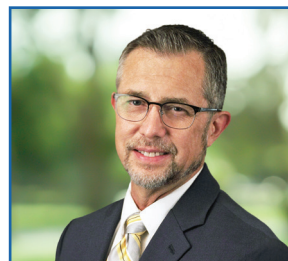


Paul's Ponderings

When we think of peace, we often think in the temporal meaning, a lack of war. We hear contestants at international competitions say, "I want world peace," but has the world ever been at peace? The first murder was within the first family, where Cain killed his own brother. I grew up in the 60s and 70s with peace signs all over. It's estimated that there has been peace for only 8% of world history. Jesus said that there will be wars and rumors of wars (Mt. 24:6-13). So, how can we have peace, but also wars and rumors of wars?



Paul Stasi
Executive Director

If we look at the 23rd Psalm, we see, "You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;" and,

PEACE

"even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me." Those who we serve at the mission have walked through dark valleys of addiction, depression, loneliness, uncertainty, and hopelessness. Many grew up without safety and security because of a chaotic family. Then, on the street, they always needed to watch their back. Others may be living in fear, shame, anger or despair.

The interesting thing about the passage above is that we are not out of the enemy's sight, rather, out of reach. The Lord prepares a table for us. So, even during those dark times... our most horrible struggles, we can have peace.

There is a famous saying, "no Jesus, no peace; know Jesus, know peace, because peace is a person." When people don't know Him, we help them to know the Prince of Peace, so they can have that true shalom, which is Hebrew for peace, harmony, wholeness, completeness. And the great thing is that you are part of bringing this peace to those we serve. Because without you, we could not pass that peace along to them.

God bless you and may you have a peace-filled year. Thank you!

NAVIGATE TAX CODES & CHANGE LIVES

Did you know the US tax code is more than 74,000 pages long? Sure, it's complicated, but there are a variety of unique and creative giving tools to help you bless a charity you love while reducing your tax burden. These tools make it easier to convert your passion for the work of CITY RESCUE MISSION into an effective, life-changing impact.



Request our free bulletin "Creative Giving Creates Greater Impact" to learn more.

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 **Urgent Need**
- White towels and washcloths
- 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
- Gently used or new furniture, clothing, home goods, books, and more for the CRM Thrift Store at 7200 Normandy Blvd.
- Flooring for the 4th floor classrooms and offices - \$40,000



Follow Us on Social Media

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New Life NEWS

JANUARY 2023



CELEBRATING CRM ALUMNI

We are proud of our alumni and their success after graduation. In this issue some of our alumni share turning points and inspiring thoughts.

ALUMNI
THOUGHTS
Page 2

BANQUET
SAVE THE DATE
Page 2

PAUL'S
PONDERINGS
MESSAGE FROM
THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Page 4

HEARTFELT WORDS FROM OUR AMAZING ALUMNI



Sherrie - At the lowest point in my life, I came to City Rescue Mission. I relapsed and had a heart attack. At that moment I finally began to understand how much God loves me and has always been there for me even when I pushed Him away. CRM is a life changing program.



Brian - I heard about CRM through a friend who was part of the LifeBuilders Program. My proudest moment was when I graduated the program.



Etta - My turning point was when I realized I didn't want to die in the streets and that I wasn't getting any younger.



Juanita - My major turning point in the program was being able to feel my mind, body and soul again after feeling lifeless.



Eric - My turning point was learning and believing how much God loves me despite my past and future sin. Also, understanding my identity and how God sees me.



Robert - My proudest moment was at graduation when I walked across the stage my grandson came up on the stage and jumped into my arms.



Stephan - My turning point was finding Christ again and getting back in touch with myself. My proudest moment was getting baptized with my son.



Andrew - A turning point was when I learned that I am loved for nothing other than being a child of God and He will never turn away from me.



FELTER - IF YOU NEED HELP, CRM IS THE BEST DECISION YOU WILL EVER MAKE.



Shelia - A friend texted me saying "You need help and God told me to give you CRM's phone number. That changed my life."



Rodney - My best advice is to just hold on and let God.

THANKSGIVING PUBLIC MEAL

THANK YOU to all our volunteers and those who donated to provide a wonderful meal, hats, shoes and other gifts for our friends!



We are so proud of you!

PRAYER & PRAISE

Thank you to our donors for your support and prayers for our students. They have many struggles, but prayer helps through it all!

STUDENT CHRISTMAS PARTY



CHRISTMAS PUBLIC MEAL

We celebrated the birth of Jesus at the Mission and gathered with our community, the "CRM Family." Everyone enjoyed a chapel service and then the delicious Christmas meal. Next, we distributed Shoeboxes of Love and other donated gifts. Our friends really appreciate what you all have done and donated to help them in their time of need. Thank You!



8th ANNUAL DIFFERENCE MAKERS BANQUET

Thursday May 4, 2023,
Southbank Hotel
CONTACT:
Angela Washington
(904) 421-5147 or
crmdevelopment@crmjax.org

Save The Date

TIM TEBOW AND HIS TEAM

Thank you for sharing with our students. Many lives were changed by your inspiring message!

