

Paul's Ponderings

Spring is always a wonderful time to remember our new life in Christ. In 2 Corinthians 5:17, it says, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" This is the message that we want to communicate to those who come to us for help.



We are a new creation in Christ! Too often it is hard for them to really understand that their old person is gone, and they are now a new person.

That is true transformation through the workings of Holy Spirit. This is being born again. As we help them fully see their new royal identity in Christ, they are equipped to move into their destiny. This is such an honor and privilege. It is so exciting to see people understand something clearly at last and come to this realization.

I recently prayed with a man who had only been in our program a week and a half. He knew that he was feeling God's presence in a chapel service. He told me that he practices Islam, but he wanted to know Jesus. I had the pleasure of praying with him and he confessed Jesus as his Lord and Savior. He received a study Bible, and his counselor will be disciplining him to fully understand his new life.

It is only through your love gifts that this can continue. We are on a rescue mission. We are home missions. You make home missions possible. Please keep us in your prayers as we share this message of regeneration every day.

STRUGGLES IN YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

Are you and your loved ones on the same page about decision-making?



Here's how to get there:

- See conflict as an opportunity. Working through it leads to growth.
- Give up your way for the wise way. Their thoughts may be the wisest option. Be willing to listen.
- Consider inspiration over information. Learn how to talk about the future (even estate planning) as something more.

For more information, request our free bulletin "Can't Get on the Same Page? Here's Help" by contacting Angela Washington at (904) 421-5147 or awashington@crmjax.org.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

City Rescue Mission is in need of the following items:

- New roof and steeple repair on chapel - \$50,000
- Upgraded flooring in classrooms and offices at McDuff Campus - \$20,000
- Spray foam insulation for women's emergency services - \$10,000
- Spray foam insulation for chapel - \$10,000
- 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
- Storage bins - 16 qt/4 gallon
- White, large drawstring laundry bags for student use (120)
- Gently used or new furniture, clothing, home goods, books, and more for the CRM Thrift Store

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

STAY CONNECTED



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CITY RESCUE MISSION

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New Life NEWS

MARCH 2022

SEEING MYSELF CLEARLY

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DISHONN'S STORY

I struggled with addiction since I was 8 or 9 years old. My grandmother, who was a bootlegger, raised me so I was in the house with alcohol as long as I can remember. I started sneaking drinks and no one realized what I was doing. Because of the influence of my godparents, I knew about Jesus at an early age. Through them, I was exposed to Christianity and knew the bible. I was a faithful Christian, but after the addiction set in, first with alcohol and then with drugs, I began running from the church.

After I had children, I was in denial that I was an addict. Since I wasn't the kind of person that needed a drink as soon as I woke up in the morning, I didn't think I was addicted. I realized that I was putting drugs ahead of my children, so I got clean in 1997 from drugs and alcohol. As a single parent, my children were my focus. I didn't want to miss the opportunity to raise them and be in their lives. After a tragic event in 2006, resulting in the loss of my son, I relapsed and received a large sum of money in a lawsuit. This allowed me to purchase a house for my family, but I wasn't able to even live there. At the same time, I had warrants for my arrest due to my addiction, so I was on the run from the police. My family had to intervene and took my children in with them. My desire was to be with my children.



One day, I was talking to a friend that had been through the program at City Rescue Mission. He and I started discussing my situation and he said, "I know somewhere that you can go to get help." I was first introduced to the Mission in 2009. After talking with him, I decided to enter the program. I arrived at New Life Inn and was moved to the McDuff Campus to enter the LifeBuilders Program. As I was waiting, I decided that I wanted to leave because I didn't want to walk away from what I was used to. I spoke with one of the counselors and she told me that if I gave the Mission one night, I would want to stay and complete the program. That's exactly what happened.

Entering the Mission made me take a closer look at myself. I realized that addiction makes you self-centered. It's selfish to be on drugs and not take care of your family. CRM took me back to the place that I knew in God. We had church every night and it took me back to what I knew. The self-evaluation tools that I learned help me to this day. I'm always aware of myself - what I'm doing, what my motives are. I see myself clearly now.

I now have a beautiful relationship with my children. It's better than I could have ever imagined. I thank City Rescue Mission for being Christian-based and for giving me the truth when I didn't like it. I know that other people are struggling, and I always promote the City Rescue Mission.

