



Good Shepherd Ministries

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Rev Keith Stagge
Executive Director

Shawn Trapp
Program Manager

THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF

Executive Director Letter

Rev. Keith A. Stagge, Executive Director

This is my favorite time of the year. The colors are changing, there is that certain crispness in the air, school is back in session and I am reminded of God's unchanging faithfulness. I come from a farm environment and I love to watch the crops in the field getting ready for harvest. The corn begins to brown as it dries out, the soybeans turn golden before drying out for harvest. That is the same feeling I get when I see our clients. They are progressing and are seeing their own harvest come about in their lives. Lives that were tagged for destruction are now seeing and experiencing hope through Christ. As one of the clients has said, "Addiction being a spiritual malady, therefore requires a spiritual solution. (See enclosed testimony) Please continue to support us in your prayers and financial support.

As we continue through this year, finances have been an ever increasing challenge, and I have looked at various causes, but it suddenly was so glaringly simple: GSM had been ministering to about 6 or 7 clients

Program Manager Letter

Shawn Trapp, Program/Housing Manager

Hello, it's good to be back with the Good Shepherd family. Hope all is well with you and your family. Wow! Fall is here lots of wonderful blessings have been happening to the ministry. We have had a very busy last two months, have a lot of new partners we are helping out and a lot of great supporters to thank. We have started volunteering with Harvest for Hope Community Garden. We help them serve the less fortunate food from the garden we maintain. Thanks, Tom Bensman for letting the clients help in his great program. Also, a special thanks to Doug Badgley of Lighthouse Carpet. He donated lots of carpet for the houses and helps the clients with work. Great company and great guy. Give him a call if you need any flooring or carpet work at 937-559-6552. Also, I want to thank Mike Prell of Prelltech Web Designs. He donated a bunch of great computers, laptops, and servers for the Adventure Thrift Store. Give him a call for any computer needs at 937-242-5050. We have had a lot of great events that the ministry has participated in the last couple of months to promote our faith based recovery program in the Dayton area. Also, a special thanks to Phil Robertson and the Tillman family who hosted our 2nd annual Good Shepherd Ministries Reunion at their lake house in



Help support GSM. Register your Kroger card by calling 1-800-krogers or go online and enter the GSM code #37401 and part of your purchase will go straight to GSM. Thank you in advance!

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Special points of interest

- GSM to sell Christmas Trees
- GSM at full capacity
- Jason & Joey share their testimonies
- How do I help?

St. Anthony of Padua Church Testimony

A really good flock of guys! (sheep?)

It has been a real blessing for me to get to know Shawn Trapp and the men who are participating in the recovery program at Good Shepherd Ministries. I have enjoyed spending time with them, -- hosting them at my home a couple of times for dinner, welcoming them to Mass at St. Anthony Church, and visiting them at the Thrift Store.

In addition, I have hired them on several occasions to do work for me at St. Anthony Parish, -- doing plastering and painting, word-working, landscaping and gardening, cleaning out old storage rooms, and moving furniture. I have been very pleased with the work they have done. They are hard-working, organized, responsible, and polite.

I greatly admire these guys for the having the courage and the perseverance and the patience to work their program of recovery. These are truly good men! They were lost in the darkness of addiction, but have come into the light of God's truth and strength and love! It is evident to me that Jesus, the Good Shepherd, is leading them onward to health and holiness, through the efforts of Good Shepherd Ministries.

Fr. Greg Konerman
Pastor
St. Anthony of Padua Church

"These are truly good men! They were lost in the darkness of addiction, but have come into the light of God's truth and strength and love!"

Inside Story Headline

I thank God every morning I wake up clean and sober.

LEC names room for GSM

Food for the Journey provides lunches

Life Enrichment Center Dedicates Room to GSM

LEC has dedicated a conference room in the Non-Profit Collaborative offices to Good Shepherd Ministries. We are humbled to have this recognition given to us.



CHRISTMAS TREES!!! Yes, it is almost that time of year. This year GSM will be selling Christmas trees at the 3rd street office location beginning the Saturday after Thanksgiving, November 25th and thereafter until the trees are sold. We will have a variety of sizes. Please support GSM this Christmas season!

GSM would like to give a great big THANK YOU to Food for the Journey. They provide lunches for Our clients every Monday as well as special dinners Throughout the year.



Adventures Thrift Store

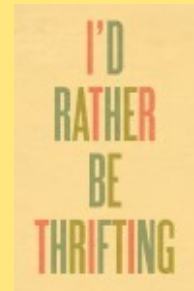
The Adventure Thrift Store has seen good progress with painting the exterior, and organizing the inside. The guys are taking pride in the store and you can tell it helps them build confidence in themselves and their work ethic fixing up both the store and the houses.

