



January

He raises
the poor out
of the dust,
and lifts the
needy out of
the ash
heap, That
He may seat
him with
princes-
With the
princes of
His people.

Psalm
113:7,8

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He
IS
Risen!

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

When I think about Danny I can't help but think about the lump of clay and the Potter and how sometimes the Potter has to really beat the lump of clay up before he can get it to spin on the wheel and really shape it in to something beautiful. Danny is beautiful now, having submitted to the Potter and allowed himself to be transformed into a servant of our Lord.

You may recognize Danny from the photo. He is here pictured in his apartment holding his keys. For the last five years Danny has lived on the streets of downtown Coos Bay in a variety of states. Sometimes with a shopping cart, sometimes without. Sometimes talking to people and things that weren't there. Sometimes high on drugs and sometimes coming down from drugs.

Danny started using drugs as a freshman in high school. He hasn't had his own apartment since 2000. In 2003 he did eleven months in prison for illegal possession of a firearm and check fraud. He has spent the majority of his life suicidal. In May of last year he overdosed. At that point, Danny said, he threw his hands in the air and cried out for God to rescue him and he moved into the Mission. Danny was ready to submit his lump of clay to be shaped as God saw fit. That would not happen without having to be beat up one more time, though.

In September Danny would relapse. I still remember sitting with Danny in the office, tears in his eyes, asking for help as he confessed to using substances. God is not in business of throwing people away and with confession comes redemption. We wrapped our arms around Danny and came up with a new plan. So today Danny is still sober and just got his first apartment in over twenty years. What was different this time was service work. When we submit our lump of clay to be molded as He sees fit a natural byproduct of that is a desire to be a servant. After his relapse Danny started doing the laundry at the Mission. Even now as I am creating this newsletter Danny is downstairs doing the Missions laundry even though he is no longer a resident.

Danny once told me the Mission meant the difference between life and death. Well without the Danny's there would be no Mission. I am eternally grateful that I am here to see God transform a lump of clay into something beautiful. Amazing work brother. You are a beautiful servant.

I once heard someone ask in a meeting what the local churches in our community could do to help with the homeless crisis. I thought, what an amazing question. The churches have a Gospel Mission! Sometimes at the Mission we are blessed to see individuals like Danny from start to finish. Sometimes though, the Mission gets to be a stepping stone in someone's walk with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Bobbi came to the Mission when she was forced to make the decision to either be homeless or prostitute herself for rent. She had used methamphetamine and alcohol since the age of 15, but she went down a truly dark hole in 2020 when her fourteen-year-old daughter passed away.

December

Meals: 1966
Overnights: 927



Desperate For

Food; Peanut Butter & Jelly
Breakfast Cereal
Canned Corn
Italian Dressing

Clothes; 30-34 Men's Jeans
Women underwear & Bras

Other Items; Paper Napkins
Razors

Thank You!

That all changed for Bobbi on December 31 when she accepted Jesus Christ as her lord and Savior. Her grandparents had talked to her about Jesus when she was a child but she had never accepted Him. Now she is all in. Her stay at the Mission was brief, about a month, but in that month she got a lot done. She accepted Jesus, was baptized at Landmark Church and was accepted into Victory Outreach, an all women's twelve-month discipleship program in Portland. Bobbi says if it wasn't for the Mission she probably would have started using again. Her favorite scripture is Psalm 28 particularly verse 6 "Blessed be the Lord, Because he has heard the voice of my supplications."

It's amazing that even in the midst of our trials (flooding) God still manages to bring us praiseworthy events at the Mission.

Karen would like to say thank you to Hauser Community Church for helping with her van. When her van started running poorly Hauser paid for it to be put in the shop and have it repaired. It is hard to read but the box she is holding reads 'Jesus loves me,' which she was able to make here at the Mission during art therapy.

Praise the Lord!



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