

Eugene can't wait to start a new day of ministry at Pacific Garden Mission

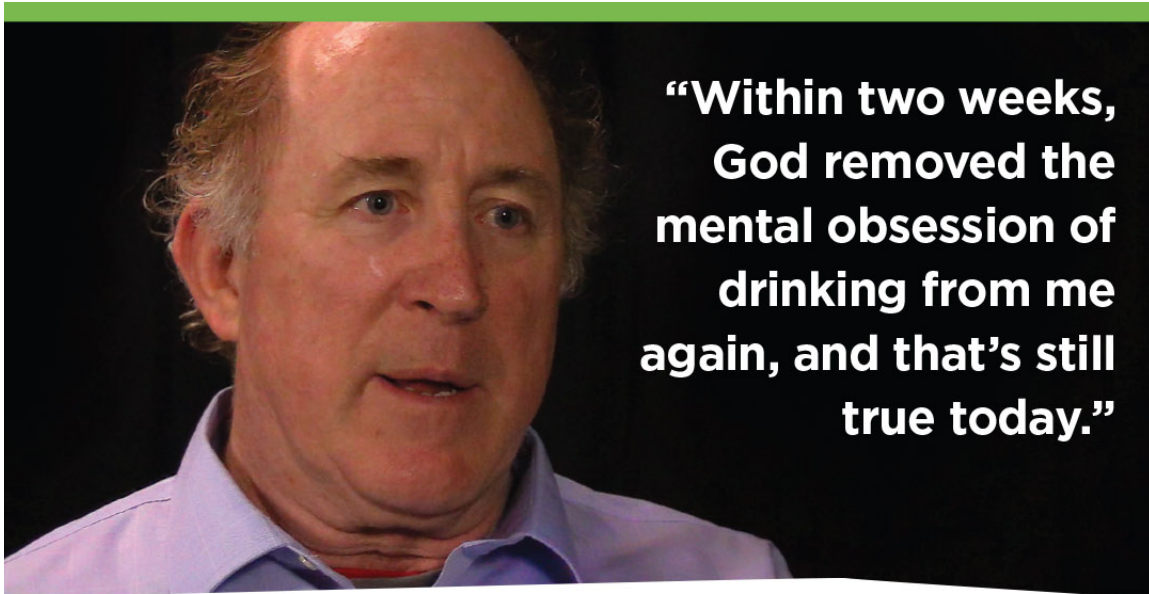
FEED MY SHEEP

The resources you as a donor help to provide at Pacific Garden Mission allow us to maintain a secure lifeline, a strong support, to hundreds of people at any given time. Because of you, our New Life Bible Program offers teaching, training, and tools to those with no resources so they can begin building a new life upon a sturdy foundation. Providing all the essentials to do this would be an insurmountable task to accomplish alone—but it's together, with your help, that we are able to lead countless souls to new life in Christ through steadfast, tried and true, Gospel-based programs for recovery and lasting life transformation. Thank You.

EUGENE

“What drove me here to Pacific Garden Mission was my addiction to alcohol. It came on late in my life—I was 50 years old. I’m not quite sure why it took that long to hit me because there is alcoholism in my family. But it hit . . . it hit hard and swept everything away.

“I built a 30-year career down at the Chicago Board of Trade, but technology pushed me out of there. As it did, I was questioning God about why this was happening to me. My children were building their own careers, and I was no longer married. I had a nice place to live and money in the bank . . . and that’s when the devil entered my life through drinking. I felt I had been a humble



servant for many years, but I was suddenly lost. I didn’t know what was next in my life, and I probably lost a little trust if I am totally honest. The drinking took away any aspirations and any dreams that I might have had as an older adult. I lost everything very quickly, and I have been trying to rebound ever since.

“I actually ended up in treatment, and then another treatment, and during those treatments, I heard about the Mission. My relationship with Christ was

torn apart through the addiction, and after hearing about Pacific Garden Mission, I knew this had to be my place. I packed my bag and came to PGM with my addiction in tow. Within two weeks, God removed the mental obsession of drinking from me again, and that’s still true today.

“I decided to complete the 90-day addictions recovery program and joined the one-year Bible program to become more intimate with God. His mercy directed me through PGM’s New Day and

New Life programs, and I completed my studies this past September 2020. Graduation was not a completion but a true beginning in my walk in Christ. For now, I must apply His Word in all my affairs.

