

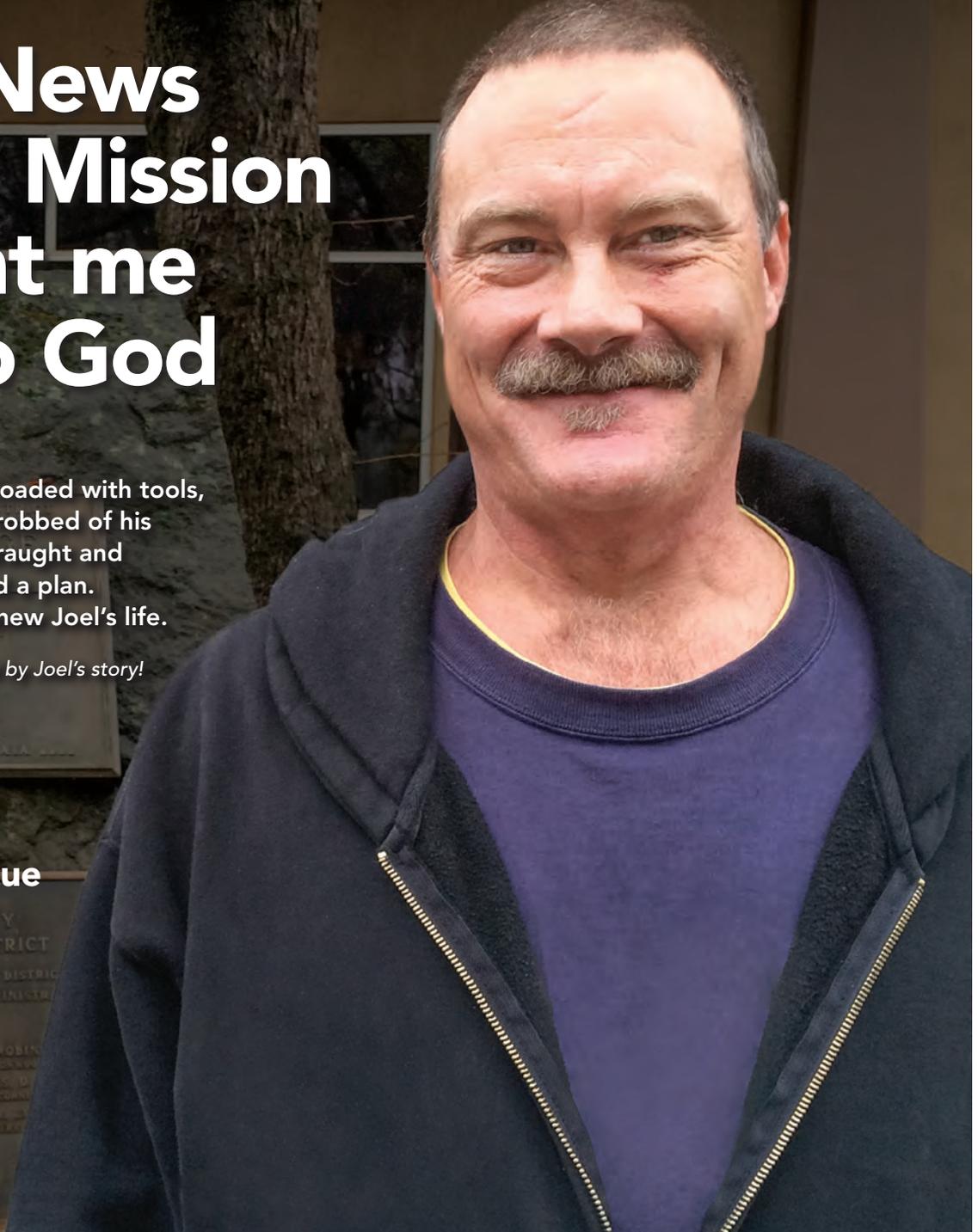
Good News Rescue Mission brought me back to God

When Joel's truck, fully loaded with tools, was stolen, he was also robbed of his livelihood. Joel was distraught and devastated. But God had a plan. A plan to restore and renew Joel's life.

Turn to page 2 and be inspired by Joel's story!

"Coming to the Good News Rescue Mission brought me back to my relationship with God."

—JOEL



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From the heart of Jonathan

Jonathan Anderson
Executive Director

"Our greatest joy is walking with people as they die to their old self and rise to a new life..."

