

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES

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BARN CENTER OPENING SOON

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PROVIDING *a Path of*
HOPE, REDEMPTION,
& **EMPOWERMENT**
THROUGH
Jesus Christ



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FROM THE **President's Desk**

Barn Center UPDATE

Things are really transforming here at the Rescue Mission. God is moving, and we are super excited about what is up and coming. With that being said, renovations are moving along nicely at the Barn Center, and we can't wait for you to see what we've been up to. The stalls are filling up with some unique finds, furniture, shoes, accessories, and household items. We will be posting "sneak peek" pictures on social media each week leading up to our Grand Opening (see pages 10-11).



We will be announcing the Grand Opening very soon and invite you to come and be a part of the momentous occasion. As you can see, GOD is working in a mighty way and we are expecting BIG THINGS! We know that God is using you to make this happen, and we THANK YOU! The date and time will be announced in the early spring and promoted through our Facebook page, Instagram, website, and newsletter.

Pat Chastain, *President/CEO*

GO THE EXTRA MILE TO DONATE LOCAL!

BARN CENTER

Testimony FROM THE MISSION

Changed Man's HEART

After being in the Men's Life Recovery program for one year, I will graduate on April 9th. God has done an amazing work in my life, and I want to share my story in hopes that it will encourage someone.

I was born on October 17, 1987, on an army base in Landstuhl, Germany where my dad was serving in the United States Air Force. My overall childhood was average, however, I had to deal with being a middle child, I think that has a lot to do with how I looked at life growing up. I experienced my parents favoring my younger brother. He would get away with things that I would never have gotten away with and when he did get caught, I was always blamed. I got to enjoy being in the band during middle school and high school where being part of something really brought me out of my shell. I got to compete in competitions and showcase my talents as a saxophone player. So, looking back, all in all, my childhood was not that bad.

I did not start using drugs until I was 24 years old. I started smoking synthetic marijuana and actual marijuana. That was one of the worst decisions I think that I have ever made for the simple reason it led me down a road to use and experiment with other drugs such as meth and cocaine. I led this lifestyle for the better part of 8 years, and when I was not



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make a difference **HOST A DONATION DRIVE**

Is your school, church, company, or civic group interested in hosting a food or everyday essentials drive to support the Rescue Mission in 2021?

If so, we'd love to talk to you!

When we receive these donated items we can then spend more of our financial resources on recovery care services for the men, women, and children we serve.



A **DONATION DRIVE** is a fun, fast and rewarding way to help the Rescue Mission and the men, women, and children we serve...we'd love to hear from you today!

CONTACT

Karen Kinsler

478-743-5445 ext. 404

karen@rescuemissionga.com

Five Simple Steps to Host a Drive

1. Contact us to determine the type drive and set a date (we'll supply a needs list and idea guide).
2. Organize, promote, and hold your drive event! Need printable materials to get the word out? We can provide customizable flyers and social media materials.
3. Coordinate a drop-off or pick-up time with us.
4. With your permission, have your groups picture taken so we can thank you on our social media sites.
5. Thank your supporters (and we will post our thanks as well).

NEEDED DRIVES

Food	Cleaning Supplies
Paper Goods	Baby Items
Hygiene Products	Lawncare
Linens	Underclothes
Healthcare	Clothing

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A special thank you
to George Jackson, Sr. and George Jackson, Jr.
for donating mulch for the children's playground.
We can never thank you enough
for your generosity!



Men's Division HAPPENINGS

Congratulations GRADUATES



I would like to take this time to introduce you to Frank, Jamie, Zeddrick, and Dave. These four mighty men will graduate from the Men's Life Recovery Program on April 9, 2021, and I could not be prouder of each of them. They have shown great strength and perseverance during this past year of uncertainty. The pandemic caused so many changes within our program, but these men did not waiver. They kept their faith, steadied their hands, and stayed the course, and now they will reap the fruit of finishing strong.

Each of these men has played a vital role in creating and maintaining an environment where healthy relationships with others could be pursued, nurtured, and most importantly sustained. They have shown much courage through the painful process of healing, and we look forward with great anticipation to hear about and see how they continue to allow our awesome Heavenly Father to use them to influence everyone they come into contact with.

