



## “If I can do it, so can you!”

“What can I do to change? How do I fix myself?” These were the two questions that motivated Sebastian Kemp to start seeking a new way of life.

Raised by his stepfather, Sebastian grew up playing baseball, basketball and football. He loved sports and they kept him active and busy. He lived in a household filled with lots of other kids, with his mother not present, his stepfather raised him as his own. Money was always tight, but he knew he was loved.

During high school he started down the wrong path with the wrong crowd, and began smoking weed. He was not doing his schoolwork, and his laziness eventually led to his stepdad setting boundaries that Sebastian stepped over. At age 17, he was out on the streets.

Still drinking, he worked hard to get his life back on track and met a woman who eventually become the

mother of his two children. At this point, they both had a good job, and an apartment, yet he once again began drinking heavily. Tired of giving second chances, his girlfriend, pregnant with their second child, left along with their first child.

Sebastian was now alone, working and continually drinking which eventually caused him to lose his job – and his apartment. Although he reunited with his girlfriend she gave up and he was once again homeless and alone. It was this last reality that caused him to slip into a deep depression and he finally asked himself “What can I do to change? How do I fix myself?” Sebastian made a call to Behavior Health in Stockton. A good friend also recommended Gospel Center Rescue Mission as a place to get a new start. He floated around for another three months before finally taking the step to come to The Mission, where he met Pastor Tyson. “He showed me love with open arms and made me feel

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Christine Bygum, *CFO*

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Kyle Porter, *Director  
Men's Emergency Lodge*

Carrie Williams, *Director  
Women's New Life Program*

Lindsey Pierzina, *Director  
Men's New Life Program*

Sandra Maple-Deaver,  
*Director  
Recuperative Care*

William R. "Bill" Brown,  
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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



## A Season of New Hope

Dear Friends and Faithful Supporters, As we welcome the month of June, we look forward to two special things: the beginning of summer and the celebration of Father's Day. Summer is often a time of fresh starts—longer days, warmer weather, and opportunities to grow. Here at the Gospel Center Rescue Mission, it's also a season of renewal, where we see real change taking root in the lives of those we serve.

Father's Day holds special meaning for us. Many of the men who come to the Mission are fathers—some are working to rebuild relationships with their children, while others are learning for the first time what it truly means to be a dad. And for those who've never known a father's love, we point them to the faithful, never-ending love of our Heavenly Father.

This month, we've seen incredible moments of healing and hope: dads taking steps toward recovery, families reconnecting, and lives being rebuilt from the inside out. These are powerful reminders that no one is beyond God's reach. Your support helps make this possible—through your prayers, your generosity, and your belief in the mission.

As summer unfolds, let's continue to walk alongside those who are still struggling, offering hope, dignity, and the message that with God, a new beginning is always possible.

God Bless,

*David Midura*

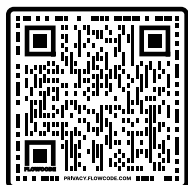
David Midura, CEO  
GCRM

## IN THE COMMUNITY



### Purpose with every pour!

*The Church Street Coffee Crew was out pouring samples, selling merchandise and connecting with the community at True Value! Coffee for purchase is always available at both Stockton stores located at 2060 E. Fremont Street, and 1939 Country Club Boulevard.*



## DONATE TODAY!

### BY PHONE

Scan the QR code to contribute effortlessly from your phone

OR

### ONLINE

Donate online  
[gcrms.org/give](https://gcrms.org/give)

OR

### BY MAIL

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



## AROUND CAMPUS & COMMUNITY



Our May 18th Graduation Ceremony was held at Quail Lakes Baptist Church. District Attorney Ron Freitas was the Keynote Speaker.



Ron Freitas San Joaquin County District Attorney.



### IN THE NEWS – CBS Sacramento

Food Service Director Bobby Smith was recently featured in a powerful story on CBS Sacramento. They shared about feeding the homeless in San Joaquin County. Our kitchen team is dedicated and goes above and beyond to make sure no one goes hungry. Watch the whole video at <https://bit.ly/3H2jgLn> or visit the Events & Media page on our website.



### Construction Update

Oh, so cool.... And warm.... HVAC ready to install. The latest phase of construction of the New Life Program Center is the installation of the HVAC units on the roof! We are getting closer and closer as the days go by!

### Easter – He Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed!



With the New Life Program Center as a backdrop, staff, students and friends of The Mission gathered to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Morning.



Worship was led by Eddie Gonzales and the worship team from First Baptist Church of Stockton.



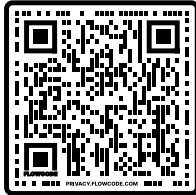
Following the Easter Sunrise Service, everyone enjoyed a delicious pancake breakfast prepared and served by our Food Service Team, led by Bobby Smith.



Laurie serves boardmember Gary Daniel a hot cup of Church Street Coffee at the Easter Sunrise Service.



445 S. San Joaquin Street  
Stockton, CA 95203



#### CAMPUS MEMORY VERSE

***“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.”***  
(Ephesians 3:20-21, NIV)

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so comfortable. I started the New Life Program and have never looked back”, shared Sebastian.

He continued, “My relationship with Christ has helped me stay clean and sober. I can talk to Him. I am studying hard, going to church and have a strong faith in Jesus. It’s a new transformation.” Sebastian knows he has a God who will be with him through it all. “Attending church and my classes at The Mission have opened me up – digging into my heart to identify where my problems are coming from,” Sebastian shared with a smile.

Now working on the Clean Slate Paint crew, doing commercial and residential painting as well as around The Mission, has been rewarding. He enjoys interacting with customers and doing something

with a purpose – all while supporting The Mission. “I am now reunited with my children and their mother. A better bond with my daughters and co-parenting in a very healthy way.”

“Because of my relationship with Christ, I know I can be confident and not worry about the future. He has a plan and a purpose for me. I thank the staff, and everyone who supports The Mission, for being here for me. At age 28, I can now progress with my life - and it feels good.”

In closing, Sebastian exclaimed, “Look at me – If I can do this, so can you!”

### JULY 2025 GRADUATION

**Sunday, July 20**

*Location to be announced soon*

Keynote Speaker:  
Stockton Mayor Christina Fugazi

## DONATIONS NEEDED

**Men's  
Clothing**



*We thank you for any donations.*  
For donation drop-off, call (209) 466-2138.