Client Testimony of Reconciliation

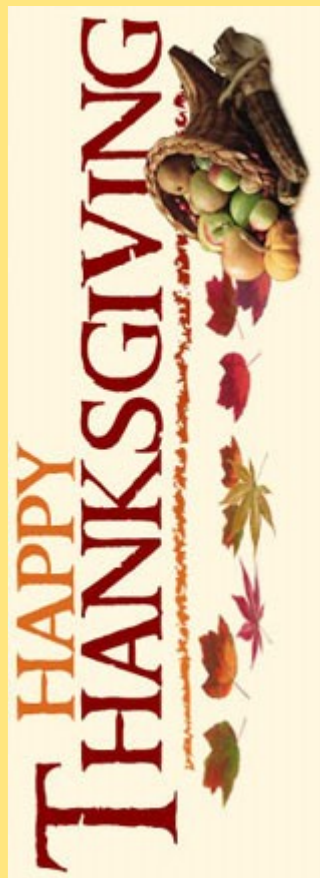
My name is Joey and I'm a grateful recovering addict. I'm 21 years old, and grew up around addiction and abuse my whole life. My father was an alcoholic and my mother was very co-dependent. My father would drink everyday and would get physically and mental abusive as he would get drunker and my mom would stay by his side because of her co-dependency. Unfortunately, I would say that I never want to end up like my father, but unfortunately I developed both my mother and father's addictions and co-dependency traits. I picked up drugs at the age of 12, the sad thing is I thought wow this kind of numbs the pain and I did not have to deal with my family issues of addiction and abuse. Due to my dad's drinking and violence and my early drug use, we never had a good father son relationship. After trying several times because of getting arrested or the court system I would go in and out of

treatment centers. But through the grace of god in March I enrolled myself in Woodhaven Treatment Center not for the courts or jail; I did it myself and my family. During the time I was in treatment I went ahead and made amends with my father and had forgiven him for all the things he did to me and my brother because at the end of the day I understand it's the disease. Unfortunately, April 1st was the last time I saw him alive, as he committed suicide while I was in treatment. It was a very hard time for me my disease of addiction was telling me leave but god was telling me to stay and finish my program. Through my great support system and the grace of God I stayed and completed my Woodhaven treatment and got my certificate for me and for my dad. My mother & I have a great relationship today as she is one of my biggest supporters

Then, I was accepted into Good Shepherd Ministries. I am truly blessed and I love this place we are like one big family. I am getting in touch with my spiritual side with God. The guys and Shawn support me when I am having a bad day thinking of my childhood and my dad and the things we did not experience together. Keith and Shawn are changing and saving lives at this ministry. We have grill outs together. The board members come to our house meetings and even teach bible studies. We do service work in the community together at churches, and help the less fortunate out. I know my dad is looking over me today and smiling. I thank God every morning I wake up clean and sober.



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Executive Director Letter continued

historically; we now have 22! This is fantastic as we move forward and God is blessing, but we have all the more financial needs now. In addition, in order to house these men, we have renovated the new house at 261 E Linden. It was in complete shambles when we acquired it, and as we began the process of renovation, came to the sudden realization of the scope of the infrastructure of the house that needed to be done. This has made a major hit on our cash reserves. As we continue to grow and minister to those who have no other way to go, please remember GSM in your giving. Would you even consider making a special one-time gift to help us through this time? God's reward will be that you have given to see the work of God accomplished.

When Lord did we see you in need? When you did it to the least of these my brethren, you have done it unto me.

Come see us at our Winter Wonderland beginning November 25th at the 3rd Street offices.



Program Manager letter continued

Eaton, Ohio and cook out. We had over 25 current and graduated clients and had a wonderful time. We participated in the F.O.A. rally downtown and Hope over Heroin, also thanks to Lori Sims Parks. She and her husband are great supporters of the program. The guys participate weekly in her art classes at the Life Enrichment Center and a great event to raise money for the k12 Gallery & Tejas. Thank you to her and her family for all of the splendid work and support she does for the guys and the ministry. Also want to thank Food for the Journey and the Life Enrichment Center for all the support and help they do for the clients and the ministry; two great organizations that help us out tremendously. Also, a special thanks to Fritz Merkes and the Community United Church of Riverside for letting us participate and share about the struggles and God's triumphs of our addictions and great testimonies of our Life Recovery Program. Had a great event with local school officials, police, and community leaders. It is great for the clients and myself to share our testimonies of our struggles, and successes through God and the Holy Spirit. If any churches or organization would like to have us come on a Sunday or anytime to share our testimonies and stories of our spirit, strength, and hope, please simply call. We would love to come and educate any people or organizations on addiction, and recovery and how God has saved us and how churches are stepping and supporting this great cause! Winter is around the corner we will be busy and in need of bedding sheets, pillows, etc. We currently have 22 clients and have been recognized as the biggest faith based program in Dayton. As always, we get no government funding all our support comes from you, and local churches. We have a lot of projects going on to clean up our neighborhood. God is good and remember, "the one who willingly gives is always more blessed than the one who receives" Amen!



