

A portrait of Sampson Green, a Black man with a grey beard and mustache, smiling. He is wearing a tan jacket over a yellow zip-up sweater. The background is blurred with warm, bokeh lights.

Sampson's first-hand experience highlights God's amazing work at PGM.

YOU PROVIDE A BEACON OF HOPE

Pacific Garden Mission stands as a beacon of hope and transformation, a sanctuary where individuals find solace, support, and the transformative power of the Gospel. Sampson Green's journey highlights the profound impact this Mission has. From homelessness to leadership within the Mission, Sampson's testimony resonates with the essence of Pacific Garden Mission—a place where despair is replaced with hope and lives are rebuilt through faith in Jesus Christ. As we reflect on Sampson's journey and the countless others who have found refuge within these walls, we extend our deepest gratitude to the donors whose generosity makes this Mission possible.

SAMPSON GREEN

"I came in homeless. I joined the men's Bible program and graduated in 1996. I started working here in the PGM security department. Later, I became a counselor and then the men's Bible program director. Today, I am the Mission's chaplain, and I just thank God for using me here at this place. This has been the ultimate service to God for me at Pacific Garden Mission, helping people how they had helped me.

"After being here 27 years, the one thing that stands out more than any is the Gospel. The Gospel is being preached here consistently, and men's and women's lives are transformed through it. That is the greatest thing.

“...watching and knowing God is with me and seeing how He uses me even in the midst of challenges gives my life hope, meaning, and purpose.”



We pray daily here at the Mission that the Gospel is heard and received and lives are changed.

“I believe many people are just one paycheck from being homeless. All it takes is one incident for them to find themselves in this same situation. Ending up in this situation isn’t final because I came through these doors myself homeless, and coming through these doors and hearing the Gospel transformed my life. I have been married now for 27 years. I have my own home. I have a career in ministry. So it can absolutely change your life.

“We all struggle. Whether it be

financially, physically, or spiritually, and there is no real difference between those who have a home and those who do not. The one thing that is constant is that all of us need Jesus. Whether you are saved or lost, rich or poor, or have a home or don’t, we all need Jesus. Sin doesn’t have any respect of person. We all need a Savior to help us with our sins.

“There are homeless here with PhDs in their pockets. We have had doctors and lawyers who are homeless here at Pacific Garden Mission. People from every walk of life have come here for help. Those who donate and serve help them regain their dignity. I’ve seen men

smile because they got a pair of socks. So, when that donor gave the pair of socks, and that person put them on his feet, it just made the difference. People are asking God for help every day and receiving that help through those who support us.

“I thank God for our volunteers and those who donate and give to Pacific Garden Mission and have compassion for



Sampson teaches a class to men in the New Life Bible program.

With great care Sampson shares scripture with a program student.

those in need, regardless of whether they are saved or not. It is always good for them to come down and see what and who they are giving to. Once you come and see, you can experience what God is doing with the materials and money you provide.

“People can support Pacific Garden Mission in many ways, including financially, praying too that the Gospel is continuously preached here . . . that God maintains His compassion through us. We have a saying here at PGM: ‘Much prayer, much power, little prayer, little power,’ and for us to complete what God wants us to do, we need prayer.

“For the last three years, I have gone through a lot of physical challenges with my health. Being here at Pacific Garden Mission, where we see so many coming in who have physical ailments, just seeing them persevere encourages me to do the same. I have seen so many men and women who have come here with diabetes or with cancer and various other kinds of things, but when they



get here, they see this is a place of comfort. When they hear the preaching and the testimonies of others, it encourages them.

“It is the same when I walk in here as the chaplain, and I see men’s lives being transformed daily. It energizes me and gives me hope. I just had two toes removed because of diabetes, yet my faith in the Lord only increased through that challenge. This is what we are all about at PGM: hope. I have faced some challenges since being saved and working here, but just watching and knowing that God is with me and seeing how He uses me even in the midst of challenges gives my life hope, meaning, and purpose. This place is more than a shelter. It is a place where God dwells. I just thank Him for that.”

**“Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.”
—James 5:16 KJV**



A pillar of faith and family leader, Sampson poses with his granddaughter and nieces.

In the face of adversity, Pacific Garden Mission stands unwavering, fueled by the collective support of donors, volunteers, and advocates who believe in its mission. Sampson Green's story serves as a testament to the life-changing impact of this place of refuge. Here, the downtrodden find true redemption, the broken discover

healing, and the lost are guided toward a path of restoration. As we express our gratitude to the donors whose contributions sustain this vital work, let us also renew our commitment to prayer, support, and compassion, ensuring that Pacific Garden Mission continues to be a beacon of hope for generations to come.



