



A WAR VETERAN FINDS HEALING AND SALVATION WITH YOUR SUPPORT

At Pacific Garden Mission, Jesus is our great physician. We have seen countless lives healed—men and women who often have overcome staggering odds. Learning how to forgive can be one of the first stages of healing, whether forgiving others or themselves. It may be abuse faced as a child or a tragedy that struck later on in life. But no matter the issue, the love of Christ can—and does—heal and transform!

Conrad is one of the 18 million war veterans here in our country. Brought down by PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder) and

addiction, Conrad came to PGM for help . . . and ended up finding salvation. With your support, people are finding spiritual tools to heal and begin life anew. What man and the world believe to be impossible is possible with God. We hope Conrad's story brings hope and the positive, loving light of Christ into your hearts.

CONRAD

"I went into the military and did 15 months in Iraq, in Fallujah, during operation 'Iraqi Freedom.' I saw some things and did some things there that caused my drinking to pick up. I

“I have gone through three rehabs and a halfway house, all before coming here. There was always one thing missing at those places: *God.*”



struggled with PTSD. A lot of people only know what the media covered, but they barely showed a tenth of what happened in Iraq.

“I got out of the military and was drinking a lot. Still working and going to school, or trying to at least, but my drinking was taking over. I came to PGM in 2011 after my grandmother brought me here. I ended up getting saved in Pastor Phil’s office. God softened my heart to hear the Gospel message Pastor shared with me. I finished the Bible program and was working in *Unshackled!*, but I had a desire to make more money. I went back to the trades, being a carpenter, and I thought that was all I needed to do. Shortly after going back, I stopped reading my Bible, wasn’t going to church, and went back to my old ways.

“I started drinking again...way more than I had the first time. I think I was up to a half a gallon of vodka a day. I started using drugs again. I got mixed up with a girl,

which brought me even further down. I did that for a good five or six years. I didn’t think I had a problem because I was working and paying my bills, but eventually, it started creeping in. I started seeing my life spiraling even further down. I didn’t know that I wasn’t digging myself a hole, but I was digging myself a grave. I had finally been broken all the way down.

“My family noticed and dropped me off here in April of 2019 for the second time. I just knew I needed to come back to Pacific Garden Mission. I was dropped off on a Saturday, right before the Praise and Testimony Service, and saw Pastor



A youthful Conrad shown as a proud new member of the Naval armed forces.

Phil. He said, 'Welcome home,' and that was it—I ended up breaking down. This is my last shot, and I praise God that He is giving me this chance to get it right with Him. I have gone through three rehabs and a halfway house, all before coming here. There was always one thing missing at those places: *God*.

"God's love is amazing.

A verse that stands out to me is 1 Peter 5:6-7: 'Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.' That verse always gets me. Jesus will meet you where you are. PTSD is a big thing, and I am still going through it, but I have to trust God will fix it. Sometimes we want things right now but have to be patient. God has filled that joy I have been missing. I actually have a peace about myself, knowing there is a God that cares, which is amazing. I am happy that I don't have to chase the things of the world anymore.

"Maybe God is allowing the things I experienced during war to go on because He has a better reason for it than we understand. I may not understand it 20 years from now. I still have my ups and downs, but just knowing that God is there makes me feel much better than I did before. Jesus



Conrad is now employed at PGM checking people into the Mission and taking temperatures to ensure a safe environment.

is the way. Surrender it all to Him, and He will give you rest—He truly will. That void that I have been trying to fill . . . He has filled it."

Conrad has graduated the New Life Bible program and is now employed at the Mission. He is attending school at a local community college with plans of continuing his studies at a four-year school studying physical therapy. As he transitions from a secured nurturing sanctuary to the world, please keep him in prayer. For the time being, though, he will be able to serve in our ministry and still be surrounded by support as he takes his next steps forward as a fully functioning follower of Christ. Thank you for making this ministry possible. We could not do it without you.

"Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved." —Psalm 55:22

LETTERS, MESSAGES & NOTES

We would like to thank everyone who contributes to this ministry through prayers, giving, volunteering, and kind words of encouragement. We are touched by your letters and comments, and we share them with those here who serve in the ministry. Pastor Phil especially enjoys reading them and gives praise to God for every life changed here through the Gospel. Because of our staff limitations, we are unable to respond personally to some of your letters, but that doesn't mean they go unnoticed. We would like to share some comments we have received this year written in a letter or online. We thank all of you for taking the time to share loving words of encouragement with us.

"I'm sure things must be difficult for you all at PGM during this unique time. Thank you for what you do! I'm praying for all you folks at the Mission!" —Carolyn K.

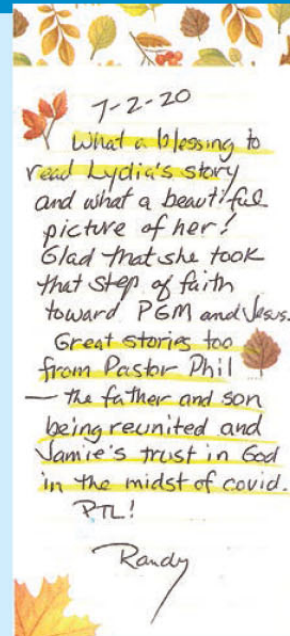
"I have listened to your broadcast of *Unshackled!* probably at least 20 years on KYNW and other stations in East Texas. I have been homeless at one point in my life for over a year . . . May your Father and my Father bless you." —Bobby D.

"Pastor Phil, thank you ever so much for your sermons, leadership, prayers, and guidance to me as PGM's leader. Your commitment to the Word of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is overwhelming and exceptional . . ." —Phillip J.

