

January 2019

GATEWAY

RESCUE MISSION



IN THIS ISSUE

Happy 2019 Bow-Wow!!

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've learned the hard way that a New-Year's resolution is worthless without a plan to make it succeed. Numerous brilliant ideas that rolled through my brain never went anywhere because I didn't actually implement a plan to make the idea happen.

I want to achieve something worthwhile in 2019, both personally and in our ministry at Gateway Rescue Mission. However, wanting without a plan is just wishing. We can wish to lose weight or get in shape till the cows come home, but until we implement a sensible diet and exercise plan, it won't happen.

In the first quarter of 2019, I plan to write twenty stories about people whose lives have been impacted through Gateway Rescue Mission. This will allow us to more efficiently share what's going on at Gateway with you throughout the year. Why twenty? It's a good, round number and will get us going right out of the gate on collecting testimonies of how God changes lives.

In the second quarter, we plan to put our New Life Program on paper by compiling a notebook containing our curriculum. God changes lives through our New Life Program and the time has come to put that program onto typeset. This exercise will bring out our best thinking on how to move our program forward.

In the third quarter, we will full-bore implement the New Life Program curriculum that we write out in the second quarter. Part of our planning includes helping program participants obtain ServSafe certification to assist in getting restaurant jobs after graduation. Our kitchen provides the perfect classroom for folks to get up close and personal with cooking. It's a natural growth direction for us to equip our program residents to get a job cooking after they graduate.

As for the fourth quarter, nothing. I've learned through experience that the fourth quarter at Gateway Rescue Mission is 90 miles per hour downhill with no brakes. You're hanging on for dear life and there's

no time to start something new at Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Our staff will spend time planning, but not too much time. General George Patton once said, "a good plan violently executed today is better than a perfect plan executed next week." We won't wait for everything to be perfect before putting a plan into effect. There's no time like today to map out a worthwhile goal and start working energetically to make it happen.

I'm sharing this with you for a reason. Publicly stating our goals for the year creates accountability. I want you, our friends and supporters, to know our direction for 2019 and hold us accountable for making it happen. Pray that God will transform lives at Gateway Rescue Mission this year.

One thing to note. In 2019, our best laid objectives will not turn out like we planned. Life never does. However, if we don't plan, nothing new will turn out, period. Without solid plans, graduations and weddings don't take place. Houses don't get built and businesses don't succeed.

Just as we are setting goals and implementing plans for 2019 at Gateway Rescue Mission, I encourage you to plan your life for this year as well. Prayerfully commit your plans to God and trust the results to Him. Plan your year, your month, your week and your day. I pray that in doing so, 2019 will be a year when God gives increased purpose and achievement to your life.

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 2019 Bow-Wow!!



At first glance, I didn't notice Max. Then I looked closer at this buggy packed with belongings and saw Max's little doggy face sticking out from his blanket. Bill often drops by for lunch, with his good-natured therapy dog Max in tow. We allow therapy animals at Gateway Rescue Mission and are happy to provide Bill and Max with a good meal and a warm bed.

During the winter, it does our hearts good to offer shelter from the cold for God's children, and sometimes for His critters too. (For the record, we operate a people shelter, not an animal shelter. However, Gateway Rescue Mission allows properly certified service and therapy animals to stay in our shelter with their owners.)

Our shelter is full most nights, particularly during the winter. Thank you all for supporting the ministry of Gateway Rescue Mission, so that we can provide warm shelter and nutritious meals for those who need to know that God's people care.

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A couple of Gateway Shout-outs this January! We'd like to thank the good folks at Puckett Machinery, who recently brought their catfish frying gizmo to Gateway and provided us all with some tasty fish, fries and coleslaw. We're always glad to see this crew pulling into the parking lot because we know lunch will be mighty fine.



Also, we wish to thank the good employees of the Kroger District Five stores in Mississippi. These folks chipped in to provide 3,000 pairs of socks to Gateway Rescue Mission. They posed for a group picture, decked out in Christmas red and big smiles. Y'all, that's a lot of socks and they'll keep many feet warm at Gateway Rescue Mission in 2019!



Needs List

- Believe it or not, we actually need food, of the canned, non-perishable type. The Thanksgiving/Christmas season is over and our cupboard could stand some replenishing of basic food necessities. We made it through the holidays okay, but didn't get the quantity of canned donations that we have in the past.
- Coffee. Another believe it or not bit of trivia. What single kitchen food item do we spend the most money on at Gateway Rescue Mission? Coffee. Yes, that morning cup of joe is the most expensive thing we buy. In His infinite love for us, God created the coffee bean to warm our bodies and keep us awake in the winter. (rest of the year too) If Jesus was to come to Gateway today, He'd probably turn the water into coffee. In case He doesn't show up for that particular miracle, do the next best thing and bring by a few cans.
- We have an ongoing need for blankets and sheets for our shelter, particularly in the winter.
- Soap, toothbrushes, shaving cream, razors, personal hygiene supplies. Basically, we can't get enough of these types of items.
- Prayer. We need you, God's people, to pray for Gateway Rescue Mission. Pray for our staff, that we may be strong to do the Lord's work. Pray for the people who come here, who need not only the love of Christ, but His power at work in their lives. Pray for our Board of Directors, that God will provide Divine guidance and wisdom as they lead our ministry.



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