God has taken each one of them and changed them from the inside out! I can never express how my faith grows each time I get to witness this transformation! I am simply blessed to be a witness to this and can never thank our supporters enough for your love and support. Their cardboard testimonies say it all. No longer are they defined by the mistakes of their past, but each is made new by way of Jesus Christ.

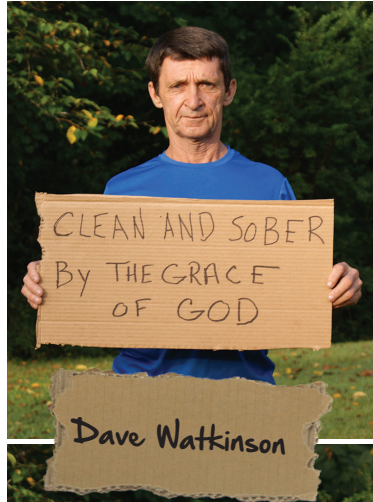
Unfortunately, due to COVID, we are unable to open graduation to the public, but we welcome you to watch via Facebook Live. Please join us in celebrating the incredible journey of these four mighty men of God. I would love for you to watch and send each graduate a word of encouragement; this would mean so much to each of them.

<https://www.facebook.com/maconrescuemission>


Jason Beck,
Vice President of Programs

CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE FOUR MEN
THAT WILL GRADUATE ON APRIL 9, 2021.

We love you and are so very proud of you!



Testimony CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

in jail, I was living on the streets. I can sit here and say that marijuana was my gateway to a life of destruction. I feel like because of the lifestyle that I once led, I missed out on important things in my life like being married and having kids. To me, at the time, drugs were more important. During my addiction, if I were to be asked what was most important to me, I would have loved to say, my family. However, that would have been a lie. I would not have even been able to say that I was important or at least I did not think I was. Again, it always came back to the drugs and how they helped me bury negative self-thoughts about myself. In the past, finding security, peace of mind, and happiness was always a challenge. I do not think that while living on the streets or being locked up, I found any of that. This is a hard reality for me to accept. To know that those things existed and were within reach, but I never reached out for them. Instead,



I continued to let my life spiral out of control. I always promised to get sober and do the right thing, however, I never kept any of those promises. I continued to let myself and my family down. During this period of my life, my family had minimal interaction with me. If I was hungry, they would feed me and that was it. They refused to give me money and even refused to let me stay at their houses because I could not be trusted. They feared that I would have drugs in their house,

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or they could lose their children because I was there. I never held any anger towards them for this, because even though I was a jacked-up individual, I understood where they were coming from.

It was not until April 3rd, 2020 that I realized my need for change. Yet again, here I was, high running the streets and still living this dangerous life. I have alienated my friends and family and I was utterly all alone. I found myself sitting in Houston County's booking area, arrested yet again, for making stupid choices. Only this time, I am facing multiple felony charges. Sitting thinking about these charges I had a realization that the drugs I was doing and the streets I was running never led me to anything good. All they ever did for me was get me into trouble and I was sick of that. I knew if I kept up with this life it would eventually lead to my death. While locked up, my dad offered to bond me out of jail with the stipulation, I would go into a recovery program. At the time, I had no desire to go into a "faith-based" recovery program. But after talking to a prior resident, I decided that this was going to be best for me in the long run. I needed a change, and the Rescue Mission program was it.

I can tell you, this has not been the easiest program to complete, but it has been worth it. Completing a program during a pandemic, with limited visitation, is not what I wanted but I do think in the end it was needed so I would have the time to focus on myself and my recovery. I cannot tell you all the thoughts I had of just leaving to go home to be with my family and putting this place in my rearview mirror, but I considered all I had done, in that I had given my life to drugs the past 8 years. If I could do that then I could give this place a chance. I mean what's 9 to 12 months up against 8 years anyway, to me it was nothing.

