

Paul's Ponderings

With all that has happened over the past couple of years, the world today is desperate need of kindness. There are so many fears, anxieties, anger, prejudging of people's motives and creating division. We need random acts of kindness. But what is kindness?



If we look to the Hebrew word in the Bible, it is often translated as loving-kindness meaning giving of oneself fully with love and compassion. The Greek word for 'kind' means 'useful.' Therefore, kindness involves action. It begins with caring, being tenderhearted and compassionate.

KINDNESS

The perfect example of this love in action is the Good Samaritan. Because he was moved with tender compassion, he demonstrated kindness. Jesus challenges us to, "go and do likewise." Luke 10:25-37. Kindness is selfless, compassionate, and merciful. Its greatest power is revealed in the way we react or treat both our enemies, but also "the least of these" through the aforementioned qualities. Loving our neighbor; showing kindness to everyone. Kindness comes not only from a heart posture of gratitude, but also in treating one another with respect and compassion. Love, itself, is patient and kind. (1 Corinthians 13:4).

God's kindness began out of his love for us. It has been proven through Scripture. His kindness shows us how to be kind toward others. All good things come together out of God's love. The kindness we show to others grows even more as we understand God's loving-kindness toward us. The fruit of kindness is the Christlike characteristic of behaving toward others as God does. We are called to pursue righteousness and kindness (Proverbs 21:21) and be the light of the world and to love one another. CRM is that light and that good Samaritan. You are part of that light and are moved with tender compassion because you make what we are called to do possible. We thank you for your gifts and prayers that show this lovingkindness.

IS IT TIME FOR A LEGACY CHECK-UP?

THE TREASURE YOU SHOULD NEVER BURY

In 1982, Byron Preiss released a book containing 12 puzzles. If solved correctly, each puzzle would lead to a different park in a North American city where he'd buried a small treasure. To date, only three have been found.



While this modern-day treasure hunt is exciting, there's another form of sleuthing no family should ever have to do - sifting through a loved one's estate without a will. Here's how you can avoid it:

1. Create or update your will. Many people put off creating their estate plan because they think the process will be complicated, but it's usually quite simple.
2. Create a love drawer. Leaving a legacy is about more than financial inheritance. It's pulling together important documents, passwords, and even handwritten letters into one place.
3. Communicate your plans. No one likes to talk about mortality, but it's important to share your plans and intentions with family. You can clue them in to your investments, any gifts you've included to a charity like *City Rescue Mission* and the personal values that have driven your decisions.

For more information, 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:

- White twin sheet sets and pillows
- White towels and washcloths **◀ Urgent Need**
- White, large drawstring laundry bags for student use
- NIV Life Study Bibles - Large Print
- Travel size shampoo, conditioner, and body wash
- Bus passes - 3 day passes - \$12/ 7 day passes - \$20
- Storage bins - 16 qt/4 gallon
- Gently used or new furniture, clothing, home goods, books, and more for the CRM Thrift Store at 7200 Normandy Blvd.



Follow Us on Social Media



Board of Directors

Chad Perce, Chair **Mark Anderson, Vice-Chair** **Doug Milne, Secretary**

Brad Anderson	David Eure	Kendall Spencer
Shontrell Anderson	Carrie Chupp Harper	Gary Walsh
Marge Burgess	Robert Hyde	Clay Yarbrough
Tina Daniels	Ed Perez	



New Life NEWS

OCTOBER 2022



GOD WAS STILL THERE

A traumatic experience impacted Cierra's self-esteem, her relationship with God and her ability to lead a stable life. Today, thanks to your support of the Mission's faith-based guidance, she reopened her heart to the Lord, overcame her challenges and is building a bright future for herself and her daughters.

**GOD WAS STILL THERE
CIERRA'S STORY**

Page 2

**GOLF TOURNAMENT
RESERVE YOUR SPOT**

Page 3

**PAUL'S PONDERINGS
MESSAGE FROM
THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Page 4

CIERRA'S STORY: God Was Still There

At only 6 years old, Cierra's innocence was shattered by a man she looked up to and trusted. Heartsick, frightened and confused, she told no one about the abuse and buried the secret deep inside. But the painful consequences impacted her life.

As she grew into adulthood, her lack of confidence and self-esteem led to unhealthy relationships and poor choices, and she struggled to care for her two children. When she lost custody of her youngest daughter to the little girl's father, she was devastated, and she turned to substances to cope.

