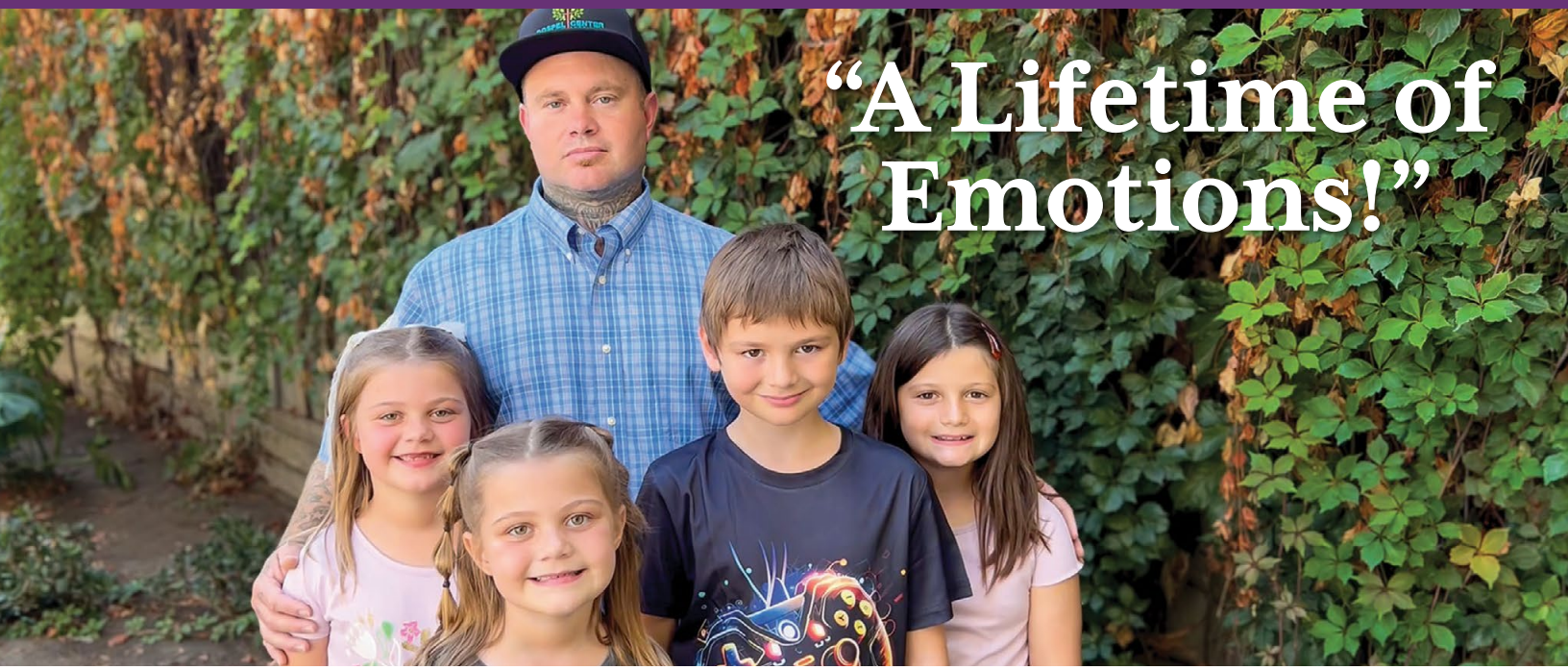
GOSPEL CENTER RESCUE MISSION

THE VISION

445 S. San Joaquin Street • Stockton, CA 95203 • (209) 466-2138 • gcrms.org

OCTOBER 2026



"A Lifetime of Emotions!"

At thirteen years old, Adam Marchand chose living on the streets over living with his family in an abusive, alcoholic, drug-ridden home. All he knew was chaos, and that didn't change once he was out on the streets. He quickly began selling and using drugs, living in a world that put him in and out of prison. As a drug dealer, he didn't go without monetary security –he went about his life the wrong way! Drug dealing provided on-going income, but Adam was always on the run. He didn't know how to set boundaries, certainly didn't have role models to glean life lessons from. At 40 years old, Adam had spent more time in prison that he has on the outside! The cycle hadn't been broken, as he continued living in the chaos he had chosen to leave behind when he was a young teenager.

