



A transformed Nathan uses his gift of preaching to bring lost souls to Christ at PGM.

## 144 YEARS OF SPREADING THE GOSPEL—THANKS TO YOU!

As we enter this season of Thanksgiving, we are thankful the Lord has sustained this ministry for 144 years through the generous support of friends like you! Last month Pacific Garden Mission celebrated our 144th birthday as America's largest continually operating Gospel rescue mission. It's YOU that helps take in the lost and ensures they receive practical help and Biblical teaching as God does His transformational work on their hearts.

**Fulfilling the Great Commission is foundational to the Mission, and we've been blessed to see that come to fruition in Nathan. He was**

**first ministered to when he arrived here seven years ago. And now, he's one of our most active preachers, sharing the Gospel every week. We rejoice in sharing his testimony, which wouldn't have been possible without you.**

### NATHAN

"I grew up in Augusta, Georgia, born to a Christian family. I confessed Jesus Christ as Lord when I was a child but don't believe I was born again because for as long as I can remember, I prayed out of selfishness. It was 'me first,' doing what I wanted to do. I had a dad who disciplined the family hard; I'd say till this day, he's the



strictest man I've ever known.

"It didn't work because when I got out from under his house, I went and did my own thing... completely left the faith and left the church. I wasn't talking to God, wasn't reading my Bible at all. I don't think I was a true believer at that point because I completely operated out of doing me, out of doing Nathan. I ended up learning how to play guitar and playing in bars . . . drinking and

following a crowd, falling into drunkenness and bad relationships with women. I remember being completely and utterly miserable and calling out to God and just wanting something to change.

I remember telling Him this: I said, 'God, I barely believe in you now. I grew up in church, I know Bible verses, but I don't know if I truly believe in You. But I want something to change . . . I want something to be different.' I knew that I didn't want to live the way that I was living anymore. The moment I cried out and surrendered and said, 'God, I want something to change,' the peace of God came over me, the Holy Spirit came over me, and I felt a peace like I'd never felt before.

"God was drawing me. He started cleaning me up and making it clear drunkenness wasn't going to be a part of my future—so I put that behind me. About a year after my conversion, God called me to preach, and I was excited. I was on fire for God, but at the same time, I was scared. I didn't know what to do,



Nathan Preaching in the Women's Dayroom



what my ministry was going to look like, who I was going to be preaching to . . . I didn't have a clue about any of that, but God's word to me was to trust Him.

"God shut every single door where I am from in Augusta, Georgia, and put me on a Greyhound bus to Chicago. I was thinking I was going to go to Moody Bible Institute to get more training. I got up to Moody but had to wait for acceptance and for the semester to start. A friend of mine in Chicago needed shelter, so I brought him to PGM. While I was here, the guys recruited me for the Bible program. They said, 'You're waiting to see if you're going to get into Bible college, and you have a summer where you're not going to be doing anything . . . come join the

***"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere . . . to the ends of the earth."* — Acts 1:8 (KJV)**

Bible program, and we can cross that bridge when we get to it.'

"I stayed in the Bible program until Bible college started and was later hired on here at PGM. It has been a blessing; next April will be eight years! There are times when the devil starts talking to me, telling me I could be doing something else. But I know God wants me to be here because He has confirmed that to me. Being here has kept me out of trouble, has given me accountability, and has given me a ministry.

I beg the transient guests to look at this place as a place where God can change you and use you. I thank God, and I couldn't do anything without Him."



**Nathan preaches almost daily at PGM and has become a vital part of our ministering team. He also uses his musical gifts to sing and play during our weekly Saturday night praise and testimony services. With a genuine desire to follow Jesus Christ—and with your faithful support, which fuels all that we do here, spiritually, and physically—Nathan has been a light and reflection of Christ in a city and at a time when it has never been needed more. We thank you for being part of our 144 years of serving our fellow man, bringing them out of darkness and into God's glorious light.**

Nathan and Evangelist Phil Lacy enjoy fellowship as they preach the Gospel at PGM.

## UPLIFTING LETTERS FROM OUR DONORS

### *We Rejoice at Your Words of Encouragement*

I am blessed by your ministry and the testimonies I watch on TCT every Saturday evening. I would like to visit someday, Lord willing.

—Betty



Thank you, Pacific Garden Mission. We discovered your broadcast weeks ago, and we will not miss it. We rejoice at each testimony shared, each message from God's Word, and the reaching out to men and women whose lives were changed by the Bible / God's Word. WE REJOICE! In the fall, we want to visit Pacific Garden Mission. May you continue with joy as God reaches out, through your staff, to precious souls who enter your mission and many later become a part of the family of God. May God bless all of you in your ministry. —John and Sandra



Dear Unshackled, When I was first married, I called you, very distraught because my husband was not a Christian. You prayed with me, and I am thankful for that. On Monday, my husband and I celebrated our 40th wedding anniversary. The Lord had blessed us with children and grandchildren. I listen to your program on BBN 89.3 in Marshalltown, IA. Keep ministering to people like me. It helps tremendously. —Beth T.

