A close-up portrait of a Black man with a shaved head, smiling gently. He is wearing a dark purple collared shirt. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be an indoor setting with some greenery.

From total brokenness to a life filled
with joy and heartfelt gratitude

“WITH YOUR HELP GOD GAVE ME A PLACE TO RECOVER”

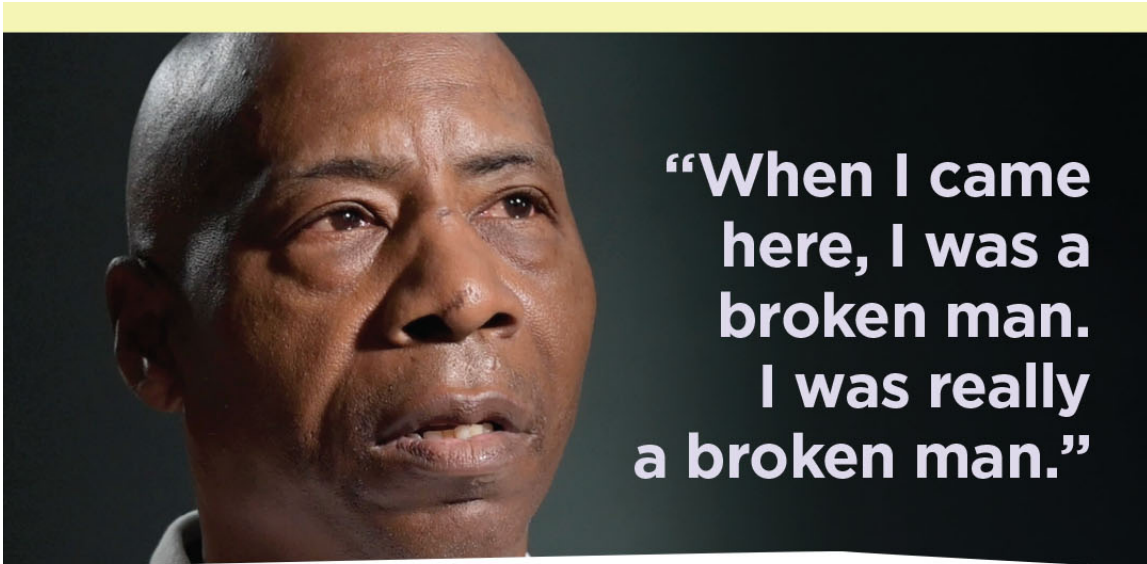
Bruce’s story is a powerful reminder of the life-changing work happening every day at Pacific Garden Mission. When he arrived, he was battling years of addiction, physical injury, and hopelessness. But through the grace of God and the compassionate care he received through our programs, Bruce found healing, purpose, and a renewed relationship with Jesus Christ.

BRUCE CLEGG

“My name is Bruce, and I came to PGM with a serious drug problem. I decided at that time that it was in my best

interest to just leave drugs alone and to find a different path. I spoke to someone about this place and I finally decided to turn my life over to God. Right now, I am happy to be here because I almost died from heroin use.

“I have a broken nose because I fell asleep on the Chicago L subway track and fell down six feet onto the train tracks face first. I was temporarily paralyzed but conscious. The train was still approaching, and a lady on the platform told me it was coming, but even though I could hear her, I couldn’t move. It is by the grace of God that someone who was standing on the platform was willing to go down onto the tracks and help bring me back to



the platform. I see it as God and His angels looking over me because I could have very easily been a closed casket because the train was coming.

“That was in 2021 and from that time on, I was pretty much unable to work and my back has been hurting. But God has given me the ability to move my limbs again and I feel a whole lot better. It all has been just one process after another. I didn’t want to come to terms with the fact that I couldn’t work anymore and so I was depressed. I couldn’t tell you how many times in the past I was alone, not knowing what to do and crying out for help.

