

Breaking the Chain

He was always academically smart, graduating high school with a 4.2 gpa, but it was the not-so-smart decisions he made outside of school that kept Bill Irons living on the edge. In and out of trouble, juvenile hall and engaging in drugs, his early years took him to South Dakota to live with his mom to complete high school. When she fell ill, he stayed to care for her, and when the emotion of it became too much for him to bare, he left and his life started spiraling out of control, again. Bill thought a move to Oklahoma to help his grandfather would calm the pain of his mother's passing, yet he continued making poor choices. He was manufacturing drugs and began dealing.

At 26 years old, Bill returned to California. Realizing he needed to stop the addiction, he went into a program and graduated clean and sober. Moving back to Stockton, he found success with a new job, was attending church, and at 35 years old, had a son, who they named Alexander. Unfortunately, he began to drink again. He was a *'functioning'* alcoholic and addict during the week, yet a *'weekend warrior'*, as he called his weekend drug and alcohol use.

While his relationship was falling apart, Paisley, their sweet baby girl was born with down syndrome, along with many health problems, including holes in her heart. His time spent at the hospital led to him losing his job and his home. Living hotel to hotel with his children's mother and his kids, he knew he needed to get his life straightened out. Now in his early 40's, with two beautiful children to care for, he realized that he needed badly to change his path in life and became serious about getting clean and sober, and getting back to Jesus.

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The Launch of Two New Companies!

I am so excited to share with you the official launch of two new companies under the Gospel Center Rescue Mission (GCRM)!

Clean Slate Paint is a residential and commercial paint company that began in May 2024 when GCRM Board Member Bill Stoermer began to teach business classes for interested New Life Program (NLP) students. These students are receiving hands-on training, will earn a living and get a chance at a clean slate in life. Thank you to San Joaquin County the Board of Supervisors, the Administrator's Office, and all others at the County office who were instrumental in providing the funding to purchase a van and equipment to get Clean Slate Paint off the ground.

Our second venture is **Church Street Coffee**. Our NLP students will be roasting, bagging, and selling the coffee beans, while learning valuable business skills. Some of our students have already started this process! We are currently working on our website where you can buy our coffee online, for your home, office, or church! Each purchase of *Church Street Coffee* will help further the GCRM Mission of helping renew lives of the homeless and addicted through Jesus Christ. In the future we plan to have our own roastery and coffee shop right here on The Mission campus. Spread the word to your church, friends, and workplace – Buy *Church Street Coffee*!



Clean Slate Paint crew in training

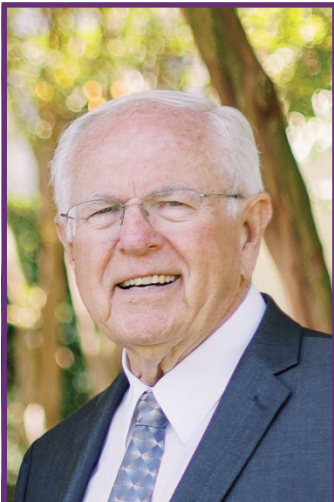
These two companies are opening-up opportunities for our students to gain the skills, training, and work experience while earning an hourly wage. We couldn't be more thrilled! All profits from these two new ventures will go back to The Mission to help us change more lives.

Thank you for praying that God blesses these endeavors, and that all glory be given to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We truly could not do this without your continued support. Thank you.

God Bless,

David Midura

David Midura, CEO
GCRM



Pastor Fred Jantz – A Friend of the Mission

The Mission staff and students are saddened at the passing of GCRM Board Member and Friend of the Mission, Pastor Fred Jantz. He was not only a pastor and board member at The Mission, he was a friend who truly cared for our staff and students. We know Fred is with the Lord now, and we couldn't be happier about that. However, it still brings us much pain to lose him here on Earth. His absence will be deeply felt. We lift up Kathy and his family in prayer during this difficult time.

Pastor Fred's Memorial Service was held on Saturday, June 8, at Quail Lakes Baptist Church. The family requested Gospel Center Rescue Mission (gcrms.org) as one of the considerations for memorial gifts. We would be blessed if you would consider a gift in Fred's name.

MISSION KIDS SUMMER FUN!

Lodi Lake Day Trip



Fun Times at the Sacramento Zoo

Sponsor
A CHILD'S
SUMMER
\$500 will sponsor
one child and mom



**DONATE
TODAY!**



SCAN ME

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Scan the QR code to contribute effortlessly from your phone

OR

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Donate online
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OR

BY MAIL

Write a check to
PO Box 816
Stockton, CA
95201-0816



445 S. San Joaquin Street
Stockton, CA 95203

gcrms.org

For I desire mercy, not sacrifice, and acknowledgment of God rather than burnt offerings.
Hosea 6:6 (NIV)

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Leaving his kids with their mom, Bill entered The Mission.

Alexander and Paisley became his motivation. They were both so precious to him he wanted to break the chains of addiction and be a good father. One Sunday at church, Bill found himself in a tough situation. His kid's mom could no longer care of the children, and he had burnt the bridge with other family members. Bill reached out to Pastor Tyson at The Mission for help. After the staff met, they created accommodations for Bill to keep his kids with him in an area of the Bill Brown Building for dads with kids. Alexander is now enrolled – and thriving - in The Mission Kids program. Bill is available to care for Paisley and her health needs. Just following the interview for this story, Bill had a doctor's appointment for Paisley at UC Davis to check on her heart condition. Praise God, the holes in her heart have completely closed - and the doctors were saying 'what a miracle for this little baby'! At The Mission, we all rejoiced. What a blessing that Bill, Alexander, and Paisley are surrounded by the most loving, caring staff and students.

"The staff at The Mission mean so much to me. The chains of addiction have been broken. My life has been saved! I now have a Christ filled life with my children by my side! The counseling has helped me

mend my relationship with my son for the many mistakes I have made. The staff pours into us with their whole hearts. They are a bunch of amazing people. Because of them I am able to go through the New Life Program, take care of my two children and redirect my life. I look forward to completing program on August 15th. What a wonderful day that will be," shared Bill.



Serving at Festa Italiana

Our New Life Program students lending a helping hand to set up and take down Festa Italiana, held on Sunday, June 9 at Lodi Grape Festival Grounds.