



# SAVING GRACE

A newsletter of the Union Gospel Mission • Holiday 2024

THANK YOU FOR  
GIVING MEN LIKE  
DAVID THE

*gift to change  
their lives!*

Be encouraged this  
Christmas Season  
through God's  
amazing grace!



**DON'T MISS...**

**2** Follow Us Online!

**3** "I started a whole new life!"

**4** Give a meal. Help change a life!

For more information: (916) 447-3268 [ugmsac.com](http://ugmsac.com) [info@ugmsac.com](mailto:info@ugmsac.com)

*This Christmas can be a chance for a new life - thanks to you!*

Get ready... the busiest time of the year is upon us! I imagine your calendar is filling up quickly. But **before the year ends, please save a few moments for our neighbors who are homeless.**

I know you agree no one should live in a car... in a tent... or outside in the cold. Certainly not a child. Being poor and homeless means living with constant fear and uncertainty. It's a terrible way to spend any day... much less Christmas Day. If there's anyone in need of the Gospel, it's them.

You can open the door for God to work in the life of a neighbor who is homeless by giving \$2.39 to provide a hot meal at the Union Gospel Mission. It may not seem like much - but each meal you provide can be someone's first step toward recovery and a new life in Jesus. Where you see a meal, a hurting neighbor sees a chance to change their life.

With your support, your neighbors in the greater Sacramento area can receive great care for Christmas at the Mission. People like David (whose story is on page 3) can find hot meals, safe shelter, and Gospel-centered care this holiday season... and all year round... thanks to you!



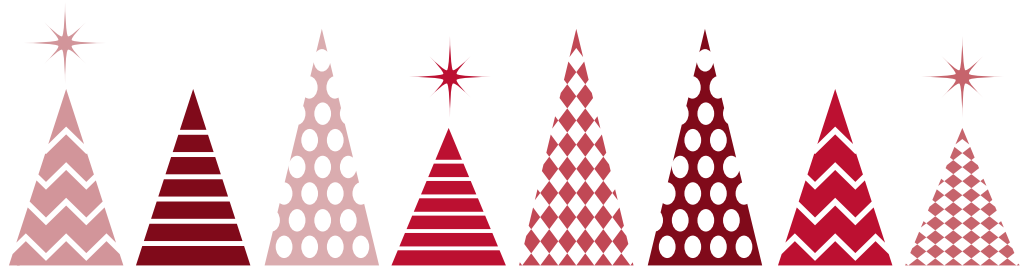
Pastor Tim Lane  
Executive Director



Did you know you can connect with the Mission through social media? It's a great way to keep up with the latest news and to share your heart for the poor and homeless in our community.



Please share our posts and help bring awareness about the Mission!



## \$100,000 Year-End Matching Challenge DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT!



BIG NEWS to end the year: **When you give between now and December 31, your generosity will go 2x as far** to provide food, shelter, and life-changing care for our struggling neighbors!

**DEADLINE TO GIVE: 12/31**

- Return your special year-end gift in the reply card today.
- Give online at [ugmsac.com](http://ugmsac.com).

**THANK YOU**  
for doubling your  
impact during  
our Matching  
Challenge!

**“I started  
a whole  
*new life!*”**



**D**uring childhood, David experienced trauma and neglect. “There was a complete lack of supervision,” he shares. As a teen, he was coerced into trying drugs and alcohol, and it became his normal form of entertainment.

At 17 years of age, David was thrown out of his house and had his first taste of homelessness. Out on his own with no support, he spiraled into addiction. David went on his own to continuing education and worked to support himself while he was in his addiction.

In addition to mental and physical health challenges, David also faced spiritual battles. “I was a believer, but I didn’t listen to the Lord.” In his darkest days, he was depressed, alone, and in terrible pain with severe kidney issues.

Bent and broken, he turned to God in prayer, “Please open a door and I promise to go through it.”

David walked through the chapel doors of UGM in 2001 and knew it was God who brought him there. He joined the Men’s New Life Program and his life took a positive turn. He was still sick and weak, but day by



**“Coming to the Mission was a  
miracle!”**



day he got better and stronger. Through mentorship and biblical counseling, he grew in his knowledge of God’s Word and closer to Christ.

David found that prioritizing his relationship with Jesus and helping others significantly impacted his recovery and sobriety. As a result, after graduating from our program, he went to trade school so that he could return to the Mission as an official employee.

These days, David works as the Maintenance Supervisor. “I take care of the little things, which always lead to bigger things,” he says with a chuckle. “The Lord gave me these gifts, and I’m so grateful to be able to share them.” He’s served at the Mission for over 20 years.

**This Christmas, men like David are experiencing the joy this season has to offer – because YOU believed in the power of a fresh start and the promise of God’s unending love.** “I’m so thankful for the family I found at the Union Gospel Mission!”



# 12 DAYS OF GIVING BACK

The Bible tells us it's more blessed to give than to receive, and what better time to experience the joy of giving than the Christmas season! It's also a wonderful time to teach children the importance of giving, or to partner with a friend or family member to give back.

Read on to explore **12 Days of Giving Back** and get inspired to share the joy of Christmas this year:

<b>DAY 1</b>	<b>DAY 2</b>	<b>DAY 3</b>
Provide Food	Donate Clothes	Donate Toys
<b>DAY 4</b>	<b>DAY 5</b>	<b>DAY 6</b>
Write a Christmas Card	Create a Care Package	Help Serve Meals
<b>DAY 7</b>	<b>DAY 8</b>	<b>DAY 9</b>
Help Sort Donations	Help Run an Event at the Mission	Attend Chapel at the Mission
<b>DAY 10</b>	<b>DAY 11</b>	<b>DAY 12</b>
Fundraise at Your Church or School	Pray for Families at the Mission	Spread the Word

To learn more about ways you can share the joy of Christmas with Mission guests, give us a call at **(916) 447-3268** or visit us online at **[ugmsac.com!](http://ugmsac.com)**

*Give a meal.  
Help change a life!*



It's hard to find a reason to celebrate Christmas when you're homeless or hungry. **YOU can give JOY** with a gift to lead someone to join our long-term recovery program and experience a new life in Jesus! It all starts by providing a meal for \$2.39... because where you see a meal, they see hope for a fresh start.



**\$2.39**  
for 1 hot meal



**CAN GIVE A  
SPARK OF  
HOPE**



**That leads  
to new life!**

**Please Send Your  
Christmas Gift Today!**