“Theo, one of the counselors at Pacific Garden Mission, spoke to me about the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and he helped me to become a better person by putting me into the New Day program. It was for people who have problems with substance abuse like I had. I wanted to be delivered from my addiction to cocaine

and heroin. I wanted to be delivered. I was too tired of fighting with it, back and forth, in and out of addiction. I had tried the 12-step program but it wasn’t working for me even though it worked for other people, and I kept returning to a life of drug abuse and unhealthy habits.

“I truly needed a complete and thorough lifestyle change. I never really committed my life to Christ. When I came here, I was a broken man. I was really a broken man. I was certainly happy to find people willing to listen to me about my problems. The fact that this place has been a refuge for many people who have fallen on bad times and also for those



Bruce attends his morning Bible class in the PGM auditorium.

**“For God hath not given us the spirit of fear;
but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.”
—2 Timothy 1:7 KJV**

who have been caught up in the grips of drug and alcohol abuse gave me hope again.

“Here, I can get some counseling and get professional help from people who can help me understand more about the disease of addiction. Addiction can tear up the fabric of a man’s family and household. I am now 61 years old, and at the time I came in here, I made the decision never to be held down by a substance again, and I meant it. I thank God for the opportunity to do that because many people I know aren’t here today because they didn’t have the same chance I have, so I am very grateful.

“That is my testimony. I feel great about where I am right now, and it’s all due to the love of Jesus Christ. I thank God He has provided this place as a tool for my life to change this vessel. Things didn’t have to go this way. I could be six feet under very easily. When I end up dying and am in the casket, I just want my family and others to look at me and say, ‘I miss him’. I don’t want to be remembered; I want to be missed. This means that I have done something meaningful with my life by making a difference in someone else’s.

“Now here for 21 months, I have been through hip replacement surgery, lots of counseling, hundreds of Gospel-

based sermons, and weekly classes on how to maintain my lifestyle as a disciple of Jesus Christ. I am extremely grateful to my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, for saving me. I’m in debt to the Lord and have given my allegiance to serving as a blessing to the Mission as long as He



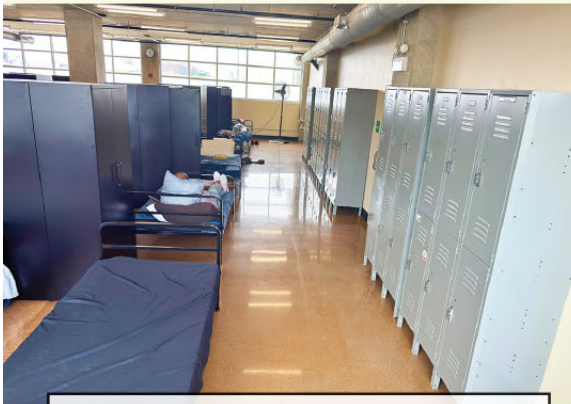
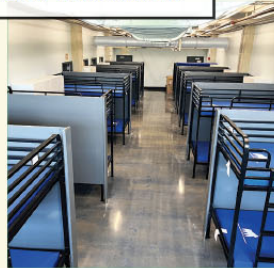
wants me to. I have recently become much closer to God through His faithfulness and His meeting me right where I am. I have never felt as close to God as I do right now.”

Today, Bruce is sober, restored, and serving with a heart full of gratitude. His transformation would not have been possible without the faithful support of donors like you. Thank you for helping create a place where broken lives can be made whole through the love of Christ. Your generosity truly makes stories like Bruce’s possible.

Pictured above: Bruce receives his hard-earned diploma for graduating the New Day program.



Mothers and Children Renovations



Men's New Life Bible Program Renovations



An Update on MUCH-NEEDED BUILDING UPGRADES

A building that houses over 500 people daily gets a lot of use, and as things wear down, we are in a constant state of repair and replacement. As time passes, we are also learning what kind of facility changes to make that ensure ease and efficiency for our guest's stay.

One recent upgrade was the opening of a dorm specifically for mothers and their sons. In the past, it was challenging to place them because the mothers with daughters were housed in their own area. This new living space now allows us to accommodate even more people in need.

