

Holiday 2026

THE MIDNIGHT JOURNEY

WHERE HOPE FINDS A HOME



CHELSEA HAS
hope THIS
Christmas,
THANKS TO YOU!



DON'T MISS...

2 Share the gift of hope!

3 "I've found myself again."

4 Join our Turkey Trot!

For more information: (213) 624-9258 midnightmission.org

Sharing the gift of hope this *Christmas*

There are so many Christmas carols and stories that remind us of the joy, peace, and love of the season. What the carols don't remind us of is the fear and uncertainty that so many of our neighbors face this time of year... when the rest of the world is celebrating, but they have nowhere to turn.

Here at The Midnight 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 show compassion and remind them they are seen and deeply valued. Your gifts to provide hot meals, safe shelter, and recovery support become meaningful expressions of support 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 Chelsea, 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 Merry Christmas.

David L. Prentice

David Prentice
President & CEO



URGENT NEED: Hygiene Kits & Food Boxes

Every day, hundreds of our unhoused and food-insecure neighbors come to The Midnight Mission seeking a hot shower, a meal, and a moment of dignity.

You can help provide hygiene kits and food boxes to ensure that every weary individual and family has the essentials they need. Gather your family, friends, coworkers, or congregation and assemble hygiene kits or food boxes filled with essentials.

Hygiene Kits:

- Soap
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrush
- Comb
- Deodorant
- Shampoo
- Lotion
- Razors

Food Boxes:

- Canned Meats (Chicken, Tuna)
- Peanut Butter
- Bread
- Cereal
- Canned Fruits And Vegetables
- Fresh Produce
- Lunch Meat
- Sliced Cheese
- Rice
- Pasta
- Beans
- Bottled Water
- Small Juice/ Milk Bottles
- Snack Items

Drop off completed kits, food boxes, or loose supplies to:

The Midnight Mission, 601 S. San Pedro St., Los Angeles, CA 90014
Mon–Fri, 7 a.m.–7 p.m.

For more information, to order directly from our Amazon Wishlist, or to see additional needed items, scan the QR code or visit midnightmission.org/gifts-in-kind.



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

For our neighbors experiencing homelessness or hunger, Christmas can feel more lonely than joyful... **but YOU can share the gift of HOPE.** Just \$2.79 provides a nourishing Christmas meal – and opens the door to recovery and a fresh start this holiday season.



\$2.79
for 1 hot meal



SHARES
HELP & HOPE



That leads
to new life!

Please send your Christmas gift today!

“I’ve found
*myself
again.*”



Chelsea remembers a joyful, grounded childhood... her mornings filled with her mother’s singing and making breakfast together.

When she struggled with mental illness into adulthood, her family provided a stable foundation. “Even during the tough times, I could turn to my parents,” she shares. “Their doors were always open.”

After her father died, Chelsea’s foundation began to crumble. A few years later, her mother passed away, too. Without her parents’ support, Chelsea stopped taking her medications. “I felt hopeless, and I distanced myself from everyone, including my children,” she admits.

To soothe her grief, Chelsea gravitated to substances – and addiction took hold. She began experiencing homelessness and even found herself living on Skid Row. “I was confused, lost, and just... stuck.”

Then, Chelsea discovered The Midnight Mission. For days, she stood outside our doors, afraid to ask for help... until one afternoon, when a staff member came outside to introduce herself. That conversation changed everything for Chelsea – she agreed to commit herself to recovery.

Many months into TMM’s Healthy Living Program, Chelsea is staying sober. She’s also found employment, is meeting regularly with a 12-step sponsor, and with

the guidance of our staff, is beginning to search for a place of her own. Her favorite class at TMM, Celebrate Recovery, gives her a space to honestly process her past pain.

“The most important concept I’ve learned is integrity,” Chelsea says with a confident smile. “And finding that within myself brought me back to sanity.” While at TMM, she also discovered a new talent: screenwriting! She’s already completed three episodes of an original project.

“I was given the opportunity to
learn that things can get better.”

Looking to the future, Chelsea is focused on one main goal: providing a stable, happy home for her children. “I can’t wait to be in my own kitchen. I’m excited to cook! I’m thankful for the simple things.”

This holiday season, Chelsea is experiencing the gifts of peace and hope for a brighter future. Thank you for helping to make her new beginning possible! “I have a new sense of accomplishment: I know where I want to go and what I want to do. I’m so grateful to TMM for helping me find myself again!”

Invest in saving lives!

3 Tax-Wise Ways to Help Before Year-End

As you consider your year-end giving, there may be ways to help provide meals, shelter, recovery, and hope beyond writing a check.



Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA

If you are age 70½ or older, you may be able to make a gift directly from your IRA to The Midnight Mission. For donors who must take Required Minimum Distributions, a QCD may also count toward that requirement while keeping the gift out of taxable income.

Donor-Advised Fund Grant

If you have a donor-advised fund, you can recommend a grant to TMM and help provide immediate care for neighbors in need. Many donors use their DAFs for year-end giving because the funds have already been set aside for charitable purposes.

Appreciated Stock

A gift of appreciated stock may allow you to make a larger impact while avoiding capital gains tax on the appreciated value.

For more information, please contact
Valerie Lord at vlord@midnightmission.org
or (213) 624-9258, ext. 1262.

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

Run With Purpose:



UAE-USA United Presents TURKEY TROT LOS ANGELES

When: Thursday, November 26, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. PST

Where: Los Angeles City Hall, 200 N Spring St,
Los Angeles, CA 90012



This Thanksgiving, make a meaningful impact by joining Turkey Trot Los Angeles in support of The Midnight Mission. Instead of just running off your holiday meal, run to provide one for thousands of individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

With the generous support of our Gratitude Sponsor, UAE-USA United, and our incredible community, your participation has the power to change lives.

Whether you do the 5K, 10K, 1 Mile Dog Jog, kids' Widdle Wobble run, or participate virtually, every step brings hope to neighbors in need.

Start your holiday by giving back and making memories... then enjoy your Thanksgiving feast knowing you've already made a difference.

For more information or to register, visit midnightmission.org/turkey-trot.

