



*In My Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? John 14:2 (BSB)*

## ***Your Room is Ready***

Hardly a day passes without my discovering some encouraging little something that seems to have been left in my path by holy hands. A small stone with "Love" painted on it at the bottom of a pocket. A sweet note tucked into a book that had been waiting on a shelf for years. An old voicemail rediscovered from an adult child just calling because he could. My bible falling open to the perfect scripture to let me know God is listening. I believe angels enjoy this part of their jobs, moving tokens of affection into our paths.

Someone once told me that she believed when Christ said He was going to prepare a "place" for us, one aspect of that place was to prepare rooms for us for all the circumstances of our lives here on Earth not just for our eternal home. She believed that each of those rooms would be furnished with just the things and people, the moments and experiences, we needed in that aspect. A room for marriage, a room for motherhood, a room for illness, for grief, for new jobs, for new starts. Inside would be people who would speak life, hope, help, comfort, celebration, encouragement etc. All the people and circumstances tailored to our need with absolute care. A lovingly appointed room for that specific season. What a wonderful thought. Many of our people in early recovery struggle and the idea that God has prepared a room for this trying and uncertain time and filled it with everything they could possibly need is an image they can hold onto. The idea that the Mission is not a place of last resort for those who have failed, but a perfectly appointed room full of needful things just waiting for them, is a blessing.

Maybe today you are in a new aspect of life. Maybe it feels strange or lonely or filled with uncertainty. Your reservation has been made. Your room is ready. The Spirit of God is harmonizing every detail to sync with Christ's purpose for you and His love for you. Fear for nothing. "For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us." 2 Corinthians 1:20.

So many of you have been the angels furnishing the rooms of this ministry on behalf of our neighbors in need of Divine hospitality. Your kindness cannot be measured. You have filled these rooms with comfort, prayers and glorious welcome. May the Lord return that kindness to you as He furnishes all the rooms of your own lives.

Until we are, as one body, gathered into that breathtaking place Christ has prepared for us in glory, be ready.

With affectionate hope,

***Pastor John LaMantia***



## Celebrating With Our Neighbors



We honor all those who guard our shores, whose search and rescue skill have helped so many in dire circumstances. Blessings to the men and women of the US Coast Guard and their families.



It was my pleasure to help celebrate the 50th anniversary of Alaska Behavioral Health on behalf of the Rescue Mission. This is such a wonderful organization and also a neighbor of ours. There was also a picnic on their grounds on Folker Street.

## Program Completed!

## Looking For a Way Forward



I was very appreciative to have been invited to participate in a work session with the new mayor's transition team. Good ideas were shared concerning housing our homeless neighbors. I met many talented and dedicated people. Sincere prayers for a way forward.

## A Little Spit and Polish



Cleaned and relined the parking lot. Hanging baskets and window boxes looking good. It is important to put a good face on the Mission so the folks who come here to use our services feel the blessing. We are also committed to blessing the neighborhood we are a part of. Thank you to all who make the Mission beautiful.



We joyfully had a double graduation! Two of our LifeSkills men have completed the program.

Aaron Carlson (blue shirt) has been doing a great job driving the donation van and interacting with the businesses that support the ministry. He is such a blessing.

John Oyoumick (gray shirt) has been invaluable to our meal service and proved to be a real treasure in the kitchen.

We all wish both of these fine men their best life and every grace going forward.

Pastor John, Staff, Board and Partners

## Thank You Kaladi

Breakfast at the Mission has been blessed by the folks at Kaladi's. What a delight to wake up to. Owner, Tim Gravel, roasted and ground 150 pounds of their coffee just for our shelter, program people and our walk-in clients to enjoy with breakfast. May the Lord return their kindness. Be sure to let them know you appreciate them the next time you shop.





## Something to Ponder

*He hath made his wonderful works to be remembered:  
the LORD is gracious and full of compassion.  
~ Psalms 111:4*

A farmer was showing his visiting city-dwelling friend around his farm. "Watch this!" he said. He gave a whistle and his little dog came running from the house, herded the cattle into the corral, then latched the gate with her paw. "Wow, that's some dog — what's her name?" The forgetful farmer thought for a minute and then asked, "What do you call that red flower that smells good and has thorns on the stem?" "A rose?" "That's it!" The farmer turned to his wife. "Hey Rose, what do we call this dog?"

Funny how we forget things, isn't it? It happens to the best of us! God has done miracles in our lives and I'm sure he's done many in each of yours as well! But we still get anxious when things aren't going quite the way we hoped, don't we?

Recall a miracle of God in your life. Remember the joy you felt? We need to relive that joy today! The miracle of God's new birth in us and the many other miracles God has done are not ones to be quickly forgotten.

We never want to become cold toward God! Let's spend some time remembering the miracles He has done in our lives and strive to trust Him for the trials we face today!

*From Worthy Devotions*

## Touring Our Partners



I certainly enjoyed touring two members of the Rasmuson Foundation. They got to see all of our dorms for program men and women and for the shelter as well as our computer lab and kitchen areas. Pictured are Bob Doehl and Farina Brown who will be joining the new mayor's team to address homelessness.

The Rasmuson Foundation helped make our new kitchen-dining room-warehouse possible. I am reminded of their kindness every time I walk into that space. What a gracious partner they have been and Bob's help and support was a wonderful blessing during that process.

We wish both of these dear people every success in their new roles. Our city needs people of good will and inspired leadership.

Pastor John LaMantia

## August Memorials



Memorial for: Bemma Lue Floyd  
by: Christopher Keltz

Memorial for: Joyce Maines  
by: Tamie Hollingsworth

Memorial for: Gena & Joe Columbus  
by: Mary Doppelfeld

*Raised with Him to  
endless life, He will hold  
me fast, until our faith is  
turned to sight when He  
comes at last!*

## Looking for Opportunities



Saturday afternoon in the art room. We have had a class mid-week for years but have been working to expand the opportunity for our men and women so they can access supplies and a chance to create

something more often. Lots of experimenting going on.

## Can You Help?

On a recent trip to the library a gentleman who knew me asked, "Can the Mission use some bok choy?" We absolutely could! We can ALWAYS use something in the fruit and vegetable line. This time of year fresh berries are a wonderful treat for us. Lettuce, squash, zucchini, cabbage, peppers, strawberries, blueberries, raspberries and bananas always welcome.



*"A smooth sea never made a skilled sailor."  
~ Franklin D. Roosevelt*



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## *Gathering Inspiration*

Our LifeSkills program men went on a field trip to the Botanical Gardens. Some sketched in the garden, others took pictures to use as inspiration pieces to create watercolors or pencil drawings in art class. Pictures were taken to share with families. Perfect weather. Perfect afternoon especially since it ended with a side trip to get ice cream cones.

