

# NEW LIFE

SAVING LIVES / RESTORING HOPE / IMPACTING COMMUNITY

A Newsletter of Tri-City Union Gospel Mission – Easter 2025



## Aaron has a **NEW LIFE** in Christ this Easter!

Thank you for opening  
the door to his  
transformation.



Union Gospel Mission

**DON'T  
MISS...**

**2** Fighting the  
Homelessness Crisis

**3** "Now I realize  
I'm not alone"

**4** All things new...

221 S. 4th Ave., Pasco, WA • (509) 547-2112 • [tcugm.org](http://tcugm.org)

# “NOW I REALIZE I’M NOT ALONE.”

As a child, Aaron struggled with his parents’ divorce, but he was a good student and got good grades. It wasn’t until college that he started using drugs and alcohol, which spiraled into addiction.

Since age 23, he felt trapped in a cycle of homelessness, from halfway house to shelter and back to the streets. “It just kept happening again because I couldn’t stop drinking,” he says.

After living out of his car for a year, he knew he needed help to change, not just for himself but for his family as well. **“I have a 1-year-old son, and the thought of where I would be without the Mission scares me,”** he says. “When they showed me where my bed would be, it was a great feeling because I hadn’t slept in a real bed so long.”

When he joined the New Life Program, Aaron began to experience real change. “They incorporate the spiritual side of new life in Christ with the


practical aspects of recovery,” he says. “They helped me set realistic goals and figure out what I wanted to do with my life. That has made the biggest difference.”

These tools have set him up for success, especially when paired with a strong community. “You start to see the other participants as brothers. I’ve learned how to open up and be transparent. You get encouragement from each other in that way.”

One of the biggest changes for Aaron has been how he views himself. “Now I know that I do have value. I want to be a good dad for my son. That gives me strength and keeps me moving forward.”

**This Easter, Aaron is experiencing God’s gift of new life! Thank you for empowering him to follow Christ’s calling in his life.**

“I’m thankful for the Mission because I’m drug free, I’m alcohol free and I’m able to have a relationship with God.”



“Before coming to the Mission, I was homeless and hopeless.”



## The Gift of New Life in Christ

*“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.” - 2 Corinthians 5:17*

# FIGHTING THE HOMELESSNESS CRISIS

**Did you know?** Washington had the sixth-highest homelessness rate in the United States in 2023. The numbers are shocking.

- Personal challenges such as substance abuse, mental health issues, and unemployment need to be addressed *before* being placed in permanent housing. This gradual, structured approach encourages self-sufficiency and reduces the risk of a “revolving door” of housing instability and homelessness.
- Many of the young adults in our community who are currently homeless come from unstable homes where addiction and other risk factors (such as poverty and mental health issues) are prevalent.
- Poor physical and mental health and substance abuse can be causes, and *consequences* of homelessness.
- Unfortunately, as the affordable housing and homelessness crisis grows, community organizations like ours are also struggling. From keeping frontline staff to rapidly rising insurance and other operational costs, **we need your support more than ever.**
- The need in our community is great. But together, we can make a lasting difference!



## URGENTLY NEEDED ITEMS!

Drop off any of these items  
**by Friday, April 18:**

- HAM
- CANNED FRUITS
- POTATOES
- BUTTER
- CANNED VEGETABLES
- SALAD DRESSINGS
- KETCHUP
- COFFEE & CREAMER
- SUGAR
- EGGS
- RICE



Drop off donations at the Mission,  
221 S. 4th Avenue in Pasco,  
7 days a week.

No time to shop? Donate now!

☎ (509) 547-2112 ✨ [tcugm.org](http://tcugm.org)



## This Easter... EVERY MEAL MATTERS

Just \$2.75 for a meal & hope for a new life!

Each meal served with love at the Mission is so much more than a plate of food. It can also open the door to life-changing services like safe shelter, Christ-centered care and healing in our recovery programs!

**Every meal you provide this Easter matters!**

Just \$2.75 provides a hot, nourishing Easter meal to someone in need... and shares hope for a new life in Christ.

✉ Give now using the enclosed reply card and envelope.

✨ Give online anytime at [tcugm.org](http://tcugm.org).

Easter  
2025



A Message from ANDREW PORTER

# All things new...

Men and women often come to us on the worst days of their life. They're tired, hungry and struggling with shame. For many, Tri-City Union Gospel Mission is a last resort.

But the fact that they come to us at all means they still have a glimmer of hope. Because they're trying to change, part of them still believes a new life is possible. **Generous friends like you provide the services and programs that help rebuild their lives!**

We believe God is "making all things new" (Rev. 21:5) for our hurting and homeless neighbors. Whether they come for a meal, a safe place to sleep or life recovery - your generosity helps transform lives like Aaron's, whose story you can read on page 3.

Especially now during the Easter season, the hope of new life carries a special meaning. We're reminded of the empty tomb - a symbol that nothing is impossible with God. We hold that promise for each of our neighbors in need.

Thank you for **believing in our homeless, hungry neighbors.** Through your gifts and prayers, you show that you have faith in their future and the power of God's redeeming love!

Happy Easter... and God bless!

In His service,

Andrew Porter  
Executive Director



# YOU changed lives last year!

In 2024, friends like you joined together to make an incredible impact for our neighbors who are homeless and hurting...



**150,000** meals filled hungry bellies



**39,000** nights of shelter kept people safe



Your compassion opened the door to other life-changing services & care

## Thank you!

Because you showed you care, our community's most vulnerable men, women and children are looking forward to a brighter future!

