

Rescue  Mission
OF MIDDLE GEORGIA

THE

MISSION

Bell

VOLUME 23 • ISSUE 1 • JANUARY 2022

"Where Healing Begins"

Happy New Year

**WHERE
ARE THEY
NOW?
GRADUATE
UPDATES**

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THE MISSION Bell

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



PANAPRINT A community service product of Panaprint.

FROM THE *President's Desk*

COME SUPPORT OUR Thrift Ministry



Did you know that by donating your gently used goods to the Rescue Mission, YOU have a hand in a life changed by way of Jesus Christ? And when you shop at our Bargain Center and Barn Center, YOU are funding programs for the men, women, and children that we serve. We are so very thankful for each of you; without YOU, we would not be able to offer a free life recovery program.

I would like to personally invite you to come shop at our Barn Center for a unique shopping experience. The support of this community, by *Donating Local*, has been amazing since the store opened in May of 2021. We can never thank you all enough for the outpouring of support in donations and shopping to support our ministry!

God continues to bless our Thrift Ministry, and we would like to say thank you to this wonderful community! If you have not had a chance to shop with us, we encourage you to come out the entire month of January to use the coupon below. This coupon is good for one time use only and must be used within the month of January. The coupon may be combined with other in-store sales.

STORE HOURS: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm – Tuesday – Saturday

LOCATION: 6601 Zebulon Rd - follow the directional signs to the Barn Center

Pat Chastain, *President/CEO*

Get 25% off your purchase at
THE BARN CENTER

*One time use. The discount may be combined with other in-store bargains. **Card expires 1/31/2021.**

www.rescuemissionga.com

Where Are They Now?

STEPHANIE MOORE

You graduated last year, how has your life changed since then?

My name is Stephanie Walker, and I graduated from the Rescue Mission in July of 2021. I took the first 2 months treading slowly back out into the world spending time with my children and family rebuilding relationships. A lot of time was also spent at the Heir Home reading God's Word and meeting many new sisters in Christ to walk with me and point me to Jesus through every situation I encountered. I'm very grateful for the people God has placed into my life. I would say I have grown even closer to God and really know Him at the personal intimate level. After two months, I was accepted into the Sequoia Dental Assisting Program through Dr. Leigh Bennett and started working part time at Starbucks on Robins Air Force Base.

What are you doing for work now?

I am excited and just in awe of how God allowed me in 10 weeks to retain all this information regarding Dentistry and for placing the people in my life that helped me through this program. I am thrilled to say I graduated November 22, 2021 and am now working at Dr. Gilchrist's office in Macon. God has been so good to me, and I give Him all the praise and glory.

What is one thing you would like people to know about your experience at the Rescue Mission?

The Rescue Mission Life Recovery Program helped point me to Jesus. I can say my life is completely different. Even after graduating and going back out into the world the things I have learned in the program have stuck with me. Sometimes as I encounter situations, I remember the things I learned and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



Where Are They Now? CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

apply them to the situation in a healthy way. I can say everyone in my inner circle are healthy relationships and this is the key to success in this new walk in Christ. Having an accountability partner, a sister in Christ, is of utmost importance to holding me accountable. I'm grateful God has placed these ladies in my life.

What tools do you still use in your daily recovery?

I would say setting boundaries is a big tool I have had to use since graduating the Mission. Setting myself apart from the world is not easy and it takes preparation, starting my day waking up very early everyday in God's Word and standing firm on His promises. I would say for me, I have had some very difficult things come up, but everything I have learned comes to mind and I turn to Jesus who always guides me in every situation. He is my guide in life, and I'm in love with this life in Him.

Every extraordinary moment of healing
and hope begins with YOU!
- Pat Chastain



Consistent monthly donations help ensure that essential programs and care at the Rescue Mission continue without interruption.

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PARTNER TODAY...
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Addiction, domestic violence, and homelessness ruin lives, tear apart families & leave people hurting and vulnerable. You want to help...but how do you reach so many neighbors in need?

