

Paul's Ponderings

Psalm 23:6 says, "Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever."

Did you notice the first word, "surely?" David didn't say, "maybe" he said, "surely." When a sentence begins with surely, it is used to emphasize the speaker's firm belief that what they are saying is true and without any doubt of this.

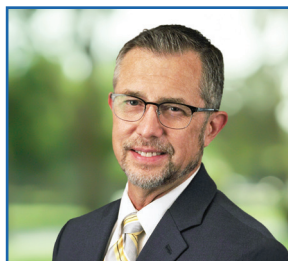
God is good. In fact, the word "gospel" means good news. All throughout the Bible, we see of God's goodness. We see goodness in grace, which is God giving us what we don't deserve; and in His mercy, which is God not giving us what we do deserve (punishment).

These are God's promises, despite our doubt, rebellion and stubbornness, His goodness follows us throughout our life. I think this is more of a blessing than we realize.

Goodness

Too often, when someone comes to us for help, they don't feel that they deserve God's goodness. However, as they begin to realize they are accepted and unconditionally loved, it leads to transformation. That transformation leads to a new life in Christ, then to family restoration and next they become sent ones. What a privilege that we have that we are a part of God's handiwork on earth! At City Rescue Mission, we are privileged that you are a partner with us in this work.

As you continue your faithful support you are part of this process of life change and disciple-making. God honors that, and we are so grateful for you and thank God for you daily.



Paul Stasi
Executive Director

Do your loved ones share your values?

If you're holding this bulletin, you're most likely someone who understands how to give generously and with purpose. Your connection with City Rescue Mission reveals you've taken the time to align your giving with your biblical values. Do your kids and grandkids know how to do the same? Here are two ways you can transfer your values to the next generation:



1. Write it down. We pick up messages through subtle or unspoken cues, but the clearest way to communicate one's thoughts is to put them in writing. Compose letters for your loved ones that share personal stories, lessons you've learned, and loving words that explain how you feel about them. You could also draft an ethical will – a personal, heartfelt letter that accompanies your legacy plan. Be clear about what you want them to know.

2. Collaborate missionally. Do you volunteer time with a cause you're passionate about? Invite them into an afternoon of service together. By demonstrating your personal values in action, they'll have a roadmap to do the same.

Please contact Angela Washington at (904) 421-5147 or awashington@crmjax.org.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

City Rescue Mission is in need of the following:

- ❑ Loading dock ramp - \$15,000
- ❑ White twin sheet sets and pillows
- ❑ White towels and washcloths
- ❑ Travel size shampoo, conditioner, and body wash
- ❑ Bus passes - 3 day passes - \$12/7 day passes - \$20
- ❑ White, large draw string laundry bags for student use (120)
- ❑ Gently used or new furniture, clothing, home goods, books and more for the CRM Thrift Store
- ❑ Replacement of Dental Clinic flooring: Cost \$15,000.
1 gift of \$15,000, 2 gifts of \$7,500, or 3 gifts of \$3,000
- ❑ Replacement of 4th floor flooring in offices and classrooms: Cost \$42,000 1 gift of \$42,000, or 2 gifts of \$21,000, or 4 gifts of \$10,500 or 8 gifts of \$5,250
- ❑ Five adult bicycles with wide seats

Urgent Need

Contact Angela A. Washington at (904) 421-5147 or awashington@crmjax.org

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New Life NEWS

JUNE 2023

TONY

When Tony suffered a debilitating stroke at just 37 years old, he felt his life was over. Drugs were a way for him to deal with the pain, but Tony soon realized he needed long term recovery, healing and hope. Now, because of friends like you who support City Rescue Mission, Tony feels like a new creation.

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TONY - I Feel Like A New Creation

Tony was one of six children raised by his single mother and his grandmother. He didn't have a lot of supervision growing up and was often left to fend for himself – so he turned to the streets.

"I got involved with the wrong crowd. I was just trying to fit in, but I saw and experienced a lot of hard things. My lifestyle led to drug addiction."

Despite his difficult childhood and struggles with addiction, Tony got a job and was able to support himself. At just 37 years old he had a stroke. He was no longer able to care for himself. The loss of independence took an emotional toll on Tony.

"It felt like I lost part of myself, and I was grieving that. It was painful, and I thought drugs would take away the pain." Tony's drug use escalated as he tried to self-medicate,

and he became homeless. He had been to City Rescue Mission before, so when he needed help and hope, it was an easy decision.

"I knew the Mission was where I needed to go to find myself

again and get closer to the Lord. I was spiritually lost and needed refuge. They welcomed me without judgment."

Tony joined our recovery program and began attending classes, counseling, chapel services and Bible studies. He started serving as part of our housekeeping team. Our staff and other guests gave him a support network of accountability to make sure he attended his doctor's appointments, counseling sessions and classes. With their support, Tony overcame his addiction, began to heal, and

got his life back in order. Now, Tony is excited about his future. His family is proud of him. He's saving money and is looking forward to living independently again.

Tony's grateful to the Mission for opening the door to him again. Through your faithful prayers and financial support, Tony's life has been transformed.



"Now I look in the mirror and like what I see. I feel like a new creation. I have hope."



THANK YOU FOR CELEBRATING 77 YEARS OF MAKING A DIFFERENCE WITH US AT THE

Difference Makers Banquet

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to our sponsors!



It was a spectacular evening as we gathered at the Southbank Hotel on the Riverwalk. Because of you, we celebrated 77 years of *Making a Difference* in our community. We will continue on our mission of helping those in need through the love and compassion of Jesus Christ.

If you were unable to attend the banquet, we ask for your prayerful consideration in supporting our mission to help those in need. For more information on how you can help, please contact Angela Washington at (904) 421-5147 or Awashington@crmjax.org.



City Rescue Mission's 15th Annual Champion's Challenge

TPC SAWGRASS STADIUM COURSE

AUGUST 28, 2023
12:30 P.M. SHOTGUN START

PLAY GOLF FOR A CAUSE!

Enjoy a day of golf at the iconic TPC Sawgrass Stadium Course in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL and help transform the lives of those experiencing homelessness, hardship, and addiction right here on the First Coast.

Each registered player will enjoy a full afternoon of golf, complete with lunch, dinner, award ceremony, golfer swag bag, and silent and live auctions in the beautiful TPC Sawgrass Clubhouse.

Registration fees include on-course concessions, bag tags, and all of your forecaddie gratuities and golf fees!

Sign up as a team (4 players), an individual player or become a sponsor of this event!

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor or to register to participate, contact Angela Washington at (904) 421-5147 or CRMDevelopment@crmjax.org.



GOLF COMMITTEE

We are looking for those who would be willing to serve on our Golf Committee for this year's golf Champion's Challenge.



SILENT AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED!

Do you own a business and could donate items for our Golf Silent Auction? We would greatly appreciate your help to make this year's Golf outing a success.