We've also finished the renovation in the dorm for our men's Bible program students. The bathrooms were completely overhauled with new floors, showers, and more—and the dorms were redone with new beds and lockers. These renovations helped create a more comfortable and accommodating space for individuals in our 16-month Bible program.

Thank you for helping to make these improvements possible! We couldn't have done it without you. As we look next at our addiction recovery area and transitional living dorms, we are grateful for your partnership in maintaining clean and updated facilities for our guests, helping them feel dignified and cared for during one of the most challenging times in their lives.



Please donate using your phone. Just scan this QR code with your phone's camera, and it will direct you to the PGM Donate page. *Thank you!*

GIVE NOW pgm.org/donate

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

PGM: A CONTINUAL WITNESS

Since our doors opened in 1877, Pacific Garden Mission has been a constant source of hope and salvation to many weary and hopeless individuals who have sought refuge within. This is our mission statement: "We serve with the compassion of Christ and minister with the transforming message of the Gospel." What was true about people in 1877 is true today. People need hope. The same message out of the same Book is proclaimed multiple times a day to an audience that needs hope.

We recently asked some of our guests how PGM has changed their lives. Here are some of their comments:

"Hearing the Gospel at least twice a day has helped me to recognize who I am in God. I have a new identity and I am no longer a homeless man but I am a man of God who is loved." —Jake

"My life changed when I arrived at PGM. The best thing was getting to know God and learning to be a good mother and to love my children more. I learned to be less proud, more sociable and humble. All of this was done by the mercy of God and I am very grateful, first of all, to God and the PGM family." —Nicole

"Coming to a building where the Word of God is all around me and the Gospel is on display everywhere has helped me to understand who God is. He is a God of second chances and because of PGM, I have a second chance at life." —Anonymous

"When I came to PGM and needed help, they helped me. The last time I came, I was here for a month in the winter. I needed help. If you're serious, it's a great place. If you're trying to be lazy, this isn't the place for you." —Lamont

"More than a shelter, it has been our home for all these months since we had no place to be. My family and I thank God first and foremost, and PGM for all the help and love they have put into each person, as well as for the great blessing it has been for our children. They are safe, comfortable, have their food day by day, and most importantly, they grow spiritually." —Yojeili

This is just a small sampling of the number of lives impacted at PGM. **Thank you for your love, care, and support as we continue to do what we always have: share the love of Jesus.**

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

PROCLAIMING THE GOSPEL THROUGH STORY: TIM GREGORY AND THE MINISTRY OF UNSHACKLED!

*A crucial part of Godly stewardship at PGM is employing effective leaders. This month, we introduce you to **Tim Gregory**.*



Tim Gregory
Unshackled!
Program Director

If you've ever tuned in to the powerful storytelling of *Unshackled!*, you've likely heard the heart of Tim Gregory. As Program Director of this long-running audio drama, Tim isn't just producing a show—he's proclaiming the life-changing message of Jesus Christ through every word, voice, and story.

After earning a master's degree in theater, Tim honed his skills as a writer,

director, and actor. He joined *Unshackled!* in 1994 as an actor. Over time, his role grew into shaping the direction of the entire program. Today, as Program Director, Tim leads with a deep sense of gratitude and humility. "I feel blessed and deeply humbled to be able to proclaim the Gospel message of Jesus Christ for a living," he shares. His creative vision continually seeks new ways to communicate that message with clarity, authenticity, and impact.

Unshackled! began in 1950 at PGM and in over seven decades, the series has aired nearly 4,000 episodes, each one telling the true story of someone whose life was transformed by Jesus. That these stories are being told from within a homeless shelter makes *Unshackled!* even more extraordinary.

Tim leads a ministry that reminds us that no one is beyond the reach of God's grace, and every life, once touched by Christ, has a story worth telling. **We are grateful for those who pray and give generously to support the ministries of PGM, such as *Unshackled!***

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 July your support made a true difference:

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

37,200 plates of food were served (est.)

5,828 clothing items were distributed (est.)

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

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

16 mothers with their **23** children were sheltered at PGM

75 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.