

## Paul's Ponderings

During this season, one of the verses we often hear is "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom His favor rests," Luke 2:14. But, what is peace?



When we think of peace, we often think in the temporal; meaning a lack of war, yet Jesus said that in the end times there will be wars and rumors of wars. Matthew 24:6-13. So, how can we have peace, but also wars and rumors of wars?

If we look at the 23rd Psalm, we see, "You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies," and, "even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me." So, even during those dark times, our most horrible struggles, we can have peace.

When people come to City Rescue Mission for help, they frequently have *never* experienced peace. This is due to growing up without safety and security, or in a chaotic family. It could be from being on the street and always needing to watch their back, or they may be living in fear, shame, anger, or despair. This all creates anxiety, a lack of trust, and hopelessness.

When they come to us and experience peace, sometimes for the first time, they have a tough time dealing with it as they have not experienced it in the past. There is a famous saying, "no Jesus, no peace: know Jesus, know peace, because peace is a person".

Our desire is to help those in need to experience the Prince of Peace, so they can have that shalom, which is Hebrew for peace, harmony, wholeness, completeness. In other words, wholeness and completeness cannot be achieved without shalom-peace.

I thank you for your faithfulness in supporting the Mission over the years so we can truly be messengers of peace. When people experience peace through us, the Lord is crediting you for your faithful giving. Have you been blessed this year?

Please consider an extra gift at this year's end so more people may truly know peace because they know Jesus.

May you and your family be blessed this Christmas Season!



*Paul*

## THE OPPOSITE OF HOGWASH

During the 1600s, potters used a clay called "pygg" to create jars that held spare change (known as "pygg pots"). By the 19th century, these were shaped like pigs and the "piggy bank" was born.



Donor-Advised Funds (DAF) are special piggy banks that securely hold your money until you are ready to grant funds as a charitable gift. People love DAFs because they are simple, flexible, and generational. To bless a charity like CRM, you simply contribute to your DAF and distribute gifts when you are ready to give. While DAFs are irrevocable, the actual account can be easily transferred to your children, carrying on a legacy of generosity.

*For the full version of this article, request a FREE copy of "The Piggy Bank that Changes Lives" by contacting Angela Washington at (904) 421-5147 or awashington@crmjax.org. Bless your family today with a God-honoring Will at christianwill.org/crm.*

## WE NEED YOUR HELP

City Rescue Mission is in need of the following items:

- Add a house - Homes of Hope - \$60,000
- New roof and steeple repair on chapel - \$55,000
- Fencing for McDuff Campus - \$50,000
- Men's LifeBuilders Dorm Fire Alarm System - \$25,000
- Updated Camera System for Men's Dorm on McDuff Campus - \$10,000
- White twin sheet sets and pillows
- White towels and washcloths
- Travel size shampoo and conditioner
- Bus passes - 3 Day Passes- \$12/7 Day Passes - \$20
- NIV Large Print Life Application Study Bibles (75)
- Comforters for Queen (15) and Twin (5) for Homes of Hope
- New or gently-used clothing, jewelry, and household goods for CRM

Thrift Store

## STAY CONNECTED



CITY RESCUE MISSION

CRMjax.org



Please contact Angela Washington for more information at (904) 421-4147 or awashington@crmjax.org.

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CITY RESCUE MISSION

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426 McDuff Ave. S., Jacksonville, FL 32254 Phone (904) 387-HELP (4357) Fax (904) 387-9377 www.CRMJAX.org

PROVIDING HOPE, HEALING AND CHANGE SINCE 1946

CRM exists to transform the lives of those experiencing homelessness, hardships and addiction through the love and compassion of Jesus Christ.

# Back to Being Me - Pandora's Story

I started drinking at the age of 14. After 2 failed marriages, I was a raging alcoholic and I had experimented with powdered cocaine and acid. As my addictions progressed, crack cocaine took a hold of my life and I was a highly functioning addict, on and off, for 30 years.

With my addictions, I had to work for money. This led me to do a lot of things that I did not like to do, but I liked managing the escort service. This gave me the money to pay for my groceries, housing, and my addictions. My family knew that I was an addict, but they didn't want to admit it. My mother worked for a rehabilitation center and had me admitted, but since I didn't do it on my own, it didn't work for me. I felt like I was okay because I was so addicted at that time that I thought I was functioning properly.

My profession led to me being in and out of jail, which is where I met a counselor from CRM. She would visit the jail to teach drug rehabilitation classes and she always told me "Pandora, if you ever want to turn straight, come to the City Rescue Mission." After 30 years of addiction, I was sick and tired of being sick and tired. I was too old to live that life, so I called her and came to CRM five years ago. After graduating LifeBuilders, I moved into the Homes of Hope on the McDuff Campus and I've been here ever since. If not for CRM, I would be dead. Coming to the Mission has changed the way that I see myself. I am back to being me. I don't look in the mirror and see an addict anymore. The Mission has given me the tools to stay clean because I had tried and I couldn't do it on my own.

I thank City Rescue Mission for giving me my life back. Everyone here is so wonderful and they never ask for anything in return. That's the beauty of the City Rescue Mission.



## WE ARE OPEN!

**CRM**  
THRIFT STORE

  
**CHARIS CAFE**  
CITY RESCUE MISSION



The GRAND OPENING of CRM Thrift Store and Charis Cafe was held on Wednesday, November 17. Thank you to everyone that joined us for this exciting day!

CRM has operated a thrift store location since 1964. All proceeds go directly back into the community as we help those who are hungry, experiencing homelessness, and suffering from an addiction.

THANK YOU to our Board of Directors, staff, students, volunteers, Ideal Construction, Condaxis Coffee, Village Bread and Bakery, and everyone that made the move to this location possible!



## SAVE THE DATE

**CRM**  
CITY RESCUE MISSION

### 7TH ANNUAL DIFFERENCE MAKERS BANQUET

**Thursday, February 17, 2022**  
Southbank Hotel Jacksonville Riverwalk

Featuring Guest Speaker:  
**Gordon Pennington**  
Founder, Burning Fire Media  
Former Director of Marketing, Tommy Hilfiger

Reserve your seat today!

Contact Christa Martin at (904) 421-5141 or  
cmartin@crmjax.org for more information.

**CRM**

CITY RESCUE MISSION

YOU ARE INVITED TO A  
*Christmas Banquet*  
FOR THOSE IN NEED!



**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21**

**WHERE:** CITY RESCUE MISSION'S NEW LIFE INN  
(234 W. STATE STREET, JACKSONVILLE, FL 32202)

**SCHEDULE**

**10:30 A.M. - WORSHIP SERVICE**

**11:30 A.M. - 1 P.M. - CHRISTMAS MEAL SERVED**

COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS RECOMMENDED BY THE CDC WILL BE IN PLACE DURING ALL ACTIVITIES.

## THANK YOU!



A big thank you to everyone that donated to our annual Turkey and Ham Drive.

Because of you, we are able to feed the needy and homeless throughout the holidays.

If you would like to find out other ways that you can help CRM, contact Kimberly Crockett at volunteers@crmjax.org.

## SHARING THE GOOD NEWS!



PUBLIX SUPER MARKETS  
**CHARITIES**

City Rescue Mission has received a \$20,000 grant for hunger relief from Publix Supermarkets Charities.

The money from this grant will provide much needed food assistance to those in need.

**THANK YOU, PUBLIX!**