

Rescue  Mission
OF MIDDLE GEORGIA

THE

MISSION

Bell

VOLUME 22 • ISSUE 10 • OCTOBER 2021

"Where Healing Begins"

OCTOBER IS

**DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE
AWARENESS
MONTH**

STAND UP. STEP UP. SPEAK UP.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Charlie Cantrell *CHAIRMAN*

Stewart Vernon *VICE-CHAIR*

Beverly Olson *SECRETARY*

Susan Collins *TREASURER*

Blake Sullivan

MEMBER-AT-LARGE

Dr. Bill Argo

MEMBER-AT-LARGE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bobby Cramer

Buddy Glawson

Mike Jenkins

Frank Malloy

Alfred Sams

Chris R. Sheridan

Jeff Thompson

Louis Frank Tompkins

Wimberly Treadwell

ADVISORY BOARD

Oliver Bateman III

Martha Blue

Senator Saxby Chambliss

Ashley Copelan

Carolyn Crayton

Sheriff David Davis

Ed Defore

Jimmy Fain

Michael Ketterbaugh

Tommy Mixon

Robert Reichert

PRESIDENT/CEO

Pat Chastain

THE MISSION Bell

VOLUME 22 • ISSUE 10 • OCTOBER 2021

03 FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Thank You

04 TESTIMONY FROM THE MISSION

I Give Praise

05 UPCOMING EVENTS

See You at the Fair

06 MEN'S DIVISION HAPPENINGS

DV Awareness 2021

07 NEEDS LIST

Donation Drives That Change Lives

11 SCENES FROM AROUND THE MISSION

Five Star Celebrity Classic

12 WOMEN'S DIVISION HAPPENINGS

National Domestic Violence
Awareness Month

14 BARN CENTER

Weekly Sales

15 BARGAIN CENTER

All Your Furniture Needs

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



PANAPRINT A community service product of Panaprint.

FROM THE **President's Desk**

Thank You

The Five Star Kevin Brown Russell Henley Celebrity Classic was a huge success, and we are so very grateful for the support of our wonderful sponsors, volunteers, and supporters. We absolutely could not do this event without your support. It certainly takes a team effort to organize this event!

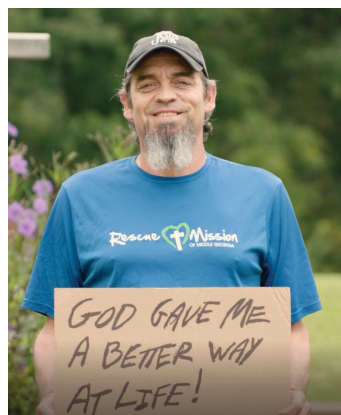
We had a great turnout for the Clay Shoot on Monday, and thankfully the rain didn't hinder the shoot. Monday nights virtual auction was great, with many new supporters watching the live stream. We are so thankful for the special musical guests that shared their amazing voices, it truly was an awesome way to end the night. We couldn't have asked for better weather for Tuesday at all 3 golf courses. God allowed us to finish at all 3 courses before the rain, and we are so very grateful for His hand all over this event. We watched the weather forecast and it called for rain, so we began praying.

This event helps men, women, and children that are broken and seeking life change. Your support of this event directly funds our long-term life recovery program. From every man, woman, and child residing here, we say THANK YOU!

Thank you for investing in the work God is doing here. Thank you for believing that He can change lives! Thank you for seeing the good in those that are broken and hurting. Thank you for your prayers!



Pat Chastain, *President/CEO*



Testimony FROM THE MISSION

I Give Praise

Hello, I was born in April of 1969 in Newnan, GA. I grew up as the youngest of three girls and grew up loving music and singing. Unfortunately, my young life was shattered by abandonment, divorce, and emotional abuse, as well as physical abuse. My childhood was not a little girl's fairytale. Growing up I never understood why I stayed with my grandparents most of my life. My parents' marriage ended before I was three years old due to domestic violence. In those days, physical abuse was kept quiet, and depression was thought to be an institutionalized illness. My father's abuse took its toll on my mother, and she began self-medicating to deal with the pain. She struggled with it for many years and never received the help she truly needed. For years, my sisters and I were pushed back and forth between our parents' homes and their grown-up issues, causing severe emotional trauma and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8





See You at the Fair

We'll have an exhibit in the McGill Marketplace at this year's Georgia National Fair, October 7 - 17.