SAVE THE DATES! CRM'S UPCOMING EVENTS

SPRING LIFEBUILDERS GRADUATION - FRIDAY, MARCH 25

Wayne M. Densch Chapel (426 S. McDuff Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32254)
Join us at 7 pm to celebrate the incredible men and women graduating from our LifeBuilders Program! We hope you will join us for this special night celebrating transformation and new beginnings for all of our graduates!

ON A MISSION AT MCDUFF CAMPUS - SATURDAY, APRIL 9

City Rescue Mission's McDuff Campus (426 S. McDuff Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32254)
Join us for free food, fellowship, music, resources, and more. The event is from 11 am - 2 pm.

EASTER BANQUET AT NEW LIFE INN - THURSDAY, APRIL 14

New Life Inn (234 W. State Street, Jacksonville, FL 32202)
We will be providing Easter praise and worship, along with a traditional Easter meal for the public in need on April 14. Praise and worship will begin at 10:30 am and the meal will be served from 11:30 am - 1:30 pm.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION CELEBRATION - WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20

City Rescue Mission's McDuff Campus (426 S. McDuff Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32254)
Details to follow. If you are interested in volunteering with City Rescue Mission, please contact Kimberly Crockett at (904) 421-5149 or volunteers@crmjax.org. Volunteer applications are also online at www.crmjax.org/volunteer-application/.

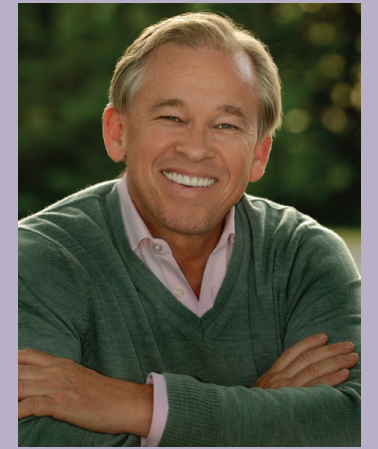
You're Invited! City Rescue Mission's 7th Annual Difference Makers Banquet

May 5, 2022

Southbank Hotel Jacksonville Riverwalk
1515 Prudential Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32207

Honoring Difference Makers:
Sue Turner, Jeannie Shouse, and Amelia Plantation Chapel

Tickets and sponsorship packages available! Reserve your seat today.
Contact Christa Martin at (904) 421-5141 or crmdevelopment@crmjax.org.



Guest Speaker:
Gordon R. Pennington,
Former Director of
Marketing for
Tommy Hilfiger

FAST FACT

CRM'S Emergency Shelter Services is a low barrier, residential homeless shelter that provides services for men, women, and children who are currently experiencing homelessness.

What is offered in Emergency Shelter Services?

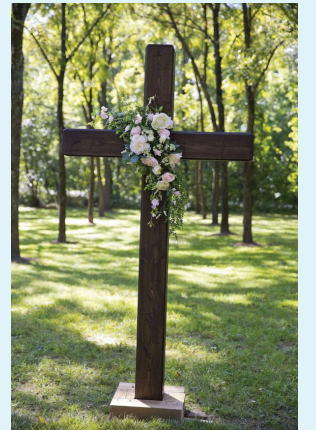
- Shelter ONLY** - Participants receive seven days of safe shelter stay, including meals, laundry, clothing, and showers.
- Overcomer's Program** - Participants have the option to receive longer term shelter services and work with a case worker to find suitable, sustainable housing that fits their individual needs

For information:
Starletha Cherry,
Manager of Emergency Shelter Services
(904) 421-5167
scherry@crmjax.org



CROSS OF HOPE

At City Rescue Mission, we work with men and women who have lost hope. But we know what can happen when these lost souls find hope! Hope begins when they realize they are not alone. We ask that you share in the joy of giving hope and help us build our Cross of Hope that demonstrates the amount of care in our community.



This Cross will be displayed at our McDuff Campus. Our hope is that having this cross at our facility will inspire those in need to help them seek our support in turning their lives around.

To donate to the Cross of Hope, contact
Angela Washington
at (904) 421-5147 or awashington@crmjax.org.