

Yakima

UGM NEWS

UNION GOSPEL MISSION

SEPTEMBER 2017



DEPRESSION MEETS FREEDOM

My story started in a home where my parents had a lot of issues. At age three I was taken from my mother and raised by my grandmother in Nampa, Idaho. She was the most important person in my life, but I didn't always treat her well and got caught in a downward spiral of drug and alcohol abuse. My choices resulted in losing my marriage and my kids and wondering, "How could I do the same thing to my kids that my parents

did to me?" Eventually my grandmother passed away and I was left with a lot of anger and sadness. My reality was a lack of peace about my life and where it was going. In a desperate moment one day I found myself reaching out to Barry Lucas, Pastor at Celebrate Recovery and admitting that there was something missing in my life. In that conversation, Pastor Barry asked,

Continued inside...

A PLACE FOR PAUL

If you see Paul, 73, walk across the YUGM campus, it often takes a while and it's not because he's slow. He's often stopped by a staff member asking if he can run an errand or by someone seeking advice. You can usually find him gathered within a small audience telling jokes or stories.

Paul arrived at the Mission around the age of 54 after moving from Oklahoma. Prospective jobs didn't pan out and he didn't want to impose on his relatives so he made due by living in a river encampment. After about six months, Paul recalls he got so hungry that he "had no choice but to swallow my pride and come down to the Mission." Upon arrival, Paul heard piecework jobs were sometimes offered to men at the shelter. Paul humbly stated he would take any job. Ellery B., Operations Manager, explained that when a member of the community calls and offers this type of work, Ellery relies on his instincts to pick the right worker. After meeting Paul, Ellery knew he would be a great asset to YUGM, with all his common sense and reliability. Ellery's hunch was right – and despite nearing an age when most men slow down, Paul seemed to work harder than men half his age. At this time, YUGM still picked up deer and elk and used the meat in meals. Ellery assigned this task to Paul.



Being a passionate Oklahoma boy, Paul had the experience, so him and a partner would go out, prepare and skin the meat. He's always modest about his skills and work ethic but employees at the Mission would be the first to tell you that Paul is beyond capable and uses his talents to mentor and teach other men. As Paul would be relying entirely on Social Security for retirement, he tried to think of a long term living situation. He recalls the moment when Ellery approached him and said the Mission was trying something new – offering room and board in exchange for continued work. Nearly two decades later, we no longer use roadkill but Paul stays busy – picking up donations, driving Mission trucks and running errands like picking up office supplies. Since implementing the program, we've had dozens of live-in volunteers who work on campus in exchange for room and board. The work he does is invaluable as it offsets staffing costs all while providing him assurance of this wonderful place he calls home. We are so grateful for our volunteers like Paul!

HELP US WITH OUR NEEDS

Disposable Razors
Shampoo & Conditioner
Toothpaste
Toothbrushes
Deodorant
Hand Soap
Baby Wipes
Diapers (Sizes 4-6)
Toilet Paper
Paper Towels
Paper Plates
Paper Cups
Plastic Utensils
Kitchen Gloves
Socks
Women's Underwear
Sit-down Forklift
Surface Pro
DVD Player & TV
Dish Soap
Toilet Cleaner
High E. Laundry Soap
Bleach
Mop Heads & Buckets
Bottled Water
Brown & White Sugar
Coffee
Cereal

Continued from cover...

“David, how is your relationship with God?” My answer was honest: “Well, I don’t really have one.” And so began my journey to change, by affirming my relationship with God through faith in Jesus. I had already given up smoking meth in 2010, and marijuana in 2015, but it was my struggle with clinical depression and drinking that brought me to YUGM. On May 10, 2016 I gave up alcohol and joined the 1-year New Life Program. After coming to the program I began to build a new understanding of God’s love for me. My various work assignments and especially the Genesis Recovery Process helped me deal with my past and move on. My growth in Yakima can also be attributed to my church family at Together Church where I have served behind the cameras on the tech team. After graduating the New Life Program, I was given the opportunity to do a summer practicum near Mount Rainier, working as part of the staff at Lost Creek Village, a camp operated by YUGM. My dream is to work in a treatment center and to eventually take that experience back home to Nampa to serve as part of the Mission there or even here in Yakima. I am thankful for my time at YUGM and for the things God has done in my life.