We'll be sharing information about our:
LIFE-RECOVERY PROGRAM
COMMUNITY OUTREACH ACTIVITIES
FUNDRAISING EVENTS
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Be sure to come by to say hi and talk with staff and graduates of our life-recovery program.

PLEASE STOP BY...
WE'D LOVE TO MEET YOU!

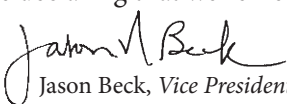
Men's Division HAPPENINGS

DV Awareness 2021

It seems as though we blinked, and now here we are in October. Wow, it sure does fly! There's a lot of good things that come during October; football, of course, the Georgia National Fair in Perry, and the tons of candy that will be collected and consumed by the multitude of children and their parents. Here, at the Rescue Mission of Middle Georgia, and for the many families affected by the scourge that is domestic violence, the month of October represents Domestic Violence Awareness. Depending on where you go to gather statistics, the numbers range from 1 in 3 to 1 in 5 women and 1 in 5 to 1 in 7 men have experienced violence from the hand of an intimate partner. What does this mean? Well, it means that we all probably know someone that has been or is currently in a relationship where domestic violence is taking place. This plague affects so many people and without the healing nail-pierced hands of Jesus Christ, many men, women, and precious children are left taking these unresolved issues into future relationships. Many find their way out of these devastatingly destructive relationships. It is our responsibility to celebrate this victory, however, there are way too many that have had to pay the ultimate price in being in this type of relationship.

In 2014, we began placing purple pinwheels out. Every purple pinwheel represents a person that died during a domestic violence incident in the state of Georgia. We group them in years, and we'll have the last ten years represented. For the second year in a row, we have the honor of partnering with The Shoppes at River Crossing to display the purple pinwheels. This year, beginning on October 1st and remaining through October 31st, there will be close to 1,400 purple pinwheels on display near the fountain area at River Crossing. On Saturday the 16th and Saturday the 30th, we will have a booth set up and would love to talk to and give you a purple ribbon so that you can show support as well. We believe that it is our responsibility to **Stand Up, Step Up, and Speak Up** against domestic violence. With every pinwheel we place in the ground, we are declaring that we remember and that we will never forget!




Jason Beck, Vice President of Programs

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.

DEODORANT

(Men's & Women's)

DIAPERS

(size 2-4)

TWIN SHEET SETS

READING GLASSES

(all strengths)

Liquid Bath Soap

Hand Soap

Razors

Shave Gel

Advil

Allergy Medicine
(not Benadryl)

Children's Cold
Medicine

Children's Tylenol

Cleaning Products

Bleach

Furniture Polish

Swiffer Dusters

Bathroom Cleanser

Fabuloso All Purpose
Cleaner

Windex

Pine-sol

Donate much needed items RIGHT FROM YOUR COMPUTER!

Visit Our **Amazon Wish List** to Browse, Order & Ship items directly to the Rescue Mission with just a few quick, easy steps...

Items purchased locally can be brought to the Mission at 6601 Zebulon Road.