When you become a Rescue Mission **LIFE CHANGERS** monthly giving partner, you'll join hundreds of other dedicated friends here in Middle Georgia who are helping change lives everyday! Together, we can help individuals become healthy, productive citizens and strengthen our community.

YOU can help transform lives all year long through your consistent gifts each month. You'll provide meals and housing to help men, women, and children regain their strength...and life-skills classes, Bible study, and vocational training to build better futures. **PLEASE**, become one of our amazing monthly partners today!

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HELP TODAY AS ONE OF OUR AMAZING
MONTHLY GIVING PARTNERS

Together, we can strengthen our community!

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Donation Drives

THAT CHANGE LIVES

Your generous donation of these much needed items help the Rescue Mission of Middle Georgia to be good stewards of our resources while meeting the daily needs of the men, women and children we serve. THANK YOU for any help you can give in meeting these needs.

READING GLASSES

(all strengths)

Liquid Bath Soap

Hand Soap

Razors

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(not Benadryl)

Children's Cold
Medicine

Spiral Notebooks

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Furniture Polish

Bathroom Cleanser

Fabuloso All Purpose

Cleaner

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Pine-sol

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RIGHT FROM YOUR COMPUTER!

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For more information contact Karen Kinsler at 478-743-5445 ext.404 or karen@rescuemissionga.com

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Testimony FROM THE MISSION

Where Are They Now?

REGGINALD STANLEY

You graduated in January of 2018, how has your life changed since then?

I often reflect on the days that I was at the Rescue Mission and how much of a blessing it was for me. Since I graduated, it's like I'm a new person... which I am. I feel I have more purpose and meaning in life. My relationship with God is the key. I have a strong family foundation now and only gravitate towards those positive influences, those that uplift me but also tell me when I'm wrong. Accountability! My daughter, Rhaleigh, is doing great. She's growing up on me. I cherish every moment I get to spend with her... and I know she does too.

What are you doing for work now?

Mr. Pat Chastain always told me that God has big things in store for me and my artistic abilities. I now own and operate my own business, SKETCHBOOK Studio & Designs. It's been going strong for the last couple of years. My services include graphic designs, illustration, and painting services. I have also begun redesigning school cafeterias throughout the United States. The best part about it all is I'm doing what I love to do while following God's path for me.

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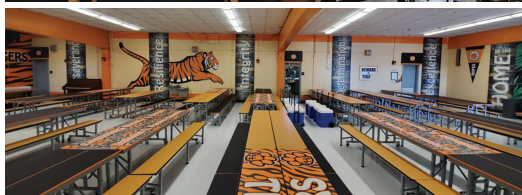
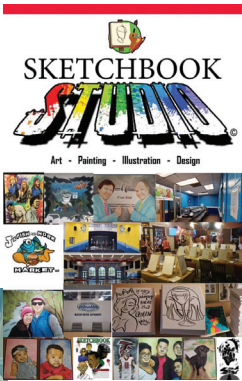
Where Are They Now? CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

What is one thing you would like people to know about your experience at the Rescue Mission?

Trust the process. When I was there, I was broken. I was in search of myself and determined to find myself, and through Christ, I did. There's nothing but love at the Rescue Mission, from the top to the bottom. I am proof that this program works if you surrender everything to Christ and allow Him to take control of your life.

What tools do you still use in your daily recovery?

Of course, every day has its ups and downs, but I offset the downs by having my talks with God. I keep an overall positive mindset about things, good or bad, because I feel there's a blessing hidden in them. I haven't been to church in a while since the pandemic started, but I stay in God's word. I stay focused on my priorities and responsibilities, especially as a father wanting the best for my daughter and myself.



SCENES FROM AROUND THE MISSION



The residents in our program had a wonderful opportunity to go out into the community to LOVE others. They gave out devotional books and were able to pray with those hurting in our community.





