

Good Shepherd Ministries 1115 E Third St Dayton, OH 45402 www.thegsm.net December 2017 Volume 1, Issue 5



Rev Keith Stagge Executive Director Shawn Trapp Program Manager

THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF

Executive Director Letter

Rev. Keith A. Stagge, Executive Director

Can you believe it? It's Christmas time again. I love this season and almost all that goes with it. The lights, the special dinners, the trees, the promise that God shows was kept. For hundreds of years, it seemed that God was now here. But then, one night, God showed up, not the way we were looking for him, but as a baby, an outcast born to a young woman, seemingly not married long enough to be pregnant. Many current theologians believe the innkeeper who turned them away, was actually a family member, as Mary & Joseph were returning to their ancestral home for the census. So, if this is the case aside by her own family, only to be given shelter in a stable, a cave overlooking the shepherd's fields. Jesus came, not to be above us, but to

Program Manager Letter Shawn Trapp, Program/Housing Manager

I just wanted to say happy holidays to all my Good Shepherd Family. It's a great time of year. We had a great thanksgiving dinner with all the clients and there families. Thanks to all the board members for putting that on for us. It is amazing to see how these gatherings get bigger and bigger each year. God is good! Helping over 22 clients and there families. Also do not forget if you shop Kroger's or Amazon sign up to support the ministry. Help us help others. It has been very busy month we are still trying to complete the 261 Linden Avenue house, we are in desperate need of Home Depot, Lowes, or Menards gift card's, or any donation to help complete that so we can add three more beds for clients. Es-



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!

Inside this issue

Testimony	. 2
Supporting GSM	. 2
Adventures Thrift Store	. 3
Ongoing Needs	. 3
Testimony	. 3,5
Alumni Clients giving back	. 5
Current Needs	.6

Special points of interest

- GSM to sell Christmas Trees
- GSM at full capacity
- Alex, Matt, Codey, share their testimonies
- How do I help?

HOLIDAY CAR AUCTION! 2016 CHEVY MALIBU!

In an effort to open a fourth house and also raise money to supply client's with Christmas gifts we are currently auctioning off this 2016 Chevy Malibu! Tickets are \$50 each

and if you are interested please go to thegsm.net and click Paypal to enter or stop in the office or store! 1115 East Third Street, Dayton, Ohio, 45402.



"I will never forget a mother should never bury her kids and that really hit home with us"





Thanks to the client's families supporting GSM!

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

Client Testimony of Reconciliation

"Brothers in recovery"

Our names are Matt and Cody we are both at Good Shepherd Ministries. We grew up in Middletown, Ohio. Are mother was a very mother. And always took care of us. Our father was in and out of our lives, he was a crack addict and he passed away when we were young. We grew up poor and always seem to struggled Unfortunately I started hanging out with the wrong crowd and I started experimenting with drugs. I started using drugs everyday smoking weed, and drinking. My drug use slowly progressed to

using cocaine. Then when I turned 26 years ning together stealing, old I met my wife. It was great I stopped using drugs we eventu- mother sat us down ally got married we had and pleaded with us three kids with in a five and said something I year period. Things hard working and loving were going great had a mother should never great family, good job. My mom had remarried to my step dad At that point we both who was great. But my two younger brothers were in active drug addiction to heroin. So I had not seen my broth- both have 8 months ers for a while but we always got together on my fathers birthday! Well we got together and one thing lead together and I fell back into using drugs with my brothers. Then my wife divorced me. At that point me and my

brother Cody were runrobbing, and in and out of jail. Until one day my will never forget" a bury her kids" and that really hit home with us. surrendered. We went to treatment. Then both came to Good Shepherd Ministries we clean. And just were able to get are third brother in treatment. And getting back in my children's lives. Its truly a miracle myself and my brother at same place recovering . I thank god everyday!

Please support the ministry while you Christmas shop!



Inside Story Headline



Executive Director Letter continued

Show us who god really is, someone who walks with us through struggle and turmoil. So it is today: the men we minister to have been cast aside by most society and simply told to "pull themselves up by their bootstraps!" Before we can do this, we must first learn to kneel beside those who were outcasts, the shepherds and those that God announced himself to, and then to walk with the one who came to walk with us. That is where Good Shepherd Ministries operates; helping those who the world has cast aside and teaching them to walk with Jesus. Said earlier that it seemed to many that God was no-where, but this year, we begin to look at that instead of "God is now-here,"

Come see us at our Winter Wonderland beginning November 25th at the 3rd Street offices. During this Christmas, would you consider helping the Ministry with a monetary donation? We have seen our clientele triple and with it our cost have gone up!

Program Manager letter continued

pecially with winter around the corner we are very busy. We also are in need of a certified plumber and electrician to help with the house. Make sure come down to the Christmas wonderland buy a beautiful tree, Christmas rope and wreaths. Help us raise money for the clients and there kids for Christmas. Also buy a raffle ticket and win a brand new 2016 Chevy Malibu to help raise money to finish 261 Linden Avenue house. In closing, I can not say it enough there is something special going on in