"Enjoyed your program very much, especially the testimonies how Jesus had changed the lives of those who were incarcerated, on drugs, etc. They spoke from their hearts. May the Lord continue to bless your ministry and use it for His glory." —Zipporah C.

"Your messages are so on target. God's truth comes through your messages. I am so thankful I came upon your program. I watch it on TCT." —Viola J.

"Thank you for your ministry. I listen to Pastor Phil on TV 30 WVCY. Pastor Phil is a gifted servant of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior." —Helen G.



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Philip Kwiatkowski, President
Stephen Welch, Director of Development
Daniel Woolman, Editor • Paul Higdon, Design

1458 South Canal Street
Chicago, IL 60607-5201
P: 312.492.9410 F: 312.492.9414
Email: pgmnews@pgm.org
Websites: www.pgm.org www.unshackled.org



A Word from Philip Kwiatkowski
President, Pacific Garden Mission

GET BUSY—PEOPLE NEED JESUS

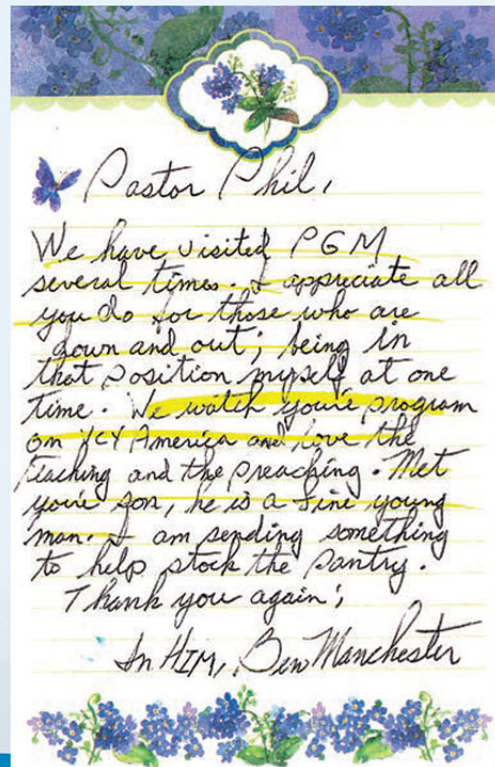
“But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer. And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins. Use hospitality one to another without grudging. As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.” —1 Peter 4:7-11

Peter’s words are sobering in light of all that is transpiring around us. He says the end is soon, so pray and get busy serving. I was reminded of this verse this week, when during our weekly virus update meeting, we agreed that while life is still not back to normal, hurting men and women are still coming in seeking help. God is at work, and we see the fruit of repentance and redemption.

Our head chef had his retirement meal this week. As I saw him walk out the door with his wife, going to his home, driving his car, I was reminded of when he first walked in. In 1993 I received a call about a young man coming from the Virgin Islands that was struggling with drugs. When he

came, he had nothing but his bag and an addiction he could not shake.

Here at PGM, he accepted Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins, joined our program, and began to change. He used his cooking skills at the Mission, met his wife, and began to serve in his church as a minister. As I watched him leave for the last time, I thought, *that is what it is all about—people*. Yes, we are in the midst of a pandemic. Yes, we had riots all around us. Yes, many in our own city are being shot, and violence keeps getting worse. So what should we do? Listen to Peter: Pray, and get busy, because people need Jesus.



Pastor Phil receives an encouraging letter from a faithful supporter.



GODLY STEWARDSHIP

Stephen Welch,
Director of Development

Each year thousands of visitors come to Pacific Garden Mission. They see a beautiful three-story, 155,000-square-foot facility with spacious, sundrenched halls that carry the multitudes throughout the building every day. Hundreds of people live here and reap the benefits of this transformational ministry. It isn't surprising to learn that there is a lot of people and resources needed to bring it all together under one roof.

In the past months, we have shared about the mortgage reduction and some of the food items we order. This month we want to give you a look at the utilities that help us create a clean and comfortable environment for every soul that arrives here for help. Your support helped us keep the lights on and paid for electric and gas, while also bringing water in and our garbage out.

Electricity ranges from
\$12K to \$23K per month \$177,000

Heat ranges from
\$4K to \$17K per month \$80,300

Water ranges from
\$27K to \$33K bi-monthly \$163,000

Waste removal ranges from
\$3K to \$7K per month \$50,500

Four utilities yearly total \$407,500

Since 1877 God has kept Pacific Garden Mission open every day through the faithful support of our donors. We have made it through wars, famines, and plagues such as the 1918 flu pandemic, two World Wars, the Great Depression, civil unrest in Chicago, and COVID-19. Through it, all God has used you to help us proclaim the only life-transforming message given to man—the Gospel. Your faithful support of this ministry and the classes and programs have brought many to a new life in Christ.

THE IMPACT WE MAKE TOGETHER

Pacific Garden Mission's budget is completely donor-funded. We receive no government funding. We are eternally grateful for the individuals, businesses, churches, and foundations that make it possible for PGM to serve thousands of homeless men, women, and children each year.

When you support us financially, you're not only giving *to* the Mission, but *through* the Mission to people who need your help the most. In August, your support made a true difference:

On average, **173** homeless people received aid and Gospel services each day

49 men and women were enrolled in Bible study programs and provided room and board

About **19,463** plates of food were served

16,324 items of clothing were distributed

278 Gospel services and Bible classes presented to our homeless guests

15 people professed faith in Christ

3,174 media outlets around the world broadcasted *Unshackled!*

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