

# THE MISSION Bell

"BEAR ONE ANOTHER'S BURDENS, AND SO FULFILL THE LAW OF CHRIST." GALATIANS 6:2

## Rodriguez Warren

### RESIDENT TESTIMONY

I grew up in a two-parent home where my parents were supportive and taught me right from wrong. However, both worked a lot, so I often stayed with my aunt when they were at work. My aunt drank frequently, and my parents were busy, so I had a lot of unsupervised time on my hands. At the early age of 11 or 12, I saw my cousin selling drugs, and I was curious to see what all the hype was about. So, I asked to be "turned on," meaning that I asked to be given drugs to sell. That was my introduction to the sex and drug scene. I was completely lost. My parents didn't spend enough time with me when I was growing up, and I filled that void with relationships and drugs. At the age of 14, I became a first-time parent. Now, I have four children, whose ages range from one to 28 years old. My choices and lifestyle have led to their absence in my life.

My struggle with drugs worsened significantly after I lost both of my parents within a couple of years. My dad passed away in 2018, just a week after receiving his diagnosis. I didn't attend his funeral; instead, I threw myself into work and sank deeper into my drug use to avoid dealing with the grief.

In July 2020, my mom passed away. After her funeral, my drug use spiraled out of control. There were times when I would stay awake for days and then crash for only 15 or 20 minutes at a time. A few days later, I blacked out while driving and ran off the road somewhere near Byron. When I came to, I noticed I was wearing a shirt of hers. I felt a profound connection to her, and her passing was more than I could handle. Their deaths marked a significant turning point in my life. After nearly 30 years of exhausting myself on the drug scene, neglecting my kids, and not maintaining stable employment, I realized that my life needed to change. I was in desperate need of help, so I reached out to various agencies for assistance. However, every program I contacted required fees that I simply could not afford. Then, I learned about the Rescue Mission, where I could receive the support, I needed without the financial burden of paying any fees. I met with a staff member from the men's program and was accepted immediately. Coming here has changed my life tremendously. I pray more than I ever did, and my belief in God is reinforced by the positive changes in my life since joining the program. I can enjoy myself without being high, and I'm happier than I've ever been. I'm engaging more in conversations with others, and my family relationships are being restored. All four of my kids are glad that I am no longer absent from their lives. On my first day here, I felt completely lost, and I wasn't quite sure that this was what I needed. However, I'm now glad I

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decided to stay, because I am feeling more confident. For the first time in my life, I am not ashamed to share my struggles, and I truly believe that God is the Lord of my life.

After graduating from the Rescue Mission, I plan to change my environment, including the people, places, and things around me. I have received a job offer at a restaurant, a position I once thought I would never take. However, my time here has shown me that I can succeed in this role without resorting to drugs, and it will allow me to provide for my family. I aspire to be the man that God believes I can be, both for myself and for my children. I intend to use the tools I learned in the Life Recovery Program at the Rescue Mission to support my journey. I now care about others and consider how my actions affect them. I have learned to be patient and wait. In the past, I wouldn't have been able to sit still for this long to put my life together unless I was forced to, such as when I went to jail or prison. I plan to stay in contact with the people God has placed in my life at the Mission, and I will always put Him first.

Since my time here, I have discovered a new sense of self. I have learned to cope with being away from my newborn, who has been very sick. At one point, I considered going home, but the program staff encouraged me to stay and finish strong. I realized that I needed to focus on my recovery so I could be a better dad to my children once I completed the program. This decision made me stronger because I returned to placing God at the center of my life. Now, I can love and raise my family the way God intends. I am grateful to my friend who helped me find the Rescue Mission; it truly changed my life.



# CHURCH DONATION DRIVE



Would Your  
Church Host  
A Donation  
Drive For Us?