Thank you so much for what you do. I am a mailman, and I get to look forward to listening to your program every day on 89.7 FM (The Mars Hill Network) in New York! *Unshackled!* brightens my day! My family and I want to get in on what you're doing. Your program encourages me to want to share my faith. I am so thankful for you and what God is doing! You are an encouragement to me. God bless you and your ministry. —John B.



Hi, Y'all, I'm a long-time listener. I love the show. Thank you so much! These stories really touch my heart. It's amazing how much God loves us. He sent His Son to save the world! A lot of these testimonies, I feel a connection to them. So thank you, and keep up the good work. I'll be sure to spread the word of your show to the inmates around me. May God bless you all. —Pete M.



Thank you for giving shelter to my grandson, body and soul. God Bless all of you. —Kathleen S.



Just a note of appreciation for the labor of love you are ministering to others. God bless you. —Brenda L.

**GIVE NOW at [pgm.org](http://pgm.org)**

**We welcome your letters and are greatly encouraged to know our work makes a difference.**





## A Word from Philip Kwiatkowski

President, Pacific Garden Mission

### OUR LABOR IS NEVER IN VAIN

**"I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase." —1 Cor. 3:6-7**

At the Mission, our job is to sow the seed, and in some cases, it is not watered until many years later. I want to share excerpts from a letter I recently received.

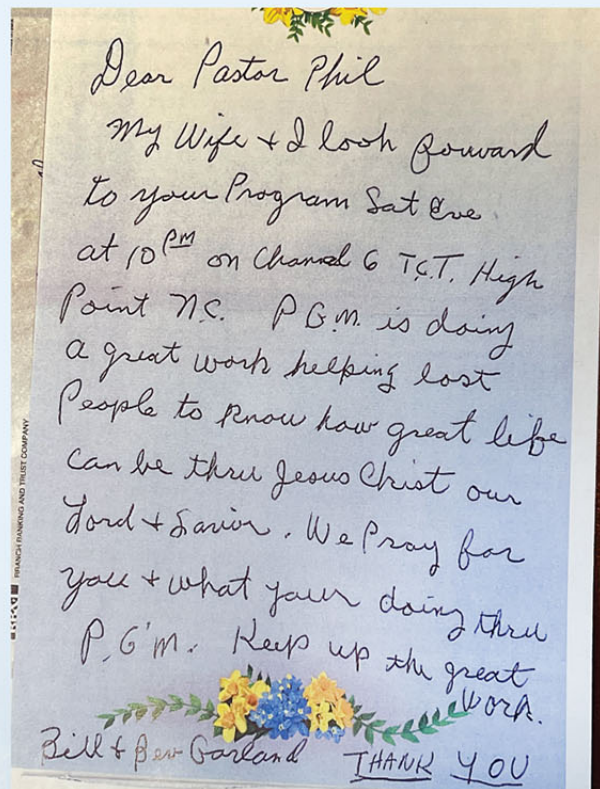
"In 1981, I was living on the streets, and a preacher friend brought me to Pacific Garden Mission at about 4 a.m. I joined the program, but I stayed there only because I didn't have anywhere to go. I was there for a few years, and I didn't understand the salvation message. I heard it, but that is all I did was hear it. One day I got paid and left the Mission and went back to the streets. After the money was gone, I stayed in abandoned buildings, never returning to the Mission. As I was leaving the building, I felt God telling me that if I left the way I came, I would die. . . but if I chose Him, I would live. That was January 28, 1984, and I was saved that day I accepted Jesus as my personal Savior. I am now 77 years old and have lived for Jesus ever since. The place I came to is no longer there. It has been torn down,

but I met this man they call Jesus there."

What an encouraging story! I think of 1 Cor. 15:58: "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

Sometimes, we see an immediate transformation. Sometimes, we may never see what God did in a person's heart, but our labor is never in vain!

**Thank you for your love, prayers, and support!**



With your encouragement and support, we minister hope to the homeless, addicted, and brokenhearted.



## GODLY STEWARDSHIP

Stephen Welch,  
Director of Development

**We praise God for your faithful support. Without Jesus and donors Pacific Garden Mission would not exist.**

And today I want to share with you how your giving has helped provide a safe, welcoming environment for the guests who come to Pacific Garden Mission.

With hundreds of people arriving every day, month after month—as you can imagine, “wear and tear” is a HUGE issue here. As multitudes turn to us in need of a meal, shelter, and hope for a new way of life—people suffering from homelessness, hunger, addiction, abuse, pain of every kind—our physical facilities are seriously impacted.

But your giving helps keep everything running smoothly!

- Over the past 12 months, you’ve helped us update or replace our roof, dining room tables, dishwasher, security scanners, and audiovisual systems for the auditorium and day rooms.
- You enable us to maintain the precious 156,000 square feet building and property to be safe and clean—a calm and peaceful space for our guests to grow in the Gospel.
- In September 2021, we paid off the mortgage, and we are now debt-free.

**Thank you for your faithful support. Together we serve in this ministry, and you have made it possible to continue reaching the lost with the Gospel of Christ.**

**As pandemic restrictions ease, we are seeing an increasing number of people coming through our doors!**

**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, **321** homeless people received aid and Gospel services each day

About **18,683** plates of food were served

**49** people professed faith in Christ

**3,125** media outlets around the world broadcasted *Unshackled!*

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

**3,632** items of clothing were distributed

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