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

STAFF

Pat Chastain
President/CEO

Tina Hicks
Vice President of Finance

Dawn Burns
Vice President of Operations

Steve Floyd
Logistics Coordinator

Greg Brooks
Food Service & Maintenance Supervisor

Zeddrick Scott
Barn Center Manager

PROGRAMS

Jason Beck
Vice President of Programs

Linda Wessells
Women's Program Director

Emily Smallwood
Women's Assistant

Chako Scott
Women's Assistant

Kiia Jackson
Case Manager

Anthony Wade
Men's Resident Supervisor

Scott Davidson
Men's Program Assistant

DEVELOPMENT

Karen Kinsler
Development Director

Elizabeth White
Development Assistant

Jaime Kaplan
Special Events Coordinator

Testimony CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

separation anxiety. I never had a chance to bond with either of my parents. They were always bickering with one another. My father stole custody from my mother, so he could use it as leverage against her. I believe this is what truly sent my mother over the edge mentally. My father continued to abuse us girls through our adolescent years and not having my mother in my life was very traumatic. Fortunately, my grandparents noticed the parental struggle occurring and stepped in to raise us when I was 10 years old. Finally, we had a loving, Christian home that provided us with much-needed stability. I'm very blessed to have had godly grandparents who loved me and wanted to take care of me through my teenage years. There were many rough patches along the way, but music became an escape for me. I enjoyed many years of singing in church and school. Eventually, I went on to graduate from Newnan High School in 1987. In 1990, I met a man, and we were married in 1992. We had three boys together throughout our 20-year marriage. Unfortunately, this marriage was not the fairytale that I had hoped for, and I noticed my husband displaying some of the same tendencies my father had with his need for control and how things had to be the exact way he wanted with no consideration of my thoughts and feelings. This realization began sinking me into a depression that I was unsure of how to get out of. In 2004, I was dealing with chronic undiagnosed pain and had surgery that led to me having pain medication. I didn't realize it then, but ultimately, this would lead to my having more medication prescribed for other reasons. I noticed that I wasn't in pain anymore physically and could numb my feelings as well. This is when my self-medicating began. There were lots of life events that occurred in the years following this, and my husband, being a narcissist, was only concerned with things that affected him. I was spiraling deeper into depression and self-medicating. My husband's controlling behaviors began to torment me. Anytime that I would question something he did or said, he would make me feel as if I were crazy and that it was not what had

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

Testimony CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

happened. He began throwing my mother's history in my face and using it as a weapon against me. At times, he would become so enraged that he would become physically violent. My husband even began threatening me and using scare tactics to keep me submissive to him. He began telling me that if I left him that he would take our children and not give me a chance at custody. The marriage finally ended in 2012. I tried to cite that there was domestic abuse involved, but the court sided with him. Unfortunately, what my husband had told me about taking my children did, in fact, occur, and I lost custody of my boys. All my life I said, I would never be my mother, but after my divorce, that's who I became. History was repeating itself. I began sinking into a very deep depression at the loss of my children. Realizing my worst fears, I had abandoned them. My ex-husband was emotionally tormenting me using our boys as his leverage against me. I didn't want my boys to spend all their lives thinking I didn't love or care about them and not hearing the other side of the story leading up to my departure from them. Unfortunately, as I spiraled further into depression, I began drinking alcohol to cope. I ended up losing everything and becoming homeless at this point. I ended up at a women's shelter in Atlanta and got sober there. After working for a little time, I met a man and moved to Warner Robins. We got married in 2015 and my health began to decline. Being unable to return to work, left me at his mercy. Our marriage was relatively good for the first 4 years. However, with my health not improving, he began to take his frustrations out on me. Finally, things escalated, and I left him and went to a battered women's shelter in McDonough. They connected me with the Rescue Mission of Middle Georgia. With my health rapidly deteriorating and no place left to go, I came to the Mission. Even though I was totally against coming to another women's shelter, I had nowhere else to turn. When I arrived on the campus, I was amazed at how peaceful and tranquil it felt here. I have now been here for 11 months and will graduate

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

Testimony CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

this month. Now when I think of the Rescue Mission, I think of it as a place of restoration and healing. My biggest challenge while being here at the Mission has been dealing with my physical and visual impairments. However, I see now that God had to remove my physical sight to bring me to a point of humility to allow me to gain my spiritual sight through him. This process has changed my life. The staff here are immensely supportive and provide a loving, Christ-centered environment, as well as equip the residents with lifelong tools to be successful in their recovery. Our middle Georgia community has amazed me with their outpouring of donations: monetary, clothing, food, and volunteering... you all made it possible for me to have an opportunity to heal the broken areas of my life, and I am forever grateful.

Being able to come to the Rescue Mission saved my life! Even though I was not crazy about the idea at first, I'm thankful it was a viable option for me. My life was spiraling out of control, and I needed help, help only God could give me. My journey these past 11 months has been life-changing, and I'm grateful God has given me a clear spiritual sight as I've never experienced before. I believe that God used this time of healing to foster healthy relationships and renew my physical health so that I can reunite with my boys one day. I praise God for my time here. The Mission has taught me so much about God and myself; my life has been forever changed.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart
and lean not on your own understanding;
in all your ways submit to him,
and he will make your paths straight."