We will bring a **TRUCK** to your church on the Sunday you **CHOOSE**. You will bring the items we need to the truck. No Boxes to Put Out! Just Advertise the Event. We need you to collect **HYGIENE ITEMS, CLEANING PRODUCTS, TOILET PAPER, PAPER TOWELS, & MEN'S UNDERWEAR.**

**For more information, contact Patti Stevenson.  
Ph: 478-743-5445, Ext 403 Email: [patti@rescuemissionga.com](mailto:patti@rescuemissionga.com)**



# BARN GRAND REOPENING

**ATTENTION SHOPPERS**

**SATURDAY  
JAN 18  
10AM - 6PM**

We are excited to announce the Grand Reopening of the Rescue Mission Barn Center Thrift Store on **Saturday, January 18th, from 10 to 6**. Join us for a fun day featuring food trucks and incredible discounts ranging from **25 to 50%** off throughout the entire store. WDEN will be broadcasting from **12 to 2**. Don't miss out on these fantastic deals. The Barn Center is currently open at 6601 Zebulon Rd. Shop with us Monday through Saturday from 10 to 6!

Follow Us On 



## Two Great Stores Supporting Life Changing Ministry



*Every time you shop in our stores, you're making a difference in hurting lives!*

We're truly grateful for all the donations we receive and for every dollar you spend shopping for our great selections. Whether you're cleaning out your home or garage, replacing furniture or appliances, or just don't want your items any longer... we'd love them!

We accept new or gently used items to provide the best shopping experience possible for our customers. Every time you shop, you're supporting our life-changing recovery programs for men, women and children from our community.

## Donation PICK UP

**Did you know that we pick up donations six days a week?**


To be efficient, we visit different areas on different days:

- MONDAY:** South Macon, Byron, and Warner Robins
- TUESDAY:** East Macon
- WEDNESDAY:** West Macon
- THURSDAY:** North Macon
- FRIDAY:** North Macon
- SATURDAY:** Various Locations

We can accommodate special pick-up circumstances on a case-by-case basis. **Please call with any questions.**

**ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE.**

**Steve Floyd**

 478-743-5445 ext. 314

 [donate@rescuemissionga.com](mailto:donate@rescuemissionga.com)



# YOU CAN CHANGE

## 1 LIFE... or 2!

Matching Challenge  
**DOUBLES** the impact of  
your first monthly gift! →

You'll provide **TWICE** the life-changing care at  
the Rescue Mission of Middle Georgia this month:



**2X** Nourishing meals



**2X** A bed and safe housing



**2X** Life-skills classes



**2X** Long-term recovery

Giving monthly is your way to show hurting neighbors that their lives are priceless – and **worth saving**.

Give your first monthly gift today... which will go **TWICE as far to change lives** with our \$5,000 Matching Challenge.

*"Thank you for believing I'm WORTHY."*

Your impact  
**DOUBLES**  
to help him  
this month. →

# 2025 Happy New Year

Wishing you a year filled with joy, success, and wonderful moments. May each day bring new opportunities and blessing. We pray for you to have a fantastic year ahead!

*Your Rescue Mission Family*

# Rescue Mission

OF MIDDLE GEORGIA

Complete the enclosed reply card or donate online at:

[rescuemissionga.com/newsletter](https://rescuemissionga.com/newsletter)



*Scan here!*

### Rescue Mission of Middle Georgia

6601 Zebulon Road, Macon, GA 31220

**Monday - Saturday | 8:30 am - 6:00 pm**

(478) 743-5445 | [info@rescuemissionga.com](mailto:info@rescuemissionga.com)

[rescuemissionga.com](https://rescuemissionga.com)

Instagram: [rescuemissionmiddlega](https://www.instagram.com/rescuemissionmiddlega)

Facebook: [maconrescuemission](https://www.facebook.com/maconrescuemission)

### Schedule A Donation Pick-Up

Steve Floyd | (478) 743-5445, ext. 314

[donate@rescuemissionga.com](mailto:donate@rescuemissionga.com)

### Bargain Center Thrift Store

3375 Napier Avenue, Macon, GA 31204

**Monday - Saturday | 10:00 am to 6:00 pm**

(478) 743-5445, ext. 317 | [niger@rescuemissionga.com](mailto:niger@rescuemissionga.com)

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

### Barn Center Thrift Store

6601 Zebulon Road, Macon, GA 31220

**Tuesday - Saturday | 10:00 am to 6:00 pm**

(478) 743-5445, ext. 406 | [kyle@rescuemissionga.com](mailto:kyle@rescuemissionga.com)

Facebook: [MissionBarnCenter](https://www.facebook.com/MissionBarnCenter)



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