TOGETHER WE ARE FEEDING THE MULTITUDES



Your support of our ministry helped to serve over 330,000 meals last year. This staggering amount of food fed the elderly, mothers and children, those with physical disabilities, and many others. None of it would have been possible without your compassion. We thank you, and so do our guests. When everyone gathers together and teams up, great things can be done. This year, we expect even more meals to be served, and we are thankful to God for providing us what we require to feed so many and also providing the lifesaving Gospel message of Jesus Christ to them.

GIVE NOW pgm.org/donate



To donate using your phone, just scan this QR code with your phone's camera, and it will direct you to the PGM Donate page.



Visit our website at pgm.org to learn more about PGM's multiple ministries to the needy.



A Word from Philip Kwiatkowski
President, Pacific Garden Mission

WHO ARE THE MOST VULNERABLE?

No matter how things change, they seem to stay the same. I was reading about the opening of our women's and children's division in the early 1940s and see the exact needs and desperation today. This is a quote from James Adair's history of the Mission written in 1966: "A dejected woman, looking middle-aged rather than just 35, walks unsteadily down a street south of Chicago's Loop area. Once a respected office worker but now a victim of drink and dope, she needs a real friend in the worst sort of way. A 26-year-old wife of a sailor traveling from California to Great Lakes Naval Training Station arrives in Chicago, where a man snatches her purse containing her money, bus tickets, and baggage check. Frightened and alone, she too needs a loving hand extended to her."

These stories from the 1940s could have been written today; women and children still roam the streets of the big city, looking for a place to lay their heads. In 1941, a woman approached then-Superintendent Harry Saulnier with a challenge, "Mr. Saulnier, we've been thinking about getting a woman's work started here. We need a division of the work where women of the street can come to be dealt with. There are so many girls wandering the streets who need the

Savior." The same can still be said today, that there are so many women and children wandering our streets that need the Savior. I am so thankful that our Lord and the generosity of our donors have made it possible to keep that vision alive.

I want to share a quote from one of our current mothers: "Since my time here at PGM, I saw a change in myself. Not only as a mom but as a devoted Christian and a woman who has been through trials and tribulations, yet is rising above with God at my side. Setting the right example for my kids is the cornerstone of what brought me here, and I feel like through PGM, I am achieving that."

Though written today that could have been written years ago. Thank you for your heart to keep the vision of women and children going. Pacific Garden Mission still stands as a beacon of hope to those crushed by life's tumultuous waves. We still stand as that Old Lighthouse.



Because you cared, a desperate mother finds shelter, food, and comfort for her children at PGM.

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Learn more about our Mission, where lost souls find hope, compassion, and purpose.

GODLY STEWARDSHIP

A Focus on Efficiency: Resource-Saving Initiatives at PGM

Peter Leavitt,
Assistant Treasurer, PGM Board of Trustees

Our team has been hard at work implementing resource-saving initiatives throughout the facility. These efforts directly impact our ability to allocate donations more effectively, ensuring we can continue to support and share the Gospel message with those in need.

Electricity

One of the most significant changes you'll notice when walking through our facility is the transition to energy-efficient LED lighting. Not only do these bulbs last longer, reducing the frequency of replacements, but they also consume significantly less energy than traditional incandescent bulbs. This small change has had a significant impact on our utility bills,

with annual electricity savings estimated to be nearly \$20,000. The installation of motion-sensing light switches has also been completed in several areas, further saving electricity and our costs.

Water

Over the past two years, all shower fixtures were fitted with water-efficient shower heads, saving water and natural gas. Three new clothes washers were installed in October 2023, replacing the 15+ year-old washers in the women's laundry. The new washers are much more energy efficient, with the ability to calculate optimal water levels and wash times.

As we move forward with additional resource-saving initiatives, we want you to know that we place a high priority on being wise and faithful stewards of God's resources at PGM.

Words can't express our gratitude for your continued prayer and support. Your generosity makes it possible for us to care for those in need. **Thank you for being an essential part of our Mission.**

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 March your support made a true difference:

548 average number of homeless people who received aid and Gospel services each day

38,150 plates of food were served (est.)

17,000 clothing items were distributed (est.)

3,137 media outlets around the world broadcasted **UNSHACKLED!**

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

18 mothers with their children who were sheltered at PGM

52 people professed saving faith in Christ and became new believers at PGM

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