Finally, after more than two decades of his dysfunctional lifestyle, Adam was on a threshold. Facing prison again, he did not want to go back to jail. He had 10 children that he had disappointed and hurt over and over again, and it was time to make a change. The courts encouraged him to go to the Gospel Center Rescue Mission, and although he didn't want to go, he knew it was probably his last chance.

At The Mission gate he asked Tyson (who he had known for many years) to let him come into the Mission. Tyson replied "Adam, if you came here to get away from the courts, I'm not going to let you in. But if you came here to change your life, I'll let you in!" Adam replied, "I will not let you down!"

Adam dove into the New Life Program classes, working closely with The Mission staff. They taught Adam how to deal with a lifetime of emotions – especially anger that was built up. He had always used his anger issues as an excuse to go back out to the streets. Adam shared "It was time to face life head-on, in a responsible way. I've learned to be responsible, to set boundaries, deal with my anger issues, and be thankful for a better life. God worked through The Mission staff to open my heart to the truth. Through Jesus Christ, The Mission saved my life. I will never go back." Adam continued "I'm right where I need to be. My 'self-will' is no longer in charge. God is - and forever will be - my guide. This walk is the only walk I need to take."

He prays to continue working on relationships to restore his family. He prays for his mom, who is homeless, knowing that he needs to help himself first, in order to help her. As Adam continues to learn and grow, he is now employed as a houseman at The Mission and hopes to become a case-manager to help others going through the New Life Program to turn their lives around!

To those who are on the streets outside the Jesus Saves gate, Adam has encouraging words, "Give yourself a chance at a new life. If I can do it, so can you. We will be waiting for you!"

STAFF

David Midura, *CEO*

Britton Kimball, *COO*

Jonathan Velasquez, *COS*

Ashley Chappell, *CFO*

Bobby Smith, *Director*
Food Service

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

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

Sandra Maple-Deaver, *Director*
Recuperative Care

Melissa Torres, *Director*
Administration

William Sullivan, *Director*
Emergency Lodging

Richard Martinez, *Director*
Clean Slate Paint

Nicole Rodriguez
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A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



Baptism & Reflection

This past month has been a remarkable season of blessing, growth, and transformation at the Gospel Center Rescue Mission. We have had the incredible privilege of witnessing 29 of our students publicly proclaim their faith in Jesus Christ through baptism. What an amazing testimony to God's redeeming power and life-changing grace. As each person stepped into the waters of baptism, they boldly declared their commitment to follow Christ and embrace the new life He offers. We can only imagine the celebration taking place in heaven as these men and women made this important step in their spiritual journey.

Many of these baptisms took place at His Way Community Church, where several of our staff members and students worship regularly. We are deeply grateful for this church and their faithful support of the work God is doing through the Mission. Seeing our students become connected to a local body of believers and continue growing in their faith is one of the greatest joys of ministry.

In addition, two of our students were baptized at the beautiful waters of Tenaya Lake during our annual men's camping trip. This special moment was surrounded by God's breathtaking creation and served as a powerful reminder of His presence and faithfulness. The camping trip provided much more than recreation. It allowed staff and students to step away from daily routines and spend intentional time reflecting on their relationship with Jesus Christ. Throughout the trip, meaningful conversations were shared around the campfire as staff and students enjoyed fellowship, roasted s'mores, and encouraged one another in their faith. These moments helped strengthen relationships and build a deeper sense of community among the men. I was especially proud to watch everyone work together to set up and clean up the campsite. Their willingness to serve one another demonstrated true teamwork, humility, and Christlike character. It was a wonderful example of camaraderie and team building, all for the glory of Jesus Christ.

