OCTOBER 2026

GATEWAY RESCUE MISSION



A SMILE FOR THE CAMERA!!

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*

ECFA ACCREDITED

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

A few days ago, I was scrolling through my phone and came across the pictures of my youngest daughter moving into Stewart Hall as an Ole Miss freshman. I vividly remember my emotions of that day. The recent tragic deaths of two students at Ole Miss stirred something within me, as one of the students was found deceased in that same Stewart Hall, which is now a men's dorm.

Like any job, our work with addicts at Gateway Rescue Mission can become routine. However, this story out of Oxford personalized the danger of drugs for every parent who has ever moved a kid into a college dorm or apartment.

The battle with drugs is not new. In 1849, Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup was introduced as a cure-all for fussy babies. What did this syrup contain? Morphine and alcohol. Back then medicines did not list ingredients. Many desperate mothers innocently gave this syrup to their crying babies. Historians estimate that thousands of babies died from overdosing before manufacturers were forced to remove morphine from the syrup.

A few years ago we had guys show up at Gateway after smoking a synthetic marijuana called spice, sold in convenience stores. It made people crazy and the legislature outlawed it. Young people overdosed on another synthetic called K2 and the legislature outlawed it. People started getting buzzed on tianeptine, a European anti-depressant. Opponents called it "gas station heroin" and the legislature outlawed it. Now it's kratom, a plant-based drug with some pain-killing properties. Drug manufacturers have produced super-strong extracts and synthetic forms of kratom and opponents call it "gas station heroin" and the legislature has outlawed it. Proponents say still-legal natural forms of kratom help them with chronic pain.

I am not in favor of legalizing illicit drugs. But new drugs are being developed so fast we can't keep up with them. If simply passing a law making a drug illegal solved the problem, we wouldn't have a drug problem today.

Ironically, many of these drugs originally came from plants that God made and said "it is good." God created the opium poppy for severe pain and the kratom leaf for mild pain. The marijuana plant treats nausea and the ephredra plant treats respiratory illnesses. Man took the poppy and made black-tar heroin, the kratom leaf and made synthetic 7-oh in the news today, the ephedra plant and made methamphetamine, and super-charged the THC content in marijuana to levels God never intended.

Two things can be true at the same time. A drug can have a medical benefit and also be abused. Our officials are charged with protecting the public health. But ultimately, we have a spiritual problem that cannot be solved solely through legislation. As evidenced recently, we have an enemy who seeks to steal, kill, and destroy. May we turn to God in heaven for guidance, wisdom, and direction.

Blessings,

Rex W. Baker

Rex Baker
Executive Director
Gateway Rescue Mission

VISIT GATEWAYMISSION.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW YOU CAN HELP SOMEONE TODAY

FEATURE



At Gateway Rescue Mission, we're sort of like the camel in the commercial saying "you know what day it is? It's Hump Day!!" Well, at Gateway we say, "you know what time of year it is? Thanksgiving!!" Thanksgiving is just around the corner so it's the right time for that office, civic club, or church group food drive. We also accept turkeys and hams at Gateway Rescue Mission.

Moving along, after chapel one recent Monday morning, the men in our New Life Program gathered around for a smile and a picture.



Our good friends from Hederman Brothers printing came by to serve lunch, and the good folks with the Flowood Rotary Club also lined up to serve food and smiles at lunch in our kitchen.

I'd like to ask you a personal favor. Please consider a financial gift to Gateway Rescue Mission. It takes money to feed the hungry and keep the lights on for the homeless. Scripture says *"let each one do just as he has purposed in his heart; not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."* (II Cor. 9:7)

The quickest way to give is through our donation page at www.gatewaymission.org

Thank you for your support and prayers on behalf of Gateway Rescue Mission.

GATEWAY

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I recently be-bopped through the mission and caught Steven red-handed, eating banana pudding. Steven is our primary cook, so he gets a pass on eating the delicious pudding. Chris showed up at our shelter to get a bed for the night.

On the frontlines at Gateway Rescue Mission, we deal with broken people daily. That's why it's important to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, provide programs for those seeking life change, and preach a message of hope in Jesus Christ.



Current Needs

- **Coffee.** Folks at Gateway enjoy a smooth cup of java in the mornings and we go through lots of it.
- **Laundry pods.** We do laundry daily and the laundry pods work great!
- **Turkeys.**
- **Hams.**
- **Socks, t-shirts, and underwear** of all adult sizes
- **Blankets and towels.**
- **Soap and body wash.**



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