



This is Your Time

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” ~ Jeremiah 29:11

Number 21 was the horse nobody was worried about. The chestnut colt was not even supposed to be on the track that day but another horse scratched and the lot fell to an 80 to 1 longshot. He was the invisible horse. Even when he surged at the end of the race and closed the gap like a fire engine responding to five alarms, the focus was on the two leading contenders who were in a neck and neck dash for the finish. His name was not called because in the minds of the announcers he did not exist. Rich Strike ran the “fastest two minutes in sports” and won the Kentucky Derby unannounced except at the very end. There was a sense of, “Where did he come from?” in the minds of all who had sold him short.

I am not a gambler or a race fan but I am married to a horse whisperer who loves to window shop so I have seen every Derby since I said, “I do.” The jockey was also from Kathy’s hometown, Youngstown, Ohio. When engine 21 crossed the wire, I was already writing a sermon. It did not matter who was giving out the odds that day. It did not matter that he was almost not in the race. **What mattered was who was in the saddle.** What mattered was who was whispering in his ear and steering, who was sitting higher and had a view of the track. The horse had to *just trust and go* when the jockey’s legs and hands telegraphed the plan. Victory!

Rev. Dr. Randy Woodley (PhD, Asbury Theological Seminary) is recognized as a Cherokee descendent by the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians. He is an author and has penned one of my favorite insights, **“We are all in need of God’s vision. Anything less than God’s vision is broken shalom.”** If the thoughts we hold about ourselves are not God-thoughts, if they are informed by past injury, bad parenting, wicked friends, mistakes, the age we live in or any other thing- then we are going to miss the peaceful heart that allows us to hear what the One in the saddle whispers.

The “plans” mentioned in our scripture translate to “cunning designs of imagination.” These plans the Lord of All Creation has for you, are from before the foundation of anything we can see or touch. These plans are formed out of His own strategies for overcoming and transforming the world into a reflection of His generous and loving character. Any other vision apart from the vision of the Prince of Peace is “broken shalom” and will never give you prosperity, hope or a future in any substantive way.

God has cunning designs of imagination where we are concerned. Goodness and mercy are in hot pursuit. Hope and a future have entered the race. The last shall be first or so it says. Let the peace of God reign in your hearts and charge to the finish. This is YOUR race and YOUR time. Past failures determine present outcomes *but for God*, the God who has designs on your life. *That* changes everything.

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May the Lord bless and inspire you to bravery in your everyday life. May He energize your worship and your prayer life. May the applause of Heaven be yours. Your Father is waiting for you in the winner's circle of Eternity.

Yours in hope and victory,
Pastor John LaMantia

Welcome to the Board



The Mission is honored to welcome Lori Purviance to our Board of Trustees. Lori has lived in Alaska since 1983. She has a degree from UAA in Business Management and Accounting. Lori has other non-profit experience as well as background in medical office management and financial planning. For twenty-one

years she was the Chief Financial & Operations Officer for BDS Architects. Lori loves gardening, landscaping and singing in the choir. She has been married to Shawn for twenty-six years and they have one daughter. What a blessing to have Lori on our Board at this time in the journey of the Mission.

Wrapped Up in Love



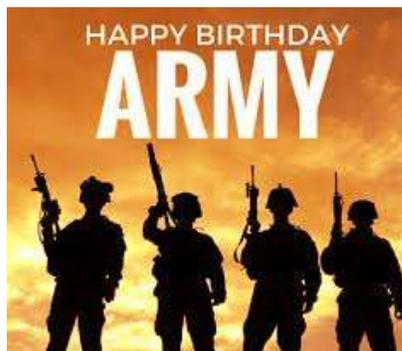
Many thanks to the Wednesday Quilters from First Christian Church. These dear folks always remember the Mission. It is such a joy to have these precious quilts to share. I know the quilters prayed into every one of them.

June Memorials

I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued My faithfulness to you. -Jeremiah 31:3



Memorial for: Susan Pozzi	by: Mary Doppelfeld
Memorial for: Jaysen Mathiesen	by: Gwen E. Colliander
Memorial for: Dale R. Lindsey	by: Petro 49, Inc.
Memorial for: Dale R. Lindsey	by: Shoreside Petroleum, Inc.
Memorial for: Irma Scavenius	by: Kamala Satyal
Memorial for: Betty Jean Spencer	by: Lone Steele
Memorial for: Mickey Bettis	by: Don & Charlotte Bettis
Memorial for: Earl Bolvin	by: Anonymous
Memorial for: Jaysen Mathiesen	by: Anonymous
Memorial for: George Rakos	by: Anonymous
Memorial for: Jerry T. Wildes	by: The LaMantia Family



June 14th, Happy Birthday, Army! Blessings to all who are in the Army and to their families. You are in our hearts and prayers.

June will see us moving forward with our kitchen upgrade. Please remember that your continued support for our general operating fund is essential to the fundamental ministry of the Mission. Your support as we decommission our tired old kitchen, in favor of one that can efficiently serve the needs of those who are hungry, is something we gratefully and prayerfully seek over and above your monthly support. Special thanks to the individuals and businesses that are making this modernization possible.