- Proverbs 3:5-6

SCENES FROM AROUND THE MISSION

Five Star Celebrity Classic Golf Tournament



Women's Division HAPPENINGS



NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH



October is National Domestic Violence Awareness month which is represented by the color purple. Here at the Mission, we will be bringing awareness to this appalling act by highlighting different statistics through social media posts, community awareness, and a candlelight vigil. One of these statistics, provided by the Georgia Commission on Family Violence, states that there were 136 known family violence-related fatalities in Georgia in 2020 and a total of 1,516 related fatalities from 2011-2020 in Georgia.

Come see us from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Friday, October 1st at the Rescue Mission Bargain Center at 3375 Napier Avenue in Macon and Saturday, October 2nd at the Rescue Mission Barn Center at 6601 Zebulon Road in Macon to get a purple ribbon for your car window to show your support and your stand against this violence that affects so many in our community.

The Rescue Mission of Middle Georgia will also be partnering with the Crisis Line and Safe House on October 26th at Rosa Parks Square located at 701 Poplar Street in Macon for a Candlelight Vigil to honor those who have lost their lives to Domestic Violence. Please join us there at 6:00 p.m.

Here at the Rescue Mission of Middle Georgia, we believe that it is not only our responsibility to defend and protect the women and children who come to us with a domestic violence background, but also our passion. We are so thankful for the ability to be the hands and feet of Christ and extend the hope-filled Gospel message and love to these individuals. We thank you for your support in providing hope, empowerment, and redemption to these women, as we have all been called to do.

Linda Wessells

Linda Wessells,
Women's Program Director

Scripture

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." – John 10:10

Because we live in a fallen world, there is hurt. But because we have Jesus, there is hope.

"Learn to do good. Seek justice. Help the oppressed. Defend the orphan. Fight for the rights of widows." – Isaiah 1:17

Not only is it our responsibility to defend and protect this population, it's also our heart

"Don't be afraid of those who want to kill you. They can only kill your body; they cannot touch your soul. Not even a sparrow . . . can fall to the ground without your Father knowing it. So don't be afraid; you are more valuable to Him than a whole flock of sparrows." – Matthew 10:28-31

This is our message to these ladies. There have been those who have tried to harm you and your children. But here, we can point you to a different kind of love. A love that gives you the highest value as a treasured and loved daughter of a King.

Stats

**1 IN 5 WOMEN
& 1 IN 7 MEN**

in the United States have been severely physically abused by an intimate partner.

**1 IN 3 WOMEN
& 1 IN 4 MEN**

in the United States have experienced some form of physical violence by an intimate partner.

Intimate partner violence alone affects more than **12 MILLION** people every year.

STATS FROM
NATIONAL
COALITION
AGAINST
DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE

FOLLOW US ON **FACEBOOK** TO LEARN
ABOUT OUR **WEEKLY SALES** AT

THE BARN CENTER



*Furniture, Household Decor, Table Settings,
Kitchenware, Jewelry & So Much More!*

6601 Zebulon Road, Macon
Tuesday - Saturday / 10:00am - 6:00pm
478-743-5445

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



[facebook.com/MissionBargainCenter](https://www.facebook.com/MissionBargainCenter)



SHOP AT
**THE
BARGAIN
CENTER**

FOR ALL
YOUR
FURNITURE
NEEDS!



**BARGAIN CENTER
STAFF**

Niger Brown
*Vice President of Retail
Operations*

Shameka Davis
Production Manager

Toki Majors
Store Manager

Kyle Patat
Pricing Coordinator

Gwen Dorminey
Processing Coordinator

DRIVERS

Art Ellis
Curtis Roundtree
Jerome Moss
Reginald Reeves

MAINTENANCE

Travis Wilson
Josh Taylor

Great Prices & New Arrivals Everyday!

Furniture, Appliances, Table Settings, Shoes,
Kitchenware, Clothing & So Much More!

3375 Napier Avenue, Macon, Georgia
Monday - Saturday / 10:00am - 6:00pm
478-743-5445

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



facebook.com/MissionBargainCenter



P.O. Box 749 | Macon, GA 31202

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

Shop at 3375 Napier Avenue or donate items to a great cause. For large pickups call 743-5445.

Nonprofit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit # 232
Macon, GA



Proud "Certified Excellent" member of City Gate, accredited by the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability, and recognized as a "Four Star Charity" by Charity Navigator.