On September 11th at 9:11 a.m., staff and students gathered for a special time of prayer and remembrance. As a nation, we paused to reflect on the lives lost and the countless families forever impacted by the tragic events of 9/11. Together, we lifted prayers for those who continue to carry the weight of that day and asked God to bring comfort, healing, and peace. It was a meaningful opportunity for our Mission family to unite in gratitude, remembrance, and faith.

As we reflect on this past month, we are reminded that God continues to transform lives in powerful ways. Whether through baptism, fellowship, service, or prayer, we see His hand at work every day. Thank you for your continued prayers, support, and partnership in this ministry. Together, we are witnessing lives restored, hope renewed, and hearts drawn closer to Jesus Christ.

To God be the glory for all He has done and continues to do through the Gospel Center Rescue Mission.

Blessings,

David Midura

David Midura, CEO
GCRM



Top Row: Jonathan Velasquez, Robert Cobb, Deliverance Maynard, Kristina Wallace, Darren Shields, Dorothy Montes, David Midura, Tanisha Franklin, Sari Wyld, Jessica Lawson, Angel Hines, Steve Morales. Middle Row: Carrie Williams, Timothy Elia, Lindsey Pierzina, Tammy Arp, Nicole Wengert, Amanda Etzler, Marcelina Jamito, Fernando Segura, Britton Kimball.
Bottom Row: Tony Machado, Jessica Machado, Morgan Porras-Burgos, Dominique Simoni.





GRADUATION:
A celebration filled with hope and joy!

The Alumni Homecoming Celebration & Graduation Day, held on Sunday, September 13th was a joyous morning as New Life Program alumni, friends and family gathered for a beautiful service followed by a delicious BBQ lunch provided by the Stockton Lions Club. Worship music created the atmosphere for listening to the powerful messages of God's healing grace, as told by Distinguished Graduates, Jessica and Tony Machado. Graduation students of the New Life Program were also celebrated and presented with their graduation certificates.



























GOSPEL CENTER RESCUE MISSION

restoring lives since 1940

445 S. San Joaquin Street
Stockton, CA 95203

CAMPUS MEMORY VERSE

"He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand."
Psalm 40:2 (NIV)

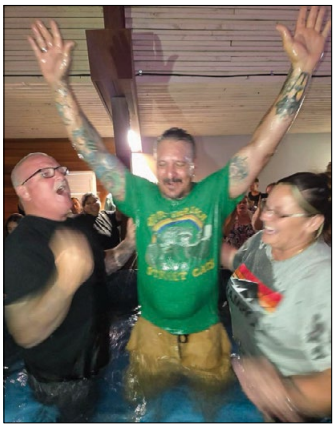
Welcome Jonathan Velasquez as our new Chief of Staff



Jonathan has been in ministry for 27 years, focused on administration and facilities. He brings a breadth of wisdom and knowledge to The Mission and will help guide the growth of The Mission staff. His entrepreneurial spirit – he has owned and operated many businesses - will blend well with the development of Mission Micro-Businesses such as Church Street Coffee and Clean Slate Paint. Jonathan is also a talented musician and worship leader; He has also been actively involved in numerous non-profit organizations in San Joaquin County.

Jonathan shared, "I truly have a love and passion for the Word of God and believe that we are called to go… to be Christ's ambassadors. To share the hope that we have in Him and to display His love everywhere we go. I know God is going to do amazing things at The Mission as we remain in Christ, as we follow His lead and as we completely Trust in Him."

Jonathan and his wife Jessica reside in Stockton and have 4 boys: Twins Noah and Josiah, Daniel, and Micah.



Baptism

A beautiful public declaration stating that the past does not define us. We are saved through Jesus Christ! As our student take the meaningful step of faith, we are reminded of the life-changing work God is doing through recovery, discipleship and support of a caring church community.

DONATIONS NEEDED

Twin Size Blankets & Sheets

Men's Hygiene Products; Shampoo, Razors, Bodywash, Deodorant

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