SAVING LIVES / RESTORING HOPE / IMPACTING COMMUNITY

A Newsletter of Tri-City Union Gospel Mission – Holiday 2023

Thanks to you... JAMES HAS HOPE THIS Christmas!





2 Celebrating the HOPE of Christmas "I finally found stability."



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

A Message from ANDREW PORTER

Celebrating the 🐔 HOPE of Christmas

How comforting it is to know that our Lord, Jesus Christ, has shared in our humanity. He knows our struggles and the struggles of our homeless neighbors too!

On the eve of his birth, Jesus and his earthly parents Joseph and Mary experienced being turned away and told there was "no room at the inn." It reminds me that Christ understands the pain and fear of our guests who also have nowhere else to turn.

Here at Tri-City Union Gospel Mission, we will always do everything in our ability to welcome and support a hurting person who comes to our doors. Even so, many of our guests have faced years of homelessness... poverty... and other challenges that have left them feeling unloved and unwelcome.

During the holidays, caring friends like you help remind them they are not forgotten. Your gifts to provide hot meals, safe shelter and recovery are meaningful expressions to them of the Lord's kindness and care in their life.

This Christmas, I invite you to extend Christ's love and grace to our neighbors – like James (whose story is on the next page). Your generosity will surround them with hope this holiday season! Thank you, and may God bless you now and into the New Year.



Andrew Porter Executive Director

Scan to watch a special holiday greeting!



It's hard to have hope when you're struggling with hunger or homelessness. YOU can make this Christmas a time of celebration for our neighbors in need with your gift to help them today!





Please Send Your Christmas Gift Today!

MISSION TOURS: A great way to engage!



Get to know the Mission by scheduling a tour of our campus. Aside from our facilities, you'll get to see firsthand the impact your support is making in the lives of men, women and children in our community.

Tour times are generally Monday through Friday, between 10:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Your tour could be as short as 30 minutes or as long as an hour and a half – we promise to accommodate your availability.

Should you need time outside our normal tour hours, we'd be happy to arrange that, too.

Please call **(509) 547-2112, ext. o.** We look forward to meeting you!



"I DON'T KNOW WHERE I'D BE without the Mission."

James was raised in a tight-knit family who attended church, but as he grew up, his mental health challenges made him feel disconnected from God. Social anxiety plagued him, so he stuck close to his family, living with and working for his brother. "Otherwise, I was pretty isolated – like a hermit," he shares.

During a particularly stressful period, James had an unfortunate altercation with a family member that landed him in jail. After his release, he was sent to a psychiatric unit. "At this point, life felt pretty hopeless," he remembers. "Because of that terrible incident, I became estranged from my family."

There was a silver lining to his predicament: the hospital brought him to the Mission, where he could receive comprehensive care.

James was welcomed into the Mission, where he began the journey of repairing old wounds and learning new ways of dealing with life's ups and downs. "At first, it was scary! Over time, though, I got more comfortable."

Through chapel and daily Bible reading, James has grown in his relationship with the Lord, and with the support of our staff, he's been able to get his legal paperwork in order and receive mental-health services.

As a way to give back, James works in our kitchen and helps with donated food items. He says he has a renewed sense of purpose. "It feels good to be able to help others," he smiles. And with the space to heal and experience forgiveness, he's now back in touch with his family.

James has hope this Christmas – and he wants to thank YOU for supporting his journey toward a new life. "I was looking for stability, and I found it here. I'm so grateful for all the kindness and generosity I've received!"



Please help stock our kitchen and pantry!

These items are urgently needed for holiday meals:



Donations can be dropped off at the Mission at 221 South 4th Avenue in Pasco between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. daily. Our attendants will help safely unload your vehicle and issue you a receipt. Thank you!

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF MEDICAL MINISTRIES!

Medical volunteers have a tremendous impact on our clients. Last year alone, our compassionate nurses and chiropractors had over 1,300 visits with men, women and children, bringing much needed healing to the community. Here's a more detailed glimpse into how this works:

- Two-plus days per week, **Registered Nurse (RN) volunteers** provide basic health services such as blood pressure, blood sugar and weight monitoring as well as foot care, wound care and general health education.
- **Nursing students** from WSU and CBC serve 10 week rotations two times per year, with different students in each rotation. Aside from being vital care providers, these future nurses become better equipped to understand the homeless population, see their struggles and help alleviate their reluctance to seek medical attention.
- Our licensed **chiropractor volunteers** provide assessments and adjustments the first three Saturdays of every month.





Please join us in a healthy and joyous round of applause for ten years of medical ministries and the volunteers who make it all possible!