"I never touched drugs until then," she says. "But they numbed me and they made everything go away." They also led to incarceration.

"I did some things. I got caught. I went to jail," she says. "That's when I knew I would never get my daughter back the way I was living. I didn't know where I was going or how it was going to happen, but I knew I needed to change."

When she was released on probation, she embraced the opportunity to come to the Mission and quickly knew she had found the right place. "They welcomed me. They gave me food

and clothes. They made me feel safe," she says. And in our loving and faith-based environment, she began to build a new life.

Cierra had believed in God at a very young age, but after the trauma in her life, she feared He had left her behind. In our LifeBuilders Program, through Bible Study and spiritual guidance, she reopened her heart to the Lord and put her trust in Him. "The Mission showed me God was still there," she says. "He was just waiting on me."

Our counselors also helped her understand and heal emotionally from the abuse she'd endured, which was at the root of her life challenges, and regain her sense of self-worth. "I didn't feel like a failure anymore." With renewed confidence, she excelled in her classes, strengthened her life skills and found pleasure in her work-readiness role helping the homeless in our care.

Most important, because of her God-inspired transformation, she was reunited with her little girl. Today, Cierra has a good job, a reliable car, a mobile home and a plan for the future. "I'm going to stay sober and keep my girls happy," she says. "Because them being happy is what keeps me going."

Your generous and ongoing support allows the Mission to be a place of hope, healing and life-rebuilding for people like Cierra who are broken and struggling. "I'm thankful for the Mission because without them, I wouldn't be where I am today."

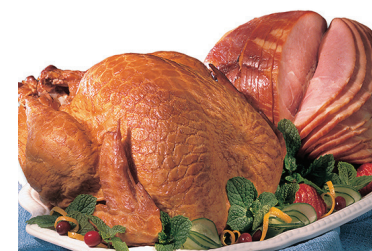


Deadline for drop off Nov. 9!!!

THANKSGIVING TURKEY AND HAM DRIVE

CRM is asking for your help to collect turkeys and hams to feed our neighbors in need this Thanksgiving. Donations can be dropped off between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday- Friday at either: New Life Inn 234 W. State Street or CRM's McDuff Campus 426 S. McDuff Avenue.

Contact Kimberly Crockett for more information. kcrockett@crmjax.org or (904) 421-5149.



PLEASE PRAY FOR US
 ✦ Please pray for our staff and their families
 ✦ Pray for the individuals in our programs
 ✦ Pray for resources and finances Thank You!!!



Special thanks to CSX for their generous gift of \$2,500 for general assistance to City Rescue Mission. Your support is greatly appreciated.

THANK YOU CSX!



THANK YOU TD Bank

City Rescue Mission has received a \$15,000 Workforce Development Grant. Helping our students prepare for the workforce is essential. We appreciate your donation!



City Rescue Mission has received a 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!

RESERVE YOUR SPOT FOR THE 2023 GOLF CHALLENGE

Lock in the date to lock in your rate.

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS:

- Title Sponsor \$25,000
- Eagle Sponsor \$15,000
- Birdie Sponsor \$10,000
- Par Sponsor \$6,000
- Beverage Cart Sponsor \$3,500
- Hole Sponsor \$750
- Team registration \$3500



CONTACT: Angela Washington at (904) 421-5147 or crmdevelopment@crmjax.org for additional information or questions about sponsorship opportunities.



The Crossroads Program at City Rescue Mission is dedicated to providing the highest quality, residential, community-based prison diversion services. We address holistic issues from an individualized, mental health perspective in a structured environment that is safe for residents and community alike. The goal is for program participants to successfully return to society as productive citizens who lead a substance-free lifestyle.

The values of the program provide the best care for our students:

- Holistic
- High Quality
- Structure
- Safe Environment
- Educational
- Supportive
- Culturally Competent
- Individualized
- Change in Thinking



ONE OF OUR CROSSROADS GRADUATES

The Crossroads approach addresses all areas of life: social, emotional, physical, and spiritual. We are committed to help our residents reach the personal growth and wholeness they desire. Confidentiality is maintained in each situation.

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

- Drug-related felony conviction or active drug court case.
- Court-ordered offenders referred from the Department of Corrections.
- Offender motivated for residential treatment and life change.
- When feasible, the offender will be screened prior to sentencing to determine appropriateness for treatment.

CONTACT Natalie Henderson (904) 421-5193 for more information.

*Every day is a Crossroads.
 Every day is a chance to change your life.
 Changing your life will change the world for the better.*