Then you will call, and the LORD will answer; you will cry for help, and he will say: Here am I.

“If you do away with the yoke of oppression, with the pointing finger and malicious talk, 10 and if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday.

Isaiah 58: 6-10

*If you'd like to send a gift to Hope Street, and we hope you do, please return this panel below. Thank you.*

## A Gift for Hope

**Yes Scott**, I'd like to be part of Hope Street and see graduates like Maurice live out their passion to bring hope to thousands of people in the City of Milwaukee. I know it is not an overnight solution. But loving people never fails!

I also want to see the **Hope Fund** fully funded so those with no money or job when they come to **Hope Street** can be welcomed in and stay for a while before finding work.

I've enclosed a gift of  \$15  25  \$50  \$100  \$250  
\$\_\_\_\_\_ to help as many as possible.

I want to commit to supporting Hope Street regularly. I will send a gift —  
 Every month  Four times a year  Every year

I'd like to get involved with Hope Street as a volunteer. Please call me: \_\_\_\_\_

Please update your name and address if necessary.



**Gifts to Hope Street** are tax deductible, as allowed by law. **Please make checks payable to Hope Street.**

To donate using your credit card, please complete below:

Charge my  VISA  Mastercard

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_. Expiration date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

April 22, 2005

### *Dear friend of the oppressed in our city:*

I believe our neighbors, living within a few yards of **Hope Street**, face more danger and evil than most other places in the world, including Iraq!

Some say the problems of living poor in central city Milwaukee are impossible to fix. But that is not true. You and I together can do something about it that is good and pure and true.

Let me illustrate, first by telling you about **Maurice**.

**Maurice was a success — a family man with a wife, two children and good paying job. But within a few short years he was reduced to carrying everything he owned in a black plastic garbage bag slung over his shoulder.**

Playing with drugs on the weekend had turned into a full time passion. When he hit bottom he had two good things going for him... a memory of a relationship with God as a young man and a determination to get well again.

That determination led him to quit taking drugs. He dried out, but felt empty inside. He needed to drink that living water that only Jesus gives to satisfy the longings of an empty heart. Otherwise the downward drag of a mundane life could easily pull him down again.

He found what he needed to fill his empty heart at **Hope Street**, living with others who already knew Jesus. Now he is doing well and ready to help others he knows from first-hand experience live in misery. He says....

“I want others to know they can make a clean, new start too.”

He left **Hope Street** recently and now lives in his own apartment on the \$7 an hour he earns at work. And he is at peace, and as he says....

“It takes God to live on \$7 an hour and be happy with it.”

*See over please,*

**Hope Street**  
Restoring Broken Lives

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