SAVING LIVES / RESTORING HOPE / IMPACTING COMMUNITY

A Newsletter of Tri-City Union Gospel Mission – Holiday 2021

Thanks to you...

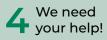
Pam

has been given a life-changing gift this Christmas.





2 Celebrating rebirth this Christmas. "I no longer think I'm worthless."



221 S. 4th Ave., Pasco, WA · (509) 547-2112 · tcugm.org

"I no longer think I'm worthless."

am was the victim of her mother's emotional cruelty for years as her caretaker. The abuse eroded Pam's confidence, filled her with self-loathing and resulted in frequent anxiety attacks. Yet because of her sense of responsibility, she stayed by her mother's side, providing 24-hour care and forgoing her own needs in life.

Then her family accused Pam of neglecting the older woman – and issued a restraining order against her. She was stunned... heartbroken... and suddenly homeless.

For what seemed like an eternity, Pam moved from place to place, enduring a string of abusive relationships. Her battle with anxiety prevented her from holding a steady job. Finally, alone and with little hope for her future, she attempted to take her own life. By God's grace, she lived... and came to the Mission to turn her life around.

Through emotional and spiritual guidance, Pam is healing from the wounds of her past. As she reads the Bible daily and learns of God's love, she is learning to love herself, and she continues to be strengthened through our chapel services. "The lessons they have for the day are always something I need to hear." She is also discovering she can lean on other guests and residents as a support network.

Her chores around the Mission are helping her regain self-esteem, realize her talents and know she's worthy of respect. When she leaves our care, she plans to return to nursing and focus on her own needs as a healthy and stable individual.

This Christmas will be a celebration filled with joy for Pam – and she's grateful to you for this wonderful gift of a new beginning. "I feel like I'm to the point where I'll no longer be trapped in the cycle of abuse. The Mission put me on the path to get there." "I wanted to make myself better and I couldn't do that if I kept falling back into my cycles of abuse."

A Message from ANDREW PORTER

Celebrating Christmas with JOY for All People

In Luke 2:10, the angel says, "Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people."

During the Christmas season, we hear a lot about joy. It has me thinking about how joy is something *all people* can have in their hearts. This time of year, our greatest joy is celebrating the birth of our Savior and the eternal life we have been freely given.

That joy is what fills our hearts Christmas morning... and, hopefully, every day of the year. It's the same joy I see on the faces of the children, women and men that have come to Tri-City Union Gospel Mission and experienced God's life-changing love up close and personal. The joy YOU help them experience through your heartfelt prayers and support.

This Christmas, as you reflect on the "reason for the season," I hope you will remember our neighbors who are hurting. As Pam's story shows, your generosity offers help. Healing. And a chance to be held in the arms of a loving God.

I am continually humbled by the faithfulness of friends like you who joyfully bless others. Thank you, and may God fill your heart with peace and love.



Andrew 1. Porta Andrew Porter

Andrew Porter Executive Director

A delicious Christmas meal for our homeless neighbors...

... STARTS WITH YOU!

As you prepare to celebrate the joy of Christmas, please remember our hurting neighbors. It's been another really tough year for so many in our community – and the very best gift you can give them is the help they need right now!

<u>Just \$2.05 provides a meal and care for</u> <u>one person</u>. That meal is often the first step toward a new life through God's love.

safe shelter



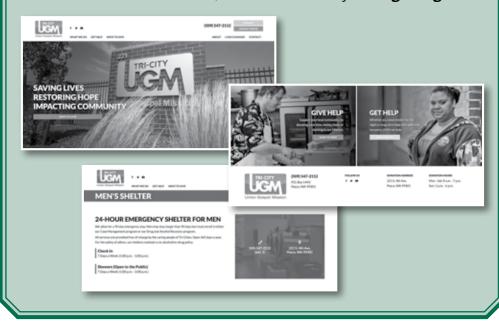
\$2.05
for 1 hot meal\$35.75
for 1 night ofCAN GIVE
SOMEONE
for 1 night ofHealing
Hope
And a Second
Chance!

Please Send Your Christmas Gift Today!

SEE HOW YOU HELPED CHANGE PAM'S LIFE!

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE MISSION

Get to know us better, learn about volunteer opportunities, read about the latest news and events, and donate securely at **tcugm.org.**





We Need Your Help!

The holidays are just around the corner, and we're getting ready for this very busy time of year. We will be hosting special meals and events, adopting families in need in our community and celebrating God's love and blessings. **We need your help** to make it all happen!

We are seeking volunteers to prep food, deliver meals, serve, clean up or to donate holiday supplies.

If you or your group is interested in volunteering this Thanksgiving or Christmas season, please call Sandy Cooney at (509) 547-2112, ext. 112.

Newly expanded Health and Wellness Program: Respite Care

For the homeless in the Tri-Cities, recovering from a hospital visit presents a whole series of challenges. When they're released, they are faced with changing bandages and taking medication at the same time that they're trying to find food and shelter.

Our new Respite Care program aims to help them as they leave the hospital, and in turn, ease the pressure and lower the expense on local hospitals and emergency rooms.

We have dedicated three of our two-person rooms as "Respite Care Rooms," where patients who don't need full-time care can have a nurse check in on them to make sure they are recovering and healing as they should be.

Once they recover, case management and recovery programs are available to them so they can set and achieve long-term goals.

Currently, Respite Care is only available at our Men's Shelter, but we plan on implementing a similar program for the women and children once a new Women's & Children's Shelter is built.

