

THE TIDE

CENTRAL COAST RESCUE MISSION

An Outreach Ministry of



September 2015

GOD PROVIDES ... CUPCAKES?!



Helen, her husband Patrick, and grandson Nathan, volunteered for

the first time this month with one of our partner church groups, Power of God. Helen works in the public defender's office, so serving dinner to our homeless and sometimes addicted or in-trouble-with-the-courts guests, was indeed an eye opener for her. Seeing so many folks in need of a hot meal, some of whom she knew from the courts, caught Helen's heart and attention.

Helen shared the exciting story of how she received free cupcakes to give to the guests at the Friday night outreach. Though declined by a local

bakery, she went back later in the day and, sure enough, there had been an order mix-up and there were plenty of cupcakes the shop had no use for. They donated them without hesitation. As Helen shared this story, she gave glory to God, recognizing that God always provides for those he loves! Nathan was also pleasantly surprised with how much he liked volunteering. At the start, he was a bit timid to talk with guests. But by the end, he was leading the charge in serving meals and dessert and was incredibly friendly to all he served.

BONUS PAY

Every once in a while the office door at the mission opens up and in comes Life Recovery Program graduate Adrian Saggese with his usual warm smile and grateful heart. "I just wanted to say hello, guys." Then we all ask him to catch us up on things since we saw him last. Honestly, each time Adrian visits is like receiving a bonus on our paychecks. He talks to us about his children and how happy he is to come home from work each night to be with his young family.

He always tells us how much he appreciates what the mission has taught him, including, of all things, how to play disk Frisbee golf. In fact, recently Adrian won a handsome prize as winner in a disk Frisbee golf tournament. He tells us about church and staying connected with the guys he met while staying at the mission. He always thanks God that he isn't living the old life of drugs and crime any more.

Thank you for helping Adrian find new life in Christ. You can view Adrian's testimony on our website.



EITHER HERE OR SUICIDE

I grew up in Denver Colorado where my family attended the church where my dad worked every Sunday. When I was thirteen, I made the decision to stop going to church so I could figure out life for myself. At fourteen, I was smoking weed every day. By fifteen, I was smoking meth. At 17 years old, I was shooting heroin and cocaine daily and was a high school drop-out with a very dark look on life. I was breaking the law every day to get drugs and acted out suicidal ideas because I truly did not care about myself. I have been to different rehab facilities many times before. No matter how strict of a program I was in, I always chose to go back to drugs. Even when I moved out of Denver to get away from all the dope, I found myself in Lompoc searching for heroin.

Central Coast Rescue Mission was referred to me by my family and I didn't have much choice because I knew it was either here or suicide. I absolutely hated life when I first came to the program, but for some reason I searched deep in my heart and asked God to take control of my life and reveal himself to me. I was not prepared for the transformation he made in my life! He blessed me with incredible friends here who have the same goals. He shed light on all of the people that just wanted to love and help me.



Now I feel loved by so many and my desire for drugs has turned into a thirst for God. I just want to be as close to God as possible because I know that he wants to be close to me. I did a lot of damage living how I was, but one thing I know now...God can transform your life in the blink of an eye!

GRATEFUL SERVICE



Thanks to the Girl Scouts who provide many yummy cookies to serve at the mission's evening outreach dinners.



Thanks to Anchor of Life Church, formerly Journey Santa Maria, for serving so faithfully once a month.

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1207 N. McClelland Street, Santa Maria, CA 93454 • (805) 614-0220