Clothed with righteousness

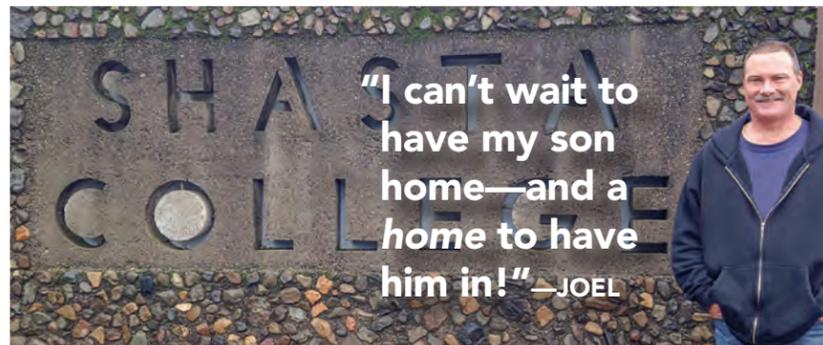
I love the Easter season! I am reminded of a dramatic biblical scene in Zechariah 3 where Satan accuses Joshua the High Priest of having "filthy garments." God mercifully advocates on Joshua's behalf, then removes the filthy garments and clothes Joshua in splendor.

One of life's greatest experiences is witnessing renewal. Every day, we at the Good News Rescue Mission get to work with people whose lives are stained and filthy. People who bear the shame and consequences of poor choices; people who struggle to find their worth and identity after years of being outcasts. We have the privilege of being an advocate for these people and instilling hope and the love of Jesus Christ into their brokenness. Our greatest joy is walking with them as they die to their old selves and rise to a new life—a life clothed with the righteousness of Jesus.

Your faithful support is a crucial contribution that matters to God and makes this great ministry possible. And today, the need is greater than ever, especially with increasing numbers of women and children seeking our help. Thank you for believing in the lives that are renewed and restored at the Good News Rescue Mission! May God bless you as He continues to use your sacrifice to demonstrate His love to hurting people.

Easter blessings,

Jonathan Anderson, Executive Director



continued from the cover

The Mission is an awesome place!

Joel has always lived in Redding. He has known about the Good News Rescue Mission all his life. "I never thought I'd be there," he admits. "In high school, I used to drive by and kind of snicker." Today, Joel is a passionate advocate of the Mission. What happened that brought Joel here for help? *Life* happened.

"Back in 2013, my truck full of tools was stolen from me. It was my livelihood," he says. With a little savings and help from friends and family, Joel kept his head above water for a while. He got another vehicle and was gradually replacing his tools when he "got hit again" and lost everything, including his home. "It was scary. I wasn't prepared to be homeless," he says.

Without a snicker

No snickering now! Joel came gratefully to the Good News Rescue Mission and entered the Work Search program. About two months later, our Step Up program was launched. "I got on board with that to further my education," says Joel. "It's pretty cool, being able to go to college and get an education." In college, Joel is building marketable skills—learning to operate bulldozers, excavators, back hoes and eventually, a crane. "I'll go through surveying also...algebra, all the things I never did in high school."

Joel should have his associate's degree next year and hopes to get hired onto a road crew. Achieving this goal will open the door for Joel to have a home where he can resume raising his 8-year-old son, who currently lives with grandparents. "I can't wait to have my son home—and a home to have him in!"

Best of all...God

By far the best blessing Joel has received at the Mission is his renewed relationship with God. "For a time in my life I quit hanging out with Him," Joel explains. "The Mission has brought me right back to Him."

These days, when Joel looks back on having his truck and tools stolen, he sees it as a blessing in disguise. "The Mission is an awesome place!" he says. "I can't thank them enough. Once I get my feet on the ground, I plan on contributing myself, with all that I can."

Thank you for making a difference for Joel and so many others who are finding renewal at the Good News Rescue Mission! Your support provides the precious gift of hope.

It's a "God thing"

This Easter will be very special for Lori. For the first time in years, she is clean, sober, self-sufficient and looking forward to having her three grandchildren with her. "To be able to have them come and be with grandma and to be trusted with them...I can't wait!" she exclaims.

When Lori came to the Good News Rescue Mission, she was going through a long and painful divorce. Alcohol had been slowly destroying her life for about 5 years. "But for most of my life, I had some kind of substance abuse," she explains. "It was something my parents taught me and I taught my husband and it just went on and on." No more. By the grace of God, Lori has left that life behind.

When she asked, God answered

Lori will never forget how, after years and years of struggling, God led her to the Mission. "The program just came into my life when I asked God to help me change my life and not want to drink anymore," she says. "I don't know how to explain that. The Mission just came up on one of the papers we were looking at. I signed up and they welcomed me, without any money or anything. They said 'Just come here and we'll help you.'"