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Client Testimony of Life Change

An addict, any addict, can stop using drugs, lose the desire, and find a new way to live. I had been able to stop using drugs for short periods of time, but I wasn't willing to change anything else. I'd crawl back into isolation and begin using again. Eventually the pain became great enough and I finally surrendered to my higher power god and went to treatment. There I learned a little about what the disease of addiction is and more importantly what recovery and faith is about. Addiction being a spiritual malady, therefore requires a spiritual solution. One of the most important principles that I have learned in recovery is humility, the of reaching out and asking for help. This can be difficult for an addict like myself, we find a certain comfort, alone in our isolation. Asking for help makes us feel weak, and less than. In recovery thru working a program we find empathy for the still struggling addicts. We help other addicts by sharing our experience, strength, and hope, and in turn we help ourselves. The therapeutic value of one addict helping another is without parallel. That's what Good Shepherd Ministries has been about for me. A group of guys who are there for each other despite our differences with the common goal of trying to find a new way to live. And through the grace of god and the Good Shepherd Ministries. I currently live in the transitional house been in program for over a year have a year and a half of sobriety. I have been working and paying my bills and court fees of the last six months. This program has restored my life and given me structure, hope, and something to believe in. A quote that has stuck with me since treatment. Ego says "do not appear a fool and ask for help", Spirit says", all struggle so unite to rise". I just want to say thank you to Shawn and Keith for helping me with all my legal issues, going to court, speaking to judges and lawyers, and supporting me through my recovery process. And to all of you that help support our program we really have something

“This program has restored my life and given me structure, hope, and something to believe in.”

Harvest of Hope Garden

For the past 4-5 Wednesdays a work crew from the Good Shepherd Ministries has come to the Harvest for Hope Community Garden to help out with the chores. These guys have been great! Whether it's digging out the area for the accessible handicap garden, mowing the grass and whacking the weeds, or building a raised bed for carrots and creating more pathways, the crew has been on it! Now that they've become part of the garden's weekly routine, I really don't know what we'd do without them. Keep up the good work, guys! ---Tom Bensman, Harvest for Hope garden manager

Phil Robertson, President of the Board, comments:

I went down to talk to the clients today and show them a DVD, why the Bible is true, which I do every Wednesday. One of them was baptized at the Hope Over Heroin rally last week. But this morning, two of them brought their guitars and played and sang two Christian hymns. They gave me a card on which 9 clients and Shawn expressed their appreciation for the program. Several even said or wrote on the card “thanks for helping run such a great program. It has saved my life,” and “I know I would not be where I am today without Good Shepherd and you people.” All of the board members and all of our supporters need to know how much these guys really appreciate our efforts. I wish you could have heard all their comments. I thanked them and said that Shawn and Keith are good managers, but the real success of the program depends on how they all look out for each other, pull for each other, encourage each other and not allow their “brothers” to fail, but for everyone to succeed.

GSM NEEDS

Cash Donations

Needs

T-Shirts, all sizes, Black Dress Socks, all sizes, Heavy knit hats, Thermal Underwear, Work Gloves, Sheets, double, single, Pillowcases, Wash Clothes,

Breakfast Cereal, bagged, \$20 Kroger gift card, Tuna, Salmon, Hamburger Helper, Mac N Cheese, Peanut Butter, Spaghetti Noodles, Canned Beef, Canned Fruit, Canned Vegetables

HOME

\$25 Lowes gift cards, Drano, Fabreeze, Laundry Basket, Religious Wall Items, TV Converter, Light Bulbs, Dresser

HYGIENE

Soap, dish, liquid and laundry, \$15 Walgreen Gift Cards, Listerine, Toilet Paper, Tissues, Chap Stick, Deodorant, Cologne, Q-Tips, Cotton Balls

KITCHEN

\$15-\$25 Meijer Gift Cards, Can Opener, Manual, New, Lysol Cleaner, Cooking Utensils, Degreaser, 1 Gal Freezer bags, Bleach, Paper Towels, Pot & Pans, Napkins

JOB SEARCH

Bus Tokens, Forever 1st Class stamps, Pocket Calendars, Alarm Clock Radios, \$15-\$25 Wal-Mart Gift Cards, Bikes, Used with cable locks, Notebooks, spiral, Notebook paper, Working lawn mower, Snow Shovels, Black Markers, Staples, Thank you cards,

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