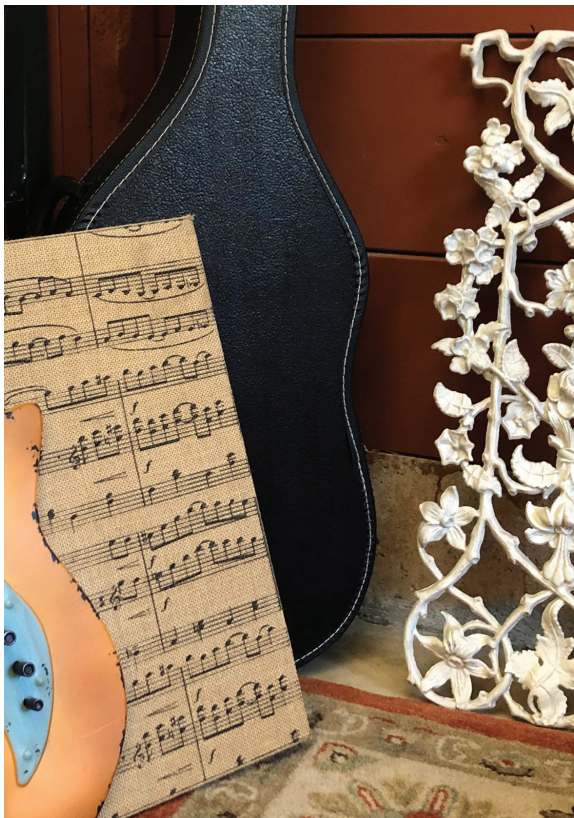
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SCENES FROM AROUND THE MISSION



BARN CENTER SNEAK PEEK





Testimony CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

Since being at the Mission, I have found out that I really do care about my family. I want to show the change I have experienced while here at The Mission by helping others that are like me and by showing them hope does exist. Something that I have learned about myself since coming to The Mission is that through God, I no longer need drugs to have a false sense of happiness when He can supply the real thing. One thing I have discovered is that nothing brings me more joy than helping someone in need and by being an example of life change brought on by the love of God. I feel God has really impacted my life since coming here. God has restored the relationships that I had let drugs destroy. I believe Jesus was a carpenter for a reason because I always see the rebuilding he does in people's lives if we just give him what I would like to say is creative control. Because of the new healthy relationships, I now have an extended family that I have gained while here. I will be forever grateful for the life in Christ I have received. To the donors and volunteers, thank you for the time and effort you put in to support this place. It means so much to so many, and without you and God, the life change that I have experienced here would not have been possible. So, thank you from this changed man's heart.



Women's Division HAPPENINGS

Happy Easter

With spring comes the awakening of God's creation and brings forth new life. I love how Easter is celebrated in the Spring because Easter also brings new life. Easter is the greatest story ever told. It is the story of the Resurrection of Jesus, and it changes everything.



In an instant, history changed forever, because where death was the result for all mankind, now we can receive life through the resurrection of Christ. "I am the resurrection and the life," Jesus said. "He who believes in me will live, even though he dies, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die."

The men, women, and children come to the Rescue Mission seeking restoration and healing. Because of Jesus's death and resurrection, they have been granted free access to a new life. They have new hope and can enjoy today. They are no longer a slave to their past or fearful of tomorrow. The past no longer defines them.

They can let go of the troubles of the past and focus on living a new life today. As they become new creations in Christ, they begin to leave worry behind and take hold of new hope. Looking beyond the struggles of life and looking forward to the future that God has prepared for them.

Linda Wessells
Linda Wessells,
Women's Program Director

*Christ
the Lord is
Risen
Today*

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

3 EASY WAYS TO Donate



1

CALL 478-743-5445 ext.314
to Schedule a Pick-up

2

Go **ONLINE** to
Schedule a Pick-up

3

VISIT One of Our
27 Donation Bins

DONATE YOUR GENTLY USED ITEMS

FURNITURE • KITCHEN ITEMS • CLOTHING • SO MUCH MORE!

Remember to call us when you are spring cleaning!

www.rescuemissionga.com

Bargain CENTER

SPRING CLEANING

Let the Bargain Center help!



We pick-up donations Monday-Saturday...
or, you can drop off donations at one of
our 27 conveniently located bins. Visit
www.rescuemissionga.com for more details.

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When you shop the Bargain Center you not only save, you help
fund programs for the men, women, and children we serve!



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



GIVE YEAR-ROUND

Consider becoming a monthly giver and have a lasting impact throughout the year! Find out how at rescuemissionga.com



BARGAIN CENTER

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