

Paul's Ponderings

Fall is beginning! It is a time of cooler weather and everyone coming out of their houses after the long, hot summer. Fall is a time for harvesting of crops and fall festivals. It's a time of cornstalks and pumpkins. And, if you drive a little north, you could catch a glimpse of some colorful leaves on trees.



Most of all, it is the great memory of Jesus' words as found in the gospels of Luke and Matthew, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore, pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." And, then in John, "Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest." (Matthew 9:37, Luke 10:2, John 4:35).

Jesus is impressing on his followers that there is nothing more important than the harvest of souls. His "followers" are us too. He doesn't want us to be bogged down by unnecessary preparation, he just wants us to go.

Here at City Rescue Mission, we do just that. It's all about holistic life transformation. So, aside from physical assistance and recovery from life-destroying habits, it is spiritual transformation. This involves leading people to a personal belief in Jesus Christ as savior, for others, it means helping them to re-connect with Christ, and for all it is discipling to Christ-like living. This begins by creating an atmosphere of grace, peace, mercy and love. Our hope is that when someone enters our front doors, they sense a difference. As staff, we are the hands and feet of Christ, exemplifying His care and compassion to everyone who comes to us for help. It then involves individual and group counseling and classes that teach the Biblical principles of living.

As you bless CRM with your gifts and offerings, you become part of this important family-like culture where people can feel at home and where transformation happens. Your gifts are part of a cause for the Kingdom in bringing in that harvest of souls. So, for that, I say, thank you for giving to the Lord to make this important ministry possible. I ask that you also pray earnestly for us as laborers in the fields gathering this harvest, so that we do not go weary in doing good (Galatians 6:9). May God bless you.

HOW YOUR RETIREMENT ASSETS CAN CHANGE LIVES

Many people think cash gifts are the best way to bless City Rescue Mission, but did you know retirement assets and IRA proceeds are even better?



- They declare the estate tax burden for your family.
- They help you increase your impact.
- They're a wonderful way to leave a legacy.

To explore these three reasons in greater detail - request our special bulletin *The Surprising Instance Where Cash Isn't King*.



Reply with the enclosed envelope or contact Angela Washington at (904) 421-5147 or awashington@crmjax.org. To bless your family with a God-honoring Will, go to christianwill.org/crm.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

City Rescue Mission is in need of the following items:

- Replacement of windows on McDuff Admin Building - \$275,000
- Homes of Hope - \$60,000
- New roof and steeple repair on chapel - \$55,000
- Fencing for McDuff Campus - \$50,000
- Red Barn renovation - \$20,000
- Mattress replacement (32) - \$4,800
- White twin sheet sets and pillows
- White towels and washcloths
- Travel size shampoo and conditioner
- Sanitizing wipes
- Rubber flip flops
- One-way bus ticket
- Bibles (NIV) - large print



CRMjax.org



For more information, please contact Angela Washington at (904) 421-5147 or awashington@crmjax.org.

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A UNIQUE PARTNERSHIP FOR HOPE

Earlier this year, five students in CRM's LifeBuilders residential addiction recovery program, were offered a unique opportunity to become LifeBuilder Ambassadors in Downtown Jacksonville. Working closely with CRM staff as well as the Ambassador staff at Downtown Vision, Inc., Samuel, Edgar, Kyle, Stephan, and Duan are working to help keep downtown's urban core clean and safe. Because of this opportunity, they are able to use the tools they have gained at CRM and successfully work toward a victorious life with restored hope.



WHAT DOES THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE A DVI LIFEBUILDERS AMBASSADOR MEAN TO YOU?

Samuel: This means the world to me. I am able to save my money to allow for a fresh start when I complete the LifeBuilders program.

Edgar: To me, it means that I am able to represent probably the best recovery program available in Florida.

Kyle: It has allowed me to build the confidence I need to return to the real world while still being held accountable and feeling the safety and support that I came to the program for in the first place.



Edgar

Stephan: This means everything to me. It has helped me stay on the right path and continue to reach my goals.



Duan

Duan: It means a lot to me because it gives me the chance to prove that anyone can change.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART OF THIS OPPORTUNITY?

Samuel: I like the thanks and respect we get from the downtown community. I hope to become a

permanent employee for Downtown Vision.

Edgar: My favorite part of this opportunity is being able to reach out to those who need help getting off the street by giving them the resources to obtain things like ID cards, social security cards and birth certificates - to help them find work.

Kyle: My favorite part is being able to clean up and give back to the city I was raised in. I see the city through a whole different lens.

Stephan: I want to be successful in this job and am hopeful that this will lead to a permanent job with the city.

Duan: My favorite part is that I am able to make my family proud as well as being proud of myself.



Kyle

HOW DID CRM PREPARE YOU FOR THIS POSITION?

Samuel: Participating in Morning Glory every morning helped me a lot by just waking up healthy and ready to go.

Edgar: CRM prepared me by giving me the tools that I need every day to help me make better decisions and giving me this opportunity to pay it forward by helping others.

Kyle: CRM prepared me for this opportunity by providing a secure place with rules set in place that helped me get past problems and bad habits that were affecting my life. It also has helped me by holding me accountable but with enough freedom for me to make the right decisions on my own.



Samuel

Stephan: CRM gave me structure again and made me see the bigger picture. They also made me realize it takes small steps to make it and patience is everything.

Duan: CRM prepared me by teaching me patience and to always put God first. Also, that the easy way is not necessarily the best way.



Stephan

CITY RESCUE MISSION THRIFT STORE

CITY RESCUE MISSION ANNOUNCES BIG CHANGES



CRM announces new thrift store location and social enterprise venture

City Rescue Mission is excited to announce the relocation and renaming of its Recovered Treasures Thrift Store later this year.

For most of its 75 years, CRM has operated a thrift store as another means of financial support for its mission to provide hope, healing, and change for those experiencing homelessness and addiction right here on the First Coast. It has operated out of its current location for approximately 20 years. Later this year, CRM will move its thrift store to a new location at 7200 Normandy Blvd, filling a 27,000 square-foot vacancy and becoming the anchor store of this strip mall.

"We are very excited for this move. Due to the support and donations received from the community, we have simply outgrown our current space," says Paul Stasi, CRM Executive Director. "The new location will allow us to streamline operations such as donation receiving and sorting, as well as allow us to offer a more open and pleasurable shopping experience with longer hours of operation for our customers."

The new location will allow for more retail and operating space, as well as space for the new CHARIS Café, a new venture as a part of CRM's CHARIS Chocolates. The café will not only feature signature CHARIS treats such as brownies and cookies; it will also feature special blend coffees, breakfast pastries, bagels, sandwiches, and more.

In addition to the move, CRM will be renaming its thrift store to align with its current mission brand. It will drop the "Recovered Treasures" and change its moniker to City Rescue Mission Thrift Store.

CRM is looking to move into the new location in the Fall of this year. Updates will be posted on the City Rescue Mission and Thrift Store Facebook pages.



Thank you everyone who participated in the
13th Annual Champion's Challenge
Golf Tournament on August 30, 2021
 at the beautiful TPC Sawgrass!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR 2021 SPONSORS



Don't miss out on the
 14th Annual Champion's Challenge
 Golf Tournament on Monday, August 29, 2022!
 Email awashington@crmjax.org to sign up now.