



Contact: Gary Porter  
Communications Manager  
724-222-8530 ext. 236  
84 West Wheeling St.  
Washington, PA 15301

*February 2, 2021*

## Sweet Sunday at Home

City Mission's Sweet Sunday at Home Dessert Festival presented by Realty One Group Gold Standard this year will mark the 27<sup>th</sup> year of the event and the first time it will be conducted virtually, with sweets delivered to your door on Sunday February 28<sup>th</sup>. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, it will look quite a bit different than it has in past years, but it will still have all the fun and excitement that you have come to know and love from Sweet Sunday.

"Although Sweet Sunday will be very different this year, the need remains the same," said City Mission President/CEO Dean Gartland. "This is a critical time of year because of the Pandemic and the need for hope is greater than ever."

"This year, we're bringing Sweet Sunday to everyone's homes," explained City Mission Event Coordinator, Katie Mason. "It starts on February 15 and culminates on Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup> with delivery to your door. You can start early to order your sweets boxes, bid on silent auctions, and buy raffle tickets for your favorite baskets, the Wreath of Wealth, and a custom dollhouse!"

You can participate in the event online at: [www.citymission.org/support/sweet-sunday](http://www.citymission.org/support/sweet-sunday). All sweets ordered between February 15 and February 27 will be delivered to your home on Sunday, February 28. Sweets ordered on the 28<sup>th</sup> will be delivered on Monday, March 1 along with auction prizes. You must live within a 30-mile radius of the Mission to have any sweets or items delivered to your home. All proceeds benefit City Mission's life-changing programs.

"For years, people have loved Sweet Sunday," said Chief Development Officer Dr. Sally Mounts. "It's a fun family event at a reasonable price point. We're doing everything we can to transfer that fun spirit to a virtual/at-your-door delivery event. And it will be so easy to access. Just go to our website, click on the Sweet Sunday tab, and get connected to wonderful, delicious sweets and fun auctions."

The Mission will also host an exciting Facebook Live event on Sunday, February 28.

"You'll get front row seats to an exclusive concert by Scott Blasey of the Clarks," Mason explained. "The sweets will also be delivered right to your door, along with a special surprise bag full of goodies, including your program, information on voting for your favorite sweets, kids' activities, and gifts from our sponsors!"

Creating an online event that captures the fun and excitement of Sweet Sunday was no easy task, and for Mason, who joined City Mission's staff in May, this was her first time ever planning the Mission's largest yearly fundraiser. But she remembers attending the very first Sweet Sunday with her Dad, who passed away 21 years ago. "They are some of my most cherished memories with him," she said. "I am honored to be working alongside amazing people to create an event that encompasses the essence of Sweet Sunday while maintaining low-risk of spread during the pandemic."

"My favorite part of Sweet Sunday is the basket auctions," said Mounts. "It's always been so much fun to see the glittering baskets lined up, waiting for tickets. We're having the same auction, only this year, it's online. And I get two whole weeks to look at the pictures, read the descriptions, and decide what baskets to put my tickets in!"

“This will certainly be a different Sweet Sunday than I’m used to,” added Gartland. “However, I’m really looking forward to connecting online with first-time Sweet Sunday supporters. And I’m really looking forward to sharing in all the joy and excitement of this year’s event.”

Please go to [www.citymission.org](http://www.citymission.org) for more details about the event or contact Katie Mason at [kmason@citymission.org](mailto:kmason@citymission.org).

**About City Mission:** For over 75 years, City Mission has sheltered, healed, and restored the homeless to independent living—without discrimination. City Mission’s comprehensive program addresses both short-term needs like food and shelter, and long-term needs, including drug and alcohol counseling, mental health and medical treatment, legal aid, and employment training. City Mission’s goal is to help each man, woman, mother with children, or veteran who walks through our doors to become a healthy, productive member of society. With your help, we can help our residents renew their lives.