

## SAVING GRACE

A newsletter of Union Gospel Mission • Summer 2023



DON'T MISS...

2 Your love will transform lives this summer!

2 Join our prayer team!

**3** "This Mission showed me how to live."

can't stand to fall asleep. I've never been comfortable falling asleep – ever since something happened when I was a child at my mother's house when she was on a drunken binge. I won't talk about it, except to say that bad things happened in the dark.

I ran away at 14 and quickly discovered a way I never had to sleep: using methamphetamines. When I used the drug, I could go weeks with almost no sleep. That was my life for almost 14 years, until I finally got clean. But I relapsed in 2008 and ended up homeless. That's when I learned about Union Gospel Mission of Sacramento.

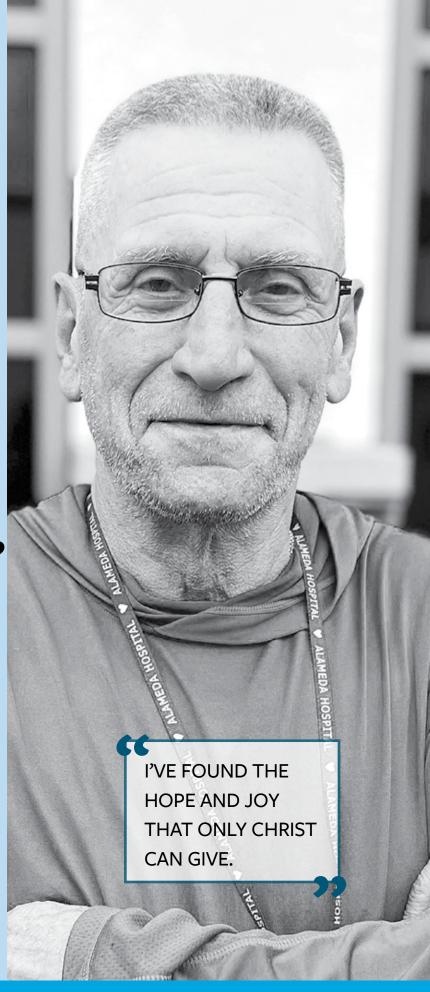
In 2011, however, I got in some serious trouble and went to prison for 10 years. You might be surprised to hear this, but I wouldn't trade that experience for anything. That's where I started reading and studying **the Bible** for the first time. **God used that Book to save me and to grow my faith.** 

# "The Mission SHOWED ME HOW TO LIVE."

When I left prison in February 2022, I came to Union Gospel Mission of Sacramento to strengthen my faith and to keep from relapsing. I felt so much peace when I arrived, and the sign out front, "Jesus Saves," became a constant encouragement to me.

Inside, I found a group of Christian brothers and sisters who loved me and encouraged me. **But most of all, the Mission showed me how to live and to serve Jesus.** I already had a lot of book learning, but I didn't know how to apply the Bible to my life. This place did that for me. I've learned I'm not an addict, I'm a child of God – and I've found the hope and joy that only Christ can give. Now, all I want to do is serve Him.

That's why I'm so thankful for donors like you. Thanks to you, I can live for the Lord – and I can sleep in peace.



## A meal for \$1.92 is an easy way to LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR!



A Message from PASTOR TIM LANE

## Thank you for loving your neighbors as yourself

We all need a helping hand from time to time. No one makes it through life without a little care and compassion along the way. That's what loving your neighbors is all about, right?

And yet, you and I know that God's Word has a way of challenging us to go further... of stretching our faithfulness beyond what we thought possible. The Lord makes the impossible POSSIBLE at the Mission, thanks to the generosity of friends like YOU.

Now, as the summer months approach, I hope we can count on you during our 3-month Love Your Neighbor campaign.

Time and time again in Scripture, we're told not just to "love your neighbor" but to "love your neighbor as yourself." That's a big difference! It's making the needs of others a priority equal with your own from the beginning.

I'm so grateful for friends like you who give in this Christ-like way to help men, women, and children in the greater Sacramento area who are hurting and homeless. And I ask for your continued support through the summer, when the weather can be dangerous for people who live outside.

Thank you for offering a helping hand to your neighbors most in need – and for continuing to love them **as** 





Pastor Tim Lane
Executive Director

#### **YOUR LOVE**

#### will transform lives this summer!

Your gift today provides:



22,540 meals



5,684 beds



hundreds of hygiene items



countless hours of biblical counseling & education



life-transforming decisions for Christ

DON'T FORGET OUR NEIGHBORS
THIS SUMMER... SHOW YOU CARE
WITH YOUR GIFT TODAY!

Give now! ugmsac.com



SCAN TO DONATE

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Support our Summer Campaign to restore hearts & rebuild lives!

"First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people."— 1 Timothy 2:1, ESV

Will You Pray? Join Our Prayer Team!

The prayers of caring friends like you not only support and empower our ministry; <u>your prayers change lives</u>. That's why we invite you to join with other faithful friends to be part of our Prayer Team... and rejoice with us when God answers in mighty ways.

As part of the Mission's Prayer Team, there are so many ways you can pray:

- Lift up the Mission's requests in prayer during your personal devotion times.
- Pray together with your family before enjoying a meal.
- Share our prayer requests at your church, Sunday school, or Bible study.
- Gather a group of friends to pray with you each week.

Your faithful prayers will bless and encourage our ministry, as well as all the struggling neighbors we serve in the greater Sacramento area.

God promises He hears us, anytime and anywhere. Contact us to join our prayer team today at **ugmsac.com/contact.** 

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#### Can You DONATE?



Donating to Union Gospel Mission is now easier than ever before! We created Amazon wish lists showing our current needs.

Donations ordered through Amazon can be brought in or shipped directly to us. These wish lists will be updated regularly as our needs change, so there is no need to worry whether we've already received certain items. Please visit ugmsac.com/amazon-wish-list/to view our wish lists.

If you choose to ship items directly to us, please use this address:

Union Gospel Mission 400 Bannon St. Sacramento, CA 95811

If you would like to receive an in-kind donation receipt, check the box "This is a gift" when you check out the items in your cart. We will need your name and address to send your receipt. Thank you, and God bless you for your support!



### VISIT OUR WEBSITE Help is just a click away!

Whether you're struggling and want to know more about the Mission's programs or services, **our website makes it easy to find resources.** 

Here are just a few of the ways to get in touch or get help:



**GET HELP NOW:** If you or someone you know needs help, visit **ugmsac.com/homeless-resources/** to access information about our programs and contacts.



**CONNECT WITH US:** For quick access to the program staff and other activities, visit **ugmsac.com/contact.** 

TO LEARN MORE: visit ugmsac.com.

Daily posts of UGM's news, testimonies, and needs are on our Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn pages. If any of the posts inspire you, please share and bring awareness to the community about the Mission.