-David Moore, New Life Recovery Program Graduate

EVENING OF HOPE

JOIN US

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE FIRST ANNUAL YUGM EVENING OF HOPE.

An Evening Of Hope will be September 28, 2017 at the Yakima Convention Center. This is YOUR opportunity to participate in reshaping, restoring and renewing the lives of addicted, homeless and hurting men, women and families in need.

Join us for dinner as we celebrate with stories of redemption and renewal from graduates of the New Life Program and community partners whose lives have been transformed by hope. With a special performance by virtuoso violinist and inspirational speaker Roddy Chong - who has toured with Shania Twain, Celine Dion and has performed for the President, the Queen of England, Oprah and more!

To purchase tickets for this event contact: Tori Costello at 509.853.4317 | tori.costello@yugm.org
www.yugm.org/eveningofhope



September 28

6 PM - 8 PM

Yakima
Convention
Center

MEAL PRICE \$2.07

Imagine a bountiful Thanksgiving Dinner - Turkey, dressing, potatoes, gravy, vegetables and dessert for only \$2.07! (Yes, the cost to serve a meal at the Mission has increased by \$.10 per meal.) At the Yakima Union Gospel Mission, that is all it takes to feed and care for one hungry neighbor. Beginning this fall, the cost per meal will be just \$2.07 for a homemade meal, lovingly prepared by the hands of our food service volunteers and employees. Thank you for your compassion and impacting support.

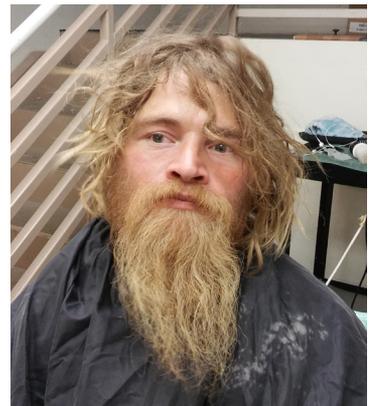
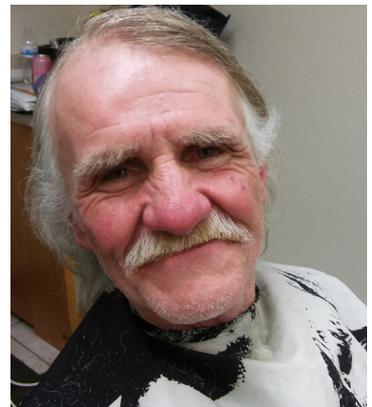


SEPTEMBER PRODUCT DRIVE - HIGH EFFICIENCY LAUNDRY SOAP & BLEACH

Donations can be dropped off at 1300 N. First St between 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Monday - Friday.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Lupe Bell is one of the Mission's most joyful and faithful volunteers. She began volunteering in October 2012, providing haircuts for the guests here at the Mission. Averaging over 20 haircuts every Wednesday, she quickly became known and so very loved. The men wait expectantly for her to show up every week. When Lupe talks about the guests she interacts with, you can quickly see her genuine, compassionate heart. Lupe tells stories of the men giving her gifts in exchange for a cut or shave. One man gave her three little pebbles because that was all he had. You can tell by her tear filled eyes that she is so touched by these interactions. Thank you Lupe for making a grand, heavenly impact.



VOLUNTEER NEEDS

Evening Meal Servers

Skilled tradesmen: Electricians, Plumbers, Mechanics, etc.

Family Shelter Office Assistant

Interested in **volunteering** at the Yakima Union Gospel Mission?
Contact David Wells
509.853.4370

STAY IN TOUCH



www.yugm.org



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[yakimaugm](https://www.instagram.com/yakimaugm)



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JOURNEY OF HOPE 2017



The 4th Annual Journey of Hope Golf Classic benefiting the Madison House Community Youth Center took place on August 9th. The Apple Tree Golf Course was maxed out with 155 golfers on the course. We would like to thank our generous corporate sponsors, business partners and participants for helping us exceed our goal and bring in over \$35,000 for Madison House. These funds will provide after-school programs, sports, tutoring and meals to kids in our community. Thank you Yakima Valley!