



SAVING GRACE

A newsletter of Union Gospel Mission • Holiday 2022

The best Christmas
gift there is...

William

has a new life,
thanks to you!



DON'T MISS...

2 The Joy that Comes
from Christ

3 Thankful for
the Scars

4 Urgent
Needs

For more information: (916) 447-3268 ugmsac.com info@ugmsac.com

THANKFUL FOR THE SCARS



“So I’m thankful for the scars/’cause without them I wouldn’t know your heart/And I know they’ll always tell of who you are/So forever I am thankful for the scars.”

Those lyrics, from a song by I Am They, mean a lot to William. They describe the story of William’s life.

William suffered a turbulent childhood. Abandoned first by his mother, then by his father, he was severely traumatized. As his trauma increased, William emotionally shut down. He started cutting, or carving, himself with paper clips, razor blades and knives – just to feel something. Anything. Later, he added methamphetamines to his self-destruction.

He spent his youth and adulthood cycling through youth homes, juvenile

hall, jail, mental institutions, rehabs and even Union Gospel Mission.

“I was lost, broken and in need of Jesus,” William says. “When I came to the Mission, my entire arms, my back and my legs were covered in scars.”

William’s third visit to Union Gospel Mission was life-changing as he began to understand Jesus’ scars and how Christ’s wounds could set him free. “I dug into the Word and studied books,” he says. “I knew that if I was going to live right and serve the Lord, I needed a closer relationship with Him.”

William’s transformation was so profound, the Mission hired him to serve as their night chef, and today he’s thriving and living independently.

“The wonderful thing is that I get to work at this place where I can talk

about Jesus all day and encourage men who are going through what I went through,” he says.

He is no longer embarrassed by the scars that cover his body, because it was those very scars that led him to Jesus.

“The wonderful thing is that I get to work at this place where I can talk about Jesus all day.”

“Thanks to Union Gospel Mission, I have a foundation now that cannot be shaken,” he says. “I encourage people to support the Mission, because their support will lead to miracles like mine. It’s amazing.”



Give 2X the help on GIVING TUESDAY

Tuesday, November 29

A Message from PASTOR TIM LANE

The JOY that Comes from Christ

Don't you just love the words of John 1:14? *"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth."*

As we rejoice over the birth of our Savior, it's such a blessing to know God fills our hearts with joy everlasting – today and every day. His faithfulness sustains us through every circumstance and His grace offers renewal in our lives... as well as in the lives of those we serve.

While we do provide Christmas gifts to the guests in our care, what's most important is that they know about Jesus' sacrifice and the gift of salvation that is freely given to us all.

Thanks to your friendship, we're able to share the hope of the Gospel during the holidays and throughout the year. Your fervent prayers and ongoing support help restore lives – and wrap local men, women and children in God's loving embrace.

Just like William, whose story we've shared on page 3, God still works miracles in the lives of people all around us.

This Christmas, I hope your heart overflows with peace, joy and love as your blessings abound.



Pastor Tim Lane
Executive Director

SHARE A CHRISTMAS MEAL...

You can help make this Christmas a time of celebration for our neighbors who are hungry and homeless. With so many obstacles to overcome during this season of hardship, they need a helping hand and to experience God's love and the hope of the Gospel!



\$1.92
for 1 hot meal



A night
of safe shelter

**CAN GIVE
SOMEONE**



Please Send Your Christmas Gift Today!



ARE YOU CONNECTED YET?

Want the inside scoop on what's happening at Union Gospel Mission? It's easy...

Follow us on social media! Every post shows you how your partnership is transforming lives. And when you tell your friends about us, they can join the celebration this holiday season, too!



ugmsac.com

**You transformed
hearts & lives this
year...**



“Before I came to the Mission, I was at the bottom of the barrel. I had nowhere else to turn. Everyone had turned their back on me and all doors had closed. Since coming to the Mission, I’m now a born again Christian, and I have an open heart.”



“I’m thankful for the Mission because of what it did to transform my life through Christ.”

To read more stories of hope that YOU helped make possible, visit us at ugmsac.com/ugm-newsletter. Thank you for caring about those in need, and may God bless you this Christmas!

Urgent Needs

Cold weather is here and our homeless neighbors are suffering. Your donations of the items below will bless them abundantly and keep them warm this winter.

- Blankets
- Socks
- Jeans
- Ponchos
- Underwear
- Sweatshirts
- Backpacks
- Tarps

Please bring them to
**400 Bannon Street in
Sacramento, 8 a.m. to
8 p.m., 7 days a week.**

Thank you for sharing
your compassion and
God’s love.