“These past months have been exciting as God continues to refine me with love and patience. Today, I am blessed, for I have been given the stewardship of a



Eugene shares an encouraging word with an overnight guest

***“And the Lord
took the man,
and put him in
the garden of Eden
to dress it and
to keep it.”
—Genesis 1:15***

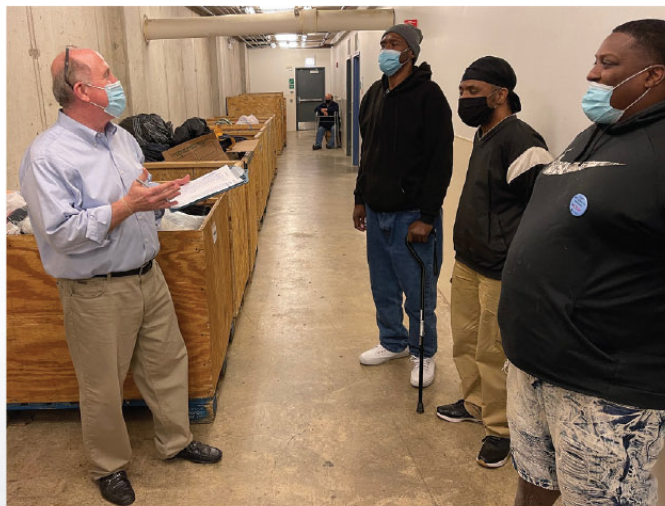
PGM Guest Service employee, which allows me to grow closer to my loving God, assisting my fellow brothers daily in a dignified way in Christ. Through Christ and His mercy, my current ‘day to day’ is peaceful, and no matter the circumstance, Christ’s mercy comforts me. I pray a simple nighttime prayer: ‘God, send down one of your special angels to hold me and comfort me while I sleep in your peace.’ And I sleep like a toddler. As I wake each day, I pray: ‘God, send down one of your special angels to watch over me and keep me from harm—especially from harm of self.’

“One of my closest spiritual leaders here at the Mission said that Pacific Garden Mission is a church with a rescue mission dropped down in the middle—a church in which we practice reverence to the Lord (church) and respect to our guests (mission). Praise the Lord! Since I was a boy, I have known, through Christ,

that the greatest gift I can give another is my labor—which makes my stewardship to the Mission a love story!

“I love my Lord Jesus, and through his love for me, I extend all efforts toward our guests. I know now that I want to stand with the discarded and most vulnerable until others stop throwing them away. In the Holy Bible, Paul invites us to invest ourselves in others. Genesis 1:15 sums up my life here at PGM.

Eugene now assists the transient men in our dayroom with a humble servant’s heart. He is able to help the lost and weary, and because he’s often able to relate to their plight, he bonds with them and builds a connection of trust. Through this kinship, the Gospel message can be shared fruitfully. Because of you, Eugene was able to get the resources he needed here. And it’s through your ongoing support that Eugene continues to grow in his relationship with Christ as he ministers to and serves others in need at the Mission. We thank you for making this Godly cycle of discipleship, healing, and love possible.



Eugene shares the love of Christ as he assists transient guests in getting clothing

YOUR LETTERS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

In the past few months, we have been delighted to receive many lovely letters from our supporters, and we would like to share just a few more of your kind words of encouragement. We are unable to respond to most of these due to limited staff, but we want you to know that each one is read and passed around, sharing praise and thanksgiving while also lifting the spirits of our frontline ministry servers.

Thank you for all you do. May God continue to use you to help people in need and bring the message of salvation to many. I'm praying for your safety from COVID-19, too. God bless your work.

—Joy

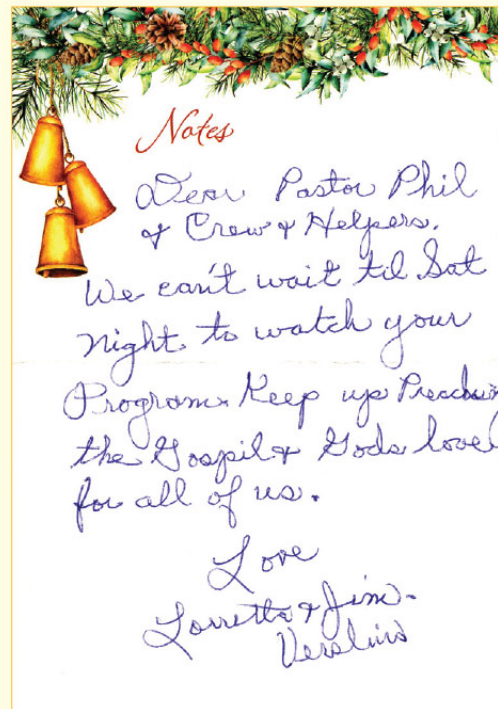


Thank you for your work there. I too, was homeless 22 years+ ago with 5 children. The Lord took care of us. What your Mission does is not only meet the physical needs, but you also help those who want to draw closer to God as you train them in the Word. What a fantastic world. Here, we are watched by the heavenly host in this world of battles between the evil of Satan and of God's own works. And He wins. —Cathy



Hi!
Please use this gift to aid the people in need in these very difficult times in our nation and world. I try to catch your TV and radio shows. Thanks so much for all the work you do in the Chicago area. —Karen

PGM is one of the places where I see Christ active today. PGM ministers to the whole person the way Jesus did. I've been watching your program on TLN since 2014, and I also enjoy reading the newsletters. It's always a joy to see when God opens a door of opportunity at PGM and someone walks through and enters the abundant life. —Kathy



PGM welcomes your letters. We are encouraged to know our work makes a difference.



