



Christ is Our Compass

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. ~ Psalm 32:8 (ESV)

I have a brother who could be dropped blindfolded literally any place on the map and he would find his way. He seems to have been born with a built-in compass. I have a hole where that compass should be. When I was in college I forgot how to get to my grandmother's house. She had lived there for as long as I had known her.

I lucked out when I got married because as all men discover when they marry, they not only get a wife they get a permanent and very vocal navigator. "Turn here. Turn there. Don't take that street. This one is shorter. Slow down. Speed up. Are your lights on?" My sweet navigator claims virtual infallibility. I keep my thoughts to myself.

Lost is a horrible feeling in any aspect of life. It is hard enough in traffic but it can be crushing when we find ourself directionless or in an endless loop where important things are concerned. Things that define us and determine our quality of life.

I remember a time when I lost more than grandma's house. It was at that crucial moment a man told me about Jesus and I discovered the wisdom of His word. He saved me from eternity without Him but He also led me to those green pastures David sang about. The day I came to Christ was the last day I walked alone. Let me tell you what an amazing navigator the Holy Spirit is!

The opening scripture implies that God keeps His eye on us and even more, looks us right in the eye while pointing out the good path. He instructs and counsels and He is present in the moment with us. We are not lost. We are not alone. The one who created the world is helping us navigate the tricky places.

It is my fervent hope that we here at the Rescue Mission are helping people overcome their lostness, their loneliness. I want my neighbors, these dear people, to find the hope and direction I was given in Christ. Who was I that the Son of God should want to share His life with me? But He did and still is. It is the joy and the sustaining force of my life.

As you partner with us financially, please fervently intercede for the souls in our care. I am always remarking to Kathy that prayer is the real fuel this ministry runs on. Prayer draws them in. Prayer softens their hearts. Prayer keeps them *and* us.

Whatever life circumstances you are trying to navigate today, my prayers go with you. May you discover just how much you are loved along the way.

Blessings,

Pastor John LaMantia

Spending Time With One of the Lord's Encouragers



In August Cathy Rasmuson asked to come for lunch and a tour of the Mission. We were so glad to have her. Ed Rasmuson, who stepped into Eternity two years ago, had been such a blessing to this work. When I was a new director and still trying to discover my wings, Ed was one of the folks who helped me and kept on encouraging me. Cathy's work with the Rasmuson Foundation, as well as her support of numerous non-profit efforts,



is legend so we were thrilled to get to meet her and thank her for her work in our community and in particular for her support of our recently completed kitchen project.

It was a complete surprise that Cathy shared with us that Ed had made arrangements to gift the Mission from the Rasmuson Family Living Trust. Ed's parting gift is the largest donation of its kind in the history of the Mission. I was overcome by such generosity as was our Board. We will steward this good man's investment in our work and honor his memory. The psalmist tells us that a righteous man will be remembered forever. Surely that is true of Ed.

The Rasmuson family has our deep and abiding gratitude.

Sincerely,

John LaMantia, Board, staff and all the souls at the Rescue Mission

God Rhymes



We were happy to welcome Kevin Nowak, a poet, who describes his poetry as "Simple poems for hard times." He shared his work with our chapel folks and left me copies of his self-published booklets. With Kevin it is all about God as our encourager.

Thank you, Kevin, for sharing with us.

Nine Star Friends



Luz Hernandez, GED Proctor/Intake Specialist (L) and Hye Suh, Net2Lader Education Director (R) came to the Mission to present the many programs and offerings by Nine Star Education and Employment Services.

Nine Star has been coming to help our folks secure their GEDs but they also help with resume writing, job placement and many other helpful services that can lead to independence. They are one of our favorite sister non-profits. I give them an A+.

Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center

Attended the Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center's Open House. I wanted to be sure to let them know, in person, how much the Mission appreciates their regular visits to care for our clients. Special shout out to Lisa Aquino, CEO, for her leadership of this valuable city neighbor.



Needful Things

Needless to say, the rain has impacted our clients. Those standing for a bus to work would be grateful for rain ponchos and umbrellas. We had a good supply but it has just been so wet. We wouldn't refuse dry socks either. Front office is open daily for drive up donations from 8 am to 8 pm. Thank you.

Thank You for the Invitation

I so enjoyed the opportunity to bring God's message of hope and share rich worship with our friends at Kingdom Life Church. This group of wonderful people are so faithful to pour into the work here at the Mission.



Contact Your Representative

The proposed Charitable Act aims to incentivize individual giving by reinstating and raising the deduction for giving to \$4,600 for individuals (\$9,200 for joint filers).

Sens. James Lankford and Chris Coons led the bipartisan effort that would allow taxpayers who do not itemize on their tax returns to additionally deduct up to one-third of the standard deduction, so approximately \$4,500 as individuals or about \$9,000 if filing jointly for charitable deductions.

Consider: Have you reached out to your representatives in Congress to encourage them to support the Charitable Act?

<https://www.usa.gov/elected-officials/>

September Memorials

"Before the mountains were begotten and the earth took shape, even then, O LORD, you were our refuge..."

Memorial for: Gene Moe
by: Gayle Mathiesen

Memorial for: Herbert Eckmann
by: Kathryn O. Eckmann

Memorial for: Fred Scharper
by: Dennis & Diane Allen

Memorial for: Kurt Rein
by: Kurt Rein

Memorial for: Gene Moe
by: Gwen Colliander

Memorial for: Bemma Lu Floyd
by: Gwen Colliander





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Pouring Glory Art Sale to Support Our Program People



Pouring Glory Art Show Saturday, September 21st 1pm to 3pm at the Mission. Our students are selling their work. They have made acrylic pours on canvas that are for sale as well as having made necklaces from prints of those same pieces. **There are canvases, necklaces, keepsake boxes and even two occasional tables for sale.** The necklaces are \$5.00 to \$7.00 and perfect for stocking stuffers. They come in a gift bag with a note about their creation.

Cash or credit card. If you want to encourage the sober journeys of our program people and support the Mission come see the show! Come early as pieces are limited.

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