Men's Division HAPPENINGS

Sharing The News

Happy New Year! Hard to believe we've said goodbye to 2021 and hello 2022, but here we are. As the New Year rolls in, it brings with it a celebration and much hope. I believe that hope does indeed lie in something new, but not the type of "new" that our culture or our world has to offer. The new that we find ourselves hoping for, unfortunately many don't even realize it can only be found in a relationship with God through Jesus Christ. I'm sure many of you have already read posts, blogs, and articles on New Year's Resolutions and how to keep them. That's not what this article is going to be about. I want to take this opportunity to celebrate the new I've witnessed in the mighty men of the Rescue Mission of Middle Georgia. Many that come through the doors of the Rescue Mission have spent many years in destructive cycles that have led to much pain and selfishness. When we are bound by sin and shame, the only thing we can seem to focus on ...is our sin and shame, which causes us to be extremely self-centered in our thoughts and actions. That's the beauty of new life in Christ, He takes selfish men and transforms them into selfless men, haters into lovers, and takers into compassionate givers. Because Jesus takes away our sin and shame, He frees us into having the capacity to place our focus on those around us. Our culture is desperate for this type of "new". Well, recently having the opportunity to hang out with men of the Mission is exactly what I got to witness firsthand. As we walked the streets of Downtown Macon, I saw the perfect love of Christ pour through the men into those on the streets that were hurting and going without. These men represented Christ flowing conduits that hold the power to change any environment they choose to step into. I witnessed men about to graduate from the life recovery program walk side by side men that are just stepping into the program, place their loving arms around the hurting and pray with them. These men allowed the "new" to flow through as they allowed the love of Jesus to be shared with the men and women they met for no other reason than to share the gospel of Christ Jesus with others. Some may not have the "right" words, but their actions spoke with boldness and love as they removed their own coats and gave them to those in need of warmth. These men are an example, to me, that I won't easily forget. They are a true testimony to the life-changing power of the Cross of Christ and an example of what Jesus can do through a group of men that willingly surrenders to His Will. That day, the Rescue Mission men brought to life, in vivid color, the very words of Jesus when He said in Matthew 22:39, " You shall love your neighbor as yourself". Thank you, mighty men of the Mission, for sharing the new in you with me and all those you meet.




Jason Beck, Vice President of Programs

(See pics on pages 10 & 11)

Women's Division HAPPENINGS

Blessed THIS CHRISTMAS



What a wonderful time of year this can be, but also what a sorrowful time it can be for so many. Being from New York, I know how much fun one can have in the snow during the winter months, so when some friends of the Mission asked if they can bring the snow to the Rescue Mission, we were thrilled. The women and children played in the snow on a sunny Sunday afternoon in Middle Georgia. It is amazing how we can take the little things in life for granted, but when you see the smiles on the faces of children at something as simple as man-made snow it brings everything back into perspective. The day was filled with happiness, smiles, and laughter as they ended the afternoon with ice cream.

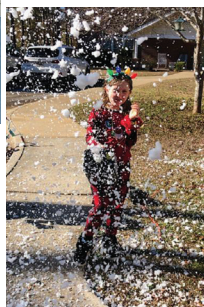
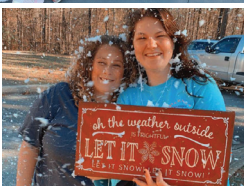
The women and men also were blessed for Christmas with the opportunity to go to The Shoppes at River Crossing for some shopping and treats. They really enjoyed the opportunity to get out of the Mission for a while and go into a store and pick things out for themselves and to enjoy some fellowship, food, and fun. What a blessing it is to have such wonderful people that truly love the women and men of the Rescue Mission and continue to be the hands and feet of Jesus when and where it is most needed.

The surprises did not end there. The women then spent an evening walking through a Winter Wonderland at the Christmas lights in Downtown Macon. Some of the women described it as joyous being able to spend that time together as well as see all the families that were there so happy. It gave them hope as to what they can look forward to and trust that with God they will soon be reunited with their families.

Linda Wessells

Linda Wessells, Women's Program Director

*"He will once again
fill your mouth with
laughter and your lips
with shouts of joy."
Job 8:21*



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