Once Lori was here, she never looked back. She got clean and sober, completed the program and will be living in her own place by the time this newsletter goes to print. She has also secured a job as a dietary aide in a local hospital and is very excited about "living my life, serving the Lord and

"I hope to be with my grandkids for Easter...clean and sober...to be trusted with them. I can't wait!" —LORI



serving others." As for long-term goals, perhaps she will advance into a career as a dietician. "But that's a 5-year plan," she explains. For now, she is prayerfully (and gratefully) living one day at a time.

The power of unconditional love

When Lori was negotiating her divorce settlement, her husband said she needed a job to make her a better person. Now she has a job. "But I think God has made me a better person," she says. "And the Mission has given me the tools, the courage and the love to be that person. What I got from all of the people here—staff, volunteers, the pastor—is unconditional love." Being loved this way by God and other people has helped Lori learn to "love me for myself." That's a powerful lesson and one for which Lori is deeply grateful.

Knowing that all of this is possible only through the generosity of our friends, Lori would like to thank you for your support. "Your time and your donations, they change people's lives!" she says. "It's a 'God thing' that you are doing, and He is going to bless you."

Mark April 3 on your calendar and join us...

Good Friday Celebration

Good Friday is April 3—just a few weeks away. You are invited to come to the Good News Rescue Mission and join the students in our program for a celebration of the sacred season of Easter.

Our Good Friday Celebration is a very special event. Two worship services will be held in our beautifully decorated Chapel. A delicious holiday luncheon and dinner, served by our wonderful volunteers, will coincide with these services. Bibles will be distributed, and children attending will be treated to candy and an abundance of tender loving care!

The hope of redemption and new life is the precious gift of God. Come and join us as we celebrate God's grace and His Son who came to save us.



Solutions Spotlight: Reuniting families

Finding solutions to life's toughest problems is a key initiative here at the Good News Rescue Mission. That's why we started the Journey Home Project last December. This vital new program is designed to help low-income or homeless people in Shasta County reunite with loved ones who live elsewhere and are willing and able to provide a place to stay and ongoing support. Candidates for the project must be approved by GNRM staff as sober and medically stable enough to travel unassisted to the destination.



Jessie is now reconciled with her parents.

in Washington to be with him. For a while, they worked for carnivals and traveled around the United States. But when Jessie's boyfriend became increasingly abusive and was arrested, she was hungry, homeless and desperate. Someone told her about the Good News Rescue Mission and she came to us for help. "I have now reconciled with my parents...and will be traveling back to be with them, thanks to the Mission," she says.

Jessie's Journey

Our first person to "Journey Home" was 18-year-old Jessie, who started using drugs with her boyfriend. About a year ago, she left her home

With help from friends like you, programs like the Journey Home Project are made possible. Your continued support will make it possible for more hurting people like Jessie to find solutions to life's toughest problems. Thank you!

Every month, you can...Make a Difference

If you already support the Mission regularly, thank you so much for making a difference—month after month! If not, please consider joining today. It's easy—and it's rewarding! The Good News Rescue Mission can set up an automatic deduction from your checking account or credit card,

and you can even customize your mailing schedule.

To make a difference every month, contact Ken White at kwhite@gnrm.org or call 530-242-5920. You can also check the box on the coupon provided with this newsletter. Thank you!

News and Events

Good Friday Celebration: April 3

Volunteer Appreciation Day: Wednesday, April 15

Night to the Rescue: Saturday-Sunday, May 2-3

New Life Recovery Graduation: Friday, May 8

Your gifts at work

January–March 2015

Since the beginning of 2015, your gifts have helped provide and make possible:

- 45,500 meals
- 17,000 nights of shelter
- 13,500 articles of clothing
- 21 job placements
- 28 people who found permanent housing

Thanks to your generous support, we're off to a great start in 2015. Please help us continue to bring new life to people in need!

Stay connected!



YES! This Easter season, I want to help provide meals, shelter and hope for new life to my neighbors in need.

I've enclosed: \$15 \$35 \$50 \$150 \$_____

I would like to become a Meals and Hope Partner.
I will give a monthly gift of \$_____. My first gift is enclosed.

To give a gift by credit card, visit us online at gnrm.org or call 530-242-5920.

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THANK YOU!

Please make your check payable to:
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Your gift is tax deductible to the full extent of the law. We will send a receipt for your records.