Chapel by the Sea



I really enjoyed myself this past Sunday at Chapel by the Sea. This congregation has been so faithful and supportive of the work done by the Mission. The singing was right from heaven and the musician in me drank it in. Thank you, Pastor Tim Davis for the word and for making me welcome.

Daniel Polito is our donor thank-you drawing winner for June. We will be sending him Soul Fuel. "Bestselling author Bear Grylls is best known for his seven seasons on National Geographic's *Man vs. Wild*, his current NBC TV series, *Running Wild with Bear Grylls*. Bear shares the backstories behind many of his most daring expeditions and how his faith gave him the purpose and power to carry on. In 365 devotions he explores themes of hope, courage, risk, heaven, and more."

Finding Out How the Mission Works



It was a privilege to recently show Stephanie Taylor and Leigh Sloan our facilities and explain how our programs and shelter work. We discussed how it is possible to exercise generosity but also economy when helping our homeless neighbors. Stephanie has made herself available to serve on the Anchorage Assembly in the new

seat for District 1, should she be elected in June. We appreciated Stephanie and her Campaign Manager taking time to visit and ask questions.



What a pleasure to discuss the Mission and share our hearts for the hurting with Melina Sevigny, Community Relations & Program Manager for TOTE Maritime. Melina was interested in seeing our plans to upgrade our kitchen to better serve the individuals and families who enjoy our open table. TOTE has long been a generous partner and resource for many non-profits in the state. Thank you Board member, Barbara Schmideskamp, for your input.

We are always happy to schedule tours of the Mission and answer questions about how we are sharing God's love and meeting the needs of our community. You may request a tour by filling out the contact form on our web site. Individuals, schools, groups, churches and businesses are welcome.

Something to Smile About



Leroy Rice came to us in a COVID season of lockdowns in March 2020 when the Mission was sheltering those who were older with medical conditions that made them vulnerable. After several months of sobriety and taking classes we offered in specific areas of scripture, Leroy thought he might try our LifeSkills program. He successfully completed LifeSkills and entered our Men's Recovery Support Program upon graduation. He is accountable to the other men he shares a dwelling with and they are accountable to him. He is financially responsible for himself and pays his own way. Leroy is a joy to be around and has such a wonderful heart.

Leroy has been blessed by the Mission and has returned that blessing. He wanted to share these thoughts and convey his appreciation: "The Rescue Mission is a place where you always feel the love of God. The staff is always happy to help you and your soul is fed God's word. People talk to you here and they always make themselves available to have a word when you need it. In this Rescue Mission you will always find faith, love and salvation. I have."

God Works and I Work



My childhood was one of neglect and abuse and absent of many coping skills. Acceptance seemed illusive and I was left to wonder where I belonged. I tried alcohol and drugs and tried them repeatedly until addiction enveloped my life. I lived in the grasp of that addiction for many years. The embrace of addiction left me isolated, impoverished and hopeless.

I have heard people testify that God healed them and simply removed their addiction. That certainly was not my experience. I went through long periods of treatment coupled with Christian discipleship. I needed a program that instilled God's principles into my life and alerted me to my self-destructive patterns. That work has enabled me to possess a stability, motivation, joy and hope beyond what I could have imagined when addiction owned me.

I chose to return to the Anchorage Gospel Rescue Mission to work because it is a place that was foundational to my success. My work at the Mission enables me to be engaged in helping others with their own battles, to help them make sense of what for them is still a struggle. I can demonstrate for them that God *is* faithful and that there is a way through that very struggle.

Neil Givens, Client Services

The Anchorage Gospel Rescue Mission makes every effort to honor the wishes of our donors who have directed contributions to a specific area. We do, however, reserve the right to redirect the monies received over and above a specific need, into whatever areas they may best be useful.

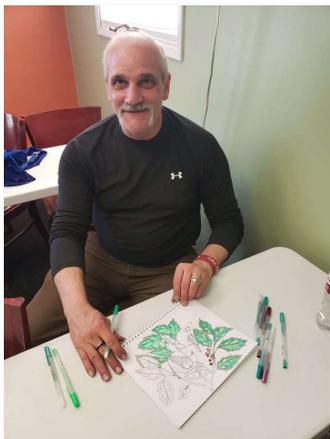
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Email: info@anchoragerescue.org | Website: www.anchoragerescue.org



Nightly Services 7:30PM - 8:30 PM
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Art for the Heart

Fun times in art class with paint, markers, models etc. Art class is open to those in our program as well as those sheltering with us. Please consider gifts of 8X10 canvas, mixed media paper, gel pens, markers and drawing pencils to the art program. Beauty speaks a language every heart understands.



To pull the metal splinter from my palm my father recited a story in a low voice.

I watched his lovely face and not the blade.

Before the story ended, he'd removed the iron sliver I thought I'd die from.

I can't remember the tale, but hear his voice still, a well of dark water, a prayer.

And I recall his hands, two measures of tenderness he laid against my face...

I did what a child does when he's given something to keep. I kissed my father.

*The Gift (excerpted)
By Li-Young Lee
A Father's Day Offering*