

JANUARY 2026

GATEWAY

RESCUE MISSION



BABY GIRL GOES TO CHAPEL!!

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



FROM THE DIRECTOR

"Some want to live within the sound of church or chapel bell. I want to run a rescue shop within a yard of hell."

- C.T. Studd



REX BAKER

I am writing this amid the chaos of the first week of 2026, with the phone ringing, emails popping, folks in the office wanting to talk, while trying to lay the groundwork for priorities of the upcoming year at Gateway Rescue Mission. I'd like to share with you some personal thoughts as we hit the ground running in a new year.

This year Gateway will break ground on renovating a warehouse building that we own to house our New Life Program. This renovation has been a dream for several decades, but God has moved recently to allow this project to move forward.

We are currently conducting our **Restore Life to Jackson** campaign to raise funds for this endeavor. The project will double the number of men we can serve in our New Life Program of addiction recovery. The campaign will also allow us to double the number of homeless men we shelter each night. It will also provide new offices, a new chapel, and new classrooms.

I recently read through our Gateway Rescue Mission bylaws. Our bylaws contain a Purpose Statement which lays out four reasons Gateway exists. The following is the cliff notes version of our Purpose Statement:

1. To proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ.
2. To minister to the spiritual and physical needs of the homeless.
3. To minister to those in addiction through our New Life Program of addiction recovery.
4. To inform the public and churches regarding issues of homelessness and to educate the public about our ministry.

In reading through the gospel accounts of Jesus' earthly ministry, some things jump out. Jesus was always among the people and He seemed to focus

on the hardest cases. He healed the blind, the lame, the lepers. He cast out demons. He hung out with tax collectors, racial outcasts, and demon-possessed women. Jesus dealt with people in their mess, using his own spit to make mudpacks for their eyes and healing a desperate woman with a chronic flow of blood that made her ceremonially unclean. He fed hungry people and called out religious hypocrisy.

Folks, if that's what Jesus did, what should Christian ministry look like for us in 2026? Not just at Gateway Rescue Mission, but at every church that claims the name of Jesus. I am asking God to open my eyes to how He would have us minister to those who come to us for help at Gateway Rescue Mission.

I often hear someone hollering outside my office window and look outside to see a lonely person in an active schizophrenic state. We cross paths with dirty people under the influence of drugs on the streets. We see Jesus radically transform hardened criminals into loving, caring members of the body of Christ.

In 2026, we will do outreach to the meth addicts in homeless camps. We'll improve ways to help opiate addicts whose bodies are ravaged with dope-sickness when they try to come off the drugs. We will feed hungry people who subsist on the edge of poverty in a society of plenty. We will share the good news that Jesus Christ loves them and wants them to experience a full life.

May you experience the love and fullness of Christ this year. And may you minister as Christ did right here in your world in 2026.

Happy New Year!

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



A team from First Presbyterian Church recently conducted a chapel service at Gateway, and Baby Girl felt the effectual call of the Holy Spirit to attend. Baby Girl is a lovable canine that showed up at Gateway a few months ago. Didn't take Baby Girl long to start sneaking into our shelter to hang out with the guys. So, when chapel call came this particular night, Baby Girl came on in and took a seat. She has since been adopted by a Gateway staffer, who took Baby Girl home with him, where she promptly got into his garbage.

We welcome the opportunity in 2026 to minister the gospel in word and deed to those who come to us for help. We are excited to see life change take place within our New Life Program, as LaTarea can be seen here receiving his graduation certificate from Gateway Program staffer Brad Hancock. (Brad is also the proud owner of Baby Girl.)



In 2026, we will apply the truth of the gospel to problems such as mental illness and addiction to today's super drugs. We look forward to meeting new volunteers who wish to serve with our ministry. We look forward to breaking new ground for renovation projects and forging new efforts to help those in need.

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Daily life continues at Gateway Rescue Mission in 2026. A guest pictured here says grace over his meal, while blankets provided by generous donors line our dining room wall for those in need. For old times' sake, we'd like to give a Gateway Shout Out for everyone who donated to our ministry, prayed for us, or helped out in our kitchen in 2025.



We look forward to new friends, new opportunities, and a fresh movement of God in our ministry in 2026. We welcome you to all join us in God's work at Gateway Rescue Mission. We prayerfully ask for your financial support and your prayer support. You can donate online through our website at www.gatewaymission.org

CURRENT NEEDS

- **A passenger van.** This is a big request, but our current van used to transport our program guys to church and related events is wearing out. We need a reliable passenger van for transportation purposes.
- **We need coffee.** Y'all have been gracious to supply this wonderful item in the past, but our supply of the java bean is running low.
- **Water.** Cases of water would be greatly appreciated.
- **Belts and dress shoes for men of all sizes.** We do not ascribe to the saggy pants style at Gateway Rescue Mission.

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