A Word from Philip Kwiatkowski

President, Pacific Garden Mission

AN ETERNAL GRATITUDE

I am always thrilled when former residents call or write back to tell me how they are doing.

I love what John says in 3 John: "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth."

I, too, have no greater joy than hearing stories of PGM's impact on so many lives. I recently received a note from a former resident. It reads, "I was a homeless resident in Pacific Garden Mission from 2-22-20 to 6-22-20. Thank you for housing, clothing, feeding, and sheltering me. I came to the ministry from NC without a winter coat and was the only vegetarian among the woman's group. Thank you for your ministry, the Word of God, and all the prayers I received from the staff. You are rendering a very important service to the city. I learned to sing the songs of Zion in circumstances. My favorite hymn was "More Love to Thee." Thank you for your love and dedication to Christ. I was

blessed by the overflow. You can count on my future support."

I asked former resident Theo to write about his experience: "My story begins in 2013, the year I joined the men's Bible program at the Pacific Garden Mission. I had been a former drug addict and had been living on the streets and in crack houses. I was in a hopeless state. I knew about PGM and felt like I had nowhere else to go. It was April 22, 2013, when I walked through the doors a broken man. The program introduced me to a Jesus I hadn't known before. Before, I struggled to find a bus card—but today, I have a car. Before, I lived in a crack house and on the street—but today, I have a comfortable home. Before, I had no one to share life with—but today, I have a wife . . . and even grandchildren! I have much to be grateful for today."

When I think of PGM, I don't think about the building. Rather, I think about the people who wander through our doors, find Christ, and see their lives changed. The transformation is truly my joy to see God's children walk in the truth.

Thank you for your prayers and financial support to help make these stories possible.



Pastor Phil with Eugene. Brothers together in service to the Lord.

Learn more by visiting Pacific Garden Mission, where lost souls find hope, compassion, and purpose.



GODLY STEWARDSHIP

Stephen Welch,
Director of Development

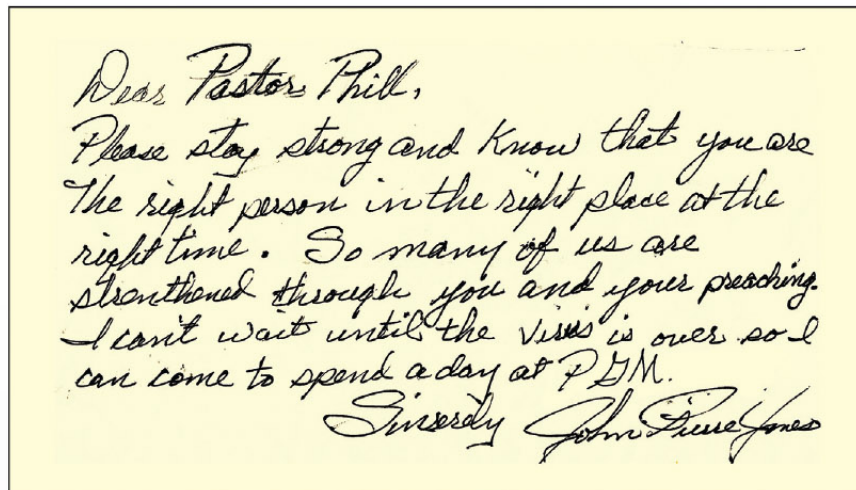
"I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now; Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ." —Philippians 1:3-6

Our staff prays for you with joy. This joy springs from your partnership in the Gospel, which involves not only financial support, but also your prayers and deep personal concern for our well-being. We will never

forget the power of the Gospel of Christ and your faithful support. Many of you know this from experiencing our thank-you prayer calls firsthand. Your letters and phone calls remind us of what is important to you.

We will never stop preaching Jesus saves! The miracles of transformation are numerous, according to the good pleasure of His will. The staff at Pacific Garden Mission remember daily those who are supporting us in prayer and through gifts to allow us to steward this amazing ministry. We know that without you and Jesus, this ministry would be just another shelter.

As we celebrate the resurrection of Christ this month, we are grateful—for your calling in this ministry and for your prayers that sustain us, together, in His work.



A letter of encouragement from a faithful supporter

The homeless who come to PGM are treated as welcome guests, and receive food, shelter, and the Gospel.

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