



Merry Christmas!!!

*Mission Kids
cover story
on page 3*

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Our Mission

Gospel Center Rescue Mission, Inc. is a ministry to the people of San Joaquin County where the homeless and addicted in our community are presented the opportunity for spiritual, physical, emotional restoration and equitable inclusion through the love of Jesus Christ.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



Merry Christmas!!!

The Christmas season can be such a busy time filled with events, gatherings, and time spent with loved ones. These are all good things, but let us not get too busy that we forget to celebrate and remember the true reason for the season—the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ, who came as a baby to save the world. **"She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins,"** (Matthew 1:21, NIV).

No matter what is going on in your life this Christmas season, we can find hope in our Savior, Jesus Christ. He takes such good care of us. And He is working through us to take care of His people at The Mission, including our Mission Kids and families.

We have seen many lives changed at The Mission this year, all glory and praise to God our Father! And we are

so excited to continue to see God change lives in the New Year.

As we close out 2024, would you consider giving a special year-end gift to help us with our New Life Program costs to take care of our Mission Kids, families, and all those we serve? We need your help to feed, clothe, shelter, and care for the homeless and their children in our community. Please fill out the envelope you received with this newsletter. We would be blessed by a gift of any size. Thank you in advance for your generosity and continued support.

May God bless you abundantly this holiday season. Merry Christmas to you and yours!!!

God Bless,

David Midura

David Midura, CEO, GCRM

Dear Mission...

"This poem is written about our very own Frank Rayfield, who was featured on the cover of *The Vision* in March of this year. His powerful testimony inspired many of his co-workers at Intertia Engineering, one of whom wrote this poem about Frank's life. What a beautiful testament of when one life is changed, how it impacts so many more lives."

*I once walked in shadows, bound by my chains,
A life full of sorrow, of heartache and pain.
Addiction and crime had swallowed me whole,
But Gospel Center reached out to my soul.*

*A beacon of hope in my darkest of days,
You showed me the path, and led me to grace.
You opened my heart, taught me to see,
That Jesus was waiting to set me free.*

*You lifted me up from the depths of despair,
Gave me the strength to offer up a prayer.
Now I walk in His light, no longer confined,
With Jesus beside me, peace in my mind.*

*You taught me of family, of love's gentle call,
To cherish each moment, no matter how small.
With open arms, you welcomed me in,
Turning my losses into chances to win.*

*So, thank you, dear Mission, for saving my life,
For guiding me out of darkness and strife.
Now I fly high, with faith as my guide,
With Jesus my Savior, forever by my side.*

Our Mission Kids

Our precious Mission Kids. What a delight it is to bring them together for the long-awaited annual Christmas Photo Shoot for the Vision cover. Look at their sweet faces in the picture. With promises of 'treasures' if they sit still and smile, they are picture perfect – as they laugh and say "cheese" for the photographer. Precious, precious, precious children. That cannot be emphasized enough. Yes, so very precious. Especially in the eyes of Jesus, who welcomes them and knows their immeasurable worth. A very sweet 'thank you' and a joyful smile was shared as each of them received their little 'treasure' bag of chocolate coins and a colorful pencil.

From little babies to teenagers, we are so grateful to have a safe and comforting place for our Mission Kids to experience a warm bed, stability, and a safe environment – all while learning about Jesus and His

love for them. He will always be with them throughout life. That's His promise.

We thank all of you who have supported and loved The Mission through your prayers. We thank you for being engaged in the hard work that is being done. The Mission Kids are not here by chance, but because their parents were led through the Jesus Saves gate on Church Street and entered the New Life Program. As their grownups gain vital parenting tools, learn critical life skills and discover the comfort that a transformative walk with Jesus offers, it is also our responsibility and honor to embrace their children. We pray that their time spent with the staff and volunteers at The Mission is one they will remember throughout their life as joyful and life-changing.

Have a joyful, precious, Christmas.

IN THE COMMUNITY



Our students enjoyed the Stockton Symphony concert "Heros and Villians". Thank you, Scott Watkins, Symphony CEO for providing us with this fun and festive opportunity!



Joan Singson, Director of SJ Health, with GCRM's Sandra Maple-Deaver, and Yvonne Ferrell at the 2024 Celebration of Wellness. It's always good to be sharing information about The Mission to the community.

AROUND CAMPUS



Alicia Leperchey from Community Partnerships for Families of San Joaquin and some of our NLP students are seen here holding a mock interview. This will prepare our students for obtaining a job after they complete the first phase of the program.



Parents by Choice, from the Child Abuse Prevention Council, is hosting a weekly class for parents enrolled in the NLP. They will receive a certificate upon completing a course on parenting techniques and developing the necessary skills to support their children as they grow into young adults.



In our New Life Program, students are taught vital life skills such as teamwork and work ethic. The photo shows one of our students completing ministry assignments in the kitchen. They help with preparing and organizing the salad bar, tidying up after lunch, and learning how to properly label and store food. We thank them for all their hard work!



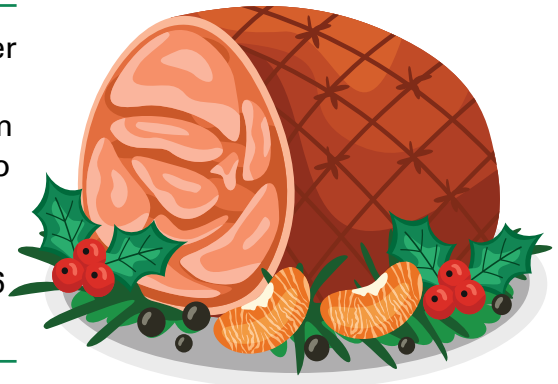
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“¹How good and pleasant it is when God’s people live together in unity! ²It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down on the beard, running down on Aaron’s beard, down on the collar of his robe. ³It is as if the dew of Hermon were falling on Mount Zion. For there the Lord bestows his blessing, even life forevermore.” (Psalm 133:1-3)

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 churchstreetcoffee.com

Christmas Hams!

Please consider donating a Christmas Ham or the funds to purchase one or two! Call (209) 320-2316 for details.



Christmas Toy Drive

NOV. 27
 — TO —
DEC. 16

Donate **NEW** and unwrapped toys for the Mission Kids!

Drop toys off at
 SASS! Public Relations
 628 Lincoln Center
 Stockton, CA 95207
 Mon-Fri: 9:00am – 4:00pm

Delivery to GCRM
 by Journey Transport

COAT
AND
SOCK DRIVE

SPREAD THE WARMTH THIS SEASON

Nov. 1 – Donate gently used coats and new socks.
 Dec 31 Visit LincolnCenterShops.com for drop-off locations.

NEW LIFE

Lincoln Center
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