

October 2018

GATEWAY

RESCUE MISSION

IN THIS ISSUE

Happy 70th Anniversary!!



WAY
UE MISSION

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY
70th
1948 - 2018

OUR MISSION *To offer life changing hope through the Gospel of Jesus Christ to homeless men, women, and children through programs to deliver food, shelter, counseling and discipleship*



From the DIRECTOR

“Some wish to live within the sound of church or chapel bell. I wish to run a rescue shop within a yard of hell.”

—C.T. Studd

REX BAKER



I recently found a box of old pictures in a closet from decades ago at Gateway Rescue Mission. I didn't know the people in many of these pictures. Yet, these photos serve as a reminder that people who went before us laid the foundation at Gateway.

This year marks the 70th anniversary of Gateway Rescue Mission. A lot has changed since Gateway opened in 1948. For that matter, a lot has changed in the time I've been here. While I would sometimes like to return to the days of not being interrupted by a text in the middle of writing this newsletter, it's also important to use modern technology to spread our message.

When I came to Gateway Rescue Mission 20 years ago, Facebook had not been invented. I didn't have a cellphone, much less an iPhone. We survived without Youtube, Twitter or Instagram. Webpages were a luxury rather than a necessity and we took pictures at Gateway with a film camera. Remember those?

We recently updated our Gateway website. We also do the Facebook, Twitter and Instagram thing these days. For the old fashioned like me, we're updating our newsletter layout this month. Even though I read a lot online, I still prefer paper over digital. For the record, Twitter is not my thing. I've never seen anyone get in trouble for something they didn't post on Twitter. If Jesus was on earth today, would He tweet the Sermon on the Mount? I digress.

We have remained true to preaching the life-changing power of Jesus Christ over the years. Still do that today. Yet, a few things have happened during my tenure that I never thought about 20 years ago. One, I've taken thousands of pictures of people who have come and gone at Gateway Rescue Mission.

Many of those pictures have graced the pages of this newsletter. One that still grips my soul is a

picture of a smiling Gateway cleanup team standing on the shore at Biloxi, with sections of the Point Cadet bridge stacked like overturned dominoes by Hurricane Katrina in the background. These pictures tell our history. Maybe someday we'll publish a picture book.

Twenty years ago, I didn't foresee the talented, wacky and lovable team that God would knit together at Gateway Rescue Mission for today. Our Gateway squad has matching strengths, we get on each other's nerves and we laugh and love together through good times and bad. God is putting the right group together at Gateway in preparation for His next move.

Back then I didn't foresee spending a good amount of my on-the-job time working with various forms of media. Today we're ramping up our on-line presence and working with our good partners at Hederman Brothers Printing to update our newsletter and other published materials. I'm personally excited about our Gateway future in the online world.

God doesn't have a website, but He did inspire the best-selling Book of all time. That makes me believe the Almighty is okay with us updating our website and printed material. We invite you to check us out at www.gatewaymission.org. And yes, you can like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter and Instagram. Somebody besides me handles most of that.

I won't be here 70 years from now. Perhaps a future director will find an old photo in a box and wonder "who's this old gray headed guy and what did he do?" May God grant us all the grace to do today what He has ordained so that future generations will be blessed, just as we have been blessed by those who blazed the trail before us.

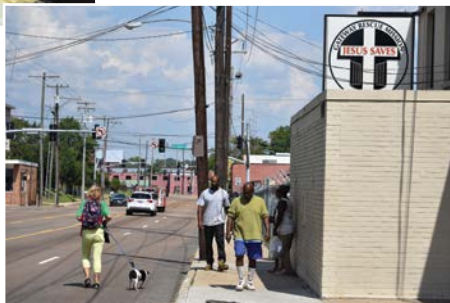
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rex M. Baker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rex Baker
Executive Director
Gateway Rescue Mission

Visit gatewaymission.org
for more information on how
you can help someone today.

FEATURE

Happy 70th Anniversary!!



For 70 years, we've been feeding hungry people and sharing the gospel at Gateway Rescue Mission. Shown here is a picture of our primary mission building under construction in the mid 1960's during the tenure of Brother George Roberson as director. Bro. George laid much of the concrete block structure himself and the building still serves us today. We have another picture of a volunteer group who performed during a chapel service, from the late 60s or early 70s.

People still come each day to that very same building to eat a good, nutritious lunch. People still come to Gateway to get a safe, clean bed at night. People still come to Gateway to find a life-changing relationship with Jesus through our New Life Program. Lots has changed in 70 years, but our core values and reasons for existence don't change.

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We'd like to give a special Gateway Shout-Out to our good friends at KLLM Kares!! These fine folks came by recently to serve lunch in the Gateway Café and brought bright smiles and a Karing spirit with them. Our volunteers bring joy and vitality to the kitchen and help spice up our day.

We'd also like to introduce you to Popsicle, the newest addition to the Gateway family. Popsicle showed up at Gateway a few weeks ago and sort of didn't leave. The kitchen crew named her Popsicle because she likes to explore the freezer, along with the laundry room, the bread room and the warehouse. Popsicle's hobbies include purring, meowing, sleeping and playing with anything remotely resembling a string.



Current Needs for October 2018

- Non-perishable foods and canned goods. We'll take all sizes of canned foods, but really like the Number 10 sized cans.
- We've got one volunteer group that donates jars of Peanut Butter. This has turned out to be a big hit. Homeless people like peanut butter because it's filling, nutritious, and can be eaten simply by opening the jar and, well, eating it.
- Honestly y'all, it's not too early to start thinking about Thanksgiving turkeys and hams.
- Personal hygiene supplies such as the following:
 - Soap (the little motel room bars are great for our shelter).
 - Toothpaste and toothbrushes.
 - Deodorant.
 - Shaving cream and razors.
 - Combs and clippers.
 - New underwear and t-shirts.



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