



# Great Falls Rescue Mission The Beacon

A newsletter for friends and donors of Great Falls Rescue Mission

Summer 2023

**Don't miss...**

Your love will transform lives this summer! **2**



"I want God in the driver's seat." **3**



Can you help with Summer Camp? **4**



**THANK YOU  
FOR LOVING  
YOUR  
NEIGHBOR,  
EVAN,**

and giving him  
hope for the  
future!





# “I WANT GOD IN THE DRIVER’S SEAT.”

*“Once you’ve crossed that line, you can’t go back... not by yourself.”*

That’s what Evan says today about the alcohol abuse that plagued many years of his life. Struggling with a sleeping disorder, he began drinking as a form of self medication, which gradually escalated to addiction.

Over the years, it impacted his relationships with loved ones... his ability to trust others... and finally his health. After three episodes of alcohol poisoning that nearly cost him his life, he knew he had to change, or he would die.

He left his job as a chef to return home to California, thinking he might benefit from a new environment. But before he could catch the plane, he ran into a friend who worked at the Mission. Evan knew our outreach well – as a Christian musician, he often participated in our worship services. But he’d never considered seeking God’s help in his own time of need. When the friend suggested that’s what God might want him to do, Evan agreed to give our Recovery Program a try.

While skeptical at first, he soon felt comfortable in

“IT’S ONE THING TO  
BELIEVE IN GOD,  
BUT ANOTHER TO  
**GIVE HIM YOUR  
LIFE AND LET  
HIM RUN IT.”**



our Christ-centered environment, surrounded by our faith-filled staff and mentors. “When you believe God is who He says He is, then you can begin to trust others, too,” he says.

As an experienced chef, he embraced the opportunity to serve in our kitchen. And he continues to bless us with his music, with renewed joy and vigor.

But most importantly, he’s cherishing this time to study the Bible, heal his destructive habit and become

the man God intended him to be. “I’m learning to be patient with myself, my family, even strangers,” he says. “I’m no longer living for myself. It’s what we can do for others in this life that counts.”

**Evan is thankful for the way you have answered God’s calling to love your neighbor as yourself – and have helped him learn how to love himself.**

“Even though God was part of my life, He was in the back seat. I want Him in the driver’s seat now.”

**“Serve one another humbly in love. For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’” - Galatians 5:13b-14**

# A meal for \$2.49 is an easy way to **LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR!**



## A Message from JIM MCCORMICK

### Thank you for loving your neighbors as yourself

We all need a helping hand from time to time. No one makes it through life without a little care and compassion along the way. That's what loving your neighbors is all about, right?

And yet, you and I know that God's Word has a way of challenging us to go further... of stretching our faithfulness beyond what we thought possible. The Lord makes the impossible POSSIBLE at the Mission, thanks to the generosity of friends like YOU.

**Now, as the summer months approach, I hope we can count on you during our 3-month Love Your Neighbor campaign.**

Time and time again in Scripture, we're told not just to "love your neighbor" but to "love your neighbor as yourself." That's a big difference! It's making the needs of others a priority equal with your own from the beginning.

I'm so grateful for friends like you who give in this way to help men, women and children in North Central Montana who are hurting and homeless. And I ask for your continued support through the summer, when the weather can be dangerous for people who live outside.

Thank you for offering a helping hand to your neighbors most in need – and for continuing to love them **as**

**yourself.**

"A Beacon of Hope  
Since 1963"

Jim McCormick  
Executive Director



## **YOUR LOVE** will transform lives this summer!

Your gift today provides:



more than 22,000  
meals



more than  
17,000 beds



hundreds of  
hygiene items



countless hours of  
counseling & education



life-transforming decisions  
for Christ

**DON'T FORGET OUR NEIGHBORS  
THIS SUMMER... SHOW YOU CARE  
WITH YOUR GIFT TODAY!**

**LOVE YOUR  
NEIGHBOR**  
98-DAY SUMMER CAMPAIGN

**Give now!**  
[greatfallsrescuemission.org](http://greatfallsrescuemission.org)



*Support our Summer Campaign to restore hearts & rebuild families!*



It might still be summer, but the new school year is approaching fast... Help local children and families in need prepare at our Back 2 School Blast!

Again this year, the Mission is partnering with other local organizations to provide 1,500 backpacks filled with school supplies to help students in Great Falls start the school year on the right foot.

### **Here's how YOU can help:**

- ☐ Donate school supplies & backpacks
- ☐ Volunteer to help fill backpacks. Sign up at [volunteer.gfrm.org](http://volunteer.gfrm.org).
- ☐ Share the news!

Our Back 2 School Blast event is on August 18, 11 a.m.- 4 p.m. at the Mansfield Convention Center. This is a pre-registered event for school-aged children. Want to learn more? Visit [b2blast.org](http://b2blast.org) for more information.

# Make it a *Summer to Remember* for our youngest guests!

**Our annual children's Summer Camp runs June 12 - August 23, 2023**, for boys and girls staying at Great Falls Rescue Mission Cameron Family Center.

**Kids entering 1st - 12th grades** will enjoy activities like swimming, gardening, the Children's Museum, crafting, Bible lessons, sports, hiking and family days with parents. The camp culminates with a one-week overnight camp in August.

*You can help make it all possible!*

Sign up as a volunteer or camp counselor, and make cherished memories for these precious children. Volunteers will also supervise kids at our Cameron Family Center and other locations throughout the community.

To learn more, please visit [greatfallsrescuemission.org](http://greatfallsrescuemission.org) or call Gary Nowell at **(406) 205-0667**.



## You're helping care for bodies and minds

Men and women come to the Mission with a variety of challenges, and we're committed to addressing their unique needs. For some, that means a warm meal and safe place to rest. Others struggle with addiction. Some are desperate for medical care.

But many arrive with mental illness and trauma from their past.

That's why – in addition to helping clients heal physically – we also help them heal psychologically. **We offer Christ-centered counseling, referrals to community partners and other resources for long-term recovery.**

It's just another way your gifts and prayers help address the complex issues of poverty and homelessness in North Central Montana. Thank you for your support!

*Want to learn about other life-changing services you help provide? Read about our programs at [greatfallsrescuemission.org](http://greatfallsrescuemission.org) today!*