FROM VICTORVILLE TO THE CENTRAL COAST

Faith, Prayer, and a Wonderful Sister

My name is William Lavigne and last year I found myself struggling with an alcohol problem. I was trying to suppress my ill feelings with alcohol. I knew better but I was doing all the things I shouldn't have been doing, and none of the things I needed to do to keep clean and sober. Most of all I knew was offending God.

Here's the downward cycle – I lost my job and then got a DUI and ended up in jail. After doing 6 months, I thought I could drink once in a while, but I was wrong. I ended up in the bottom of a bottle once again.

I realized I could not do it without Jesus in my life. My roommate and I prayed together and two days later, he said maybe I should go to the Central Coast Rescue Mission.

I decided to go and my sister bought me a train ticket. I traveled from Victorville, CA to the Central Coast in faith. Today I can say that my joy is restored, my relationship with the Lord is being renewed, and I am sober. Thank you Central Coast Rescue Mission for helping me to accomplish this.



There is no greater joy than to be back in a relationship with Jesus.

HERO OF THE FAITH



CJ baptized in Bass Lake.

Two months ago the mission lost one of its very dear friends, clients, and volunteers – Randall Clinton James (CJ) Lilly – went to be with Jesus on February 21, 2016. Over the past five years CJ came off the streets using drugs, asked Jesus Christ into his life, graduated the program, went on to work in our thrift store, as well as volunteer many hours in the mission's kitchen preparing meals for the least, the last, and the lost. CJ's life is a testimony to the power of faith over the pains and sufferings in this world.

JUST WANT TO GIVE BACK

A fresh face is always encouraging when it comes to serving those in need, especially when that person serves with excellence! Meet our newest regular volunteer here at the Central Coast Rescue Mission, Sarah Hadway. She's been serving three weeks at the Wednesday Food Distribution and is already a bright and shining light to our guests and a great help with all the work that needs to be done each week. Sarah takes her commitment to serve seriously, as she is always on time or early, and stays until the very end to help with cleanup. When an individual treats volunteering as if it's their job, you know they're a keeper. What's her motivation you might ask? She says, "I just want to give back to the community." We are looking for more faithful volunteers like Sarah, who have a heart to serve the needy with excellence. Call Audrey Chastain for details on how to volunteer at (805) 357-1208.



Sarah serves with a smile

EXTRAORDINARY ORDINARIES

When one of the mission's clients runs into a special need, and the mission can't meet the need for time, purpose, or budget, it reaches out to one of its special partners for help. Crestwood Christian Fellowship is a local church in Santa Maria that is dedicated to helping people get back on their feet. They set aside money each month to help meet needs in a tangible way. Because of their help...



Wayne (pictured left) was able to get a new pair of glasses that will help him study and read his bible.

Sydney, (pictured right) a recent graduate, received a bus pass from Crestwood to help him get around town to apply for jobs. Just three days after receiving the bus pass, Sydney got his first job offer. Thank you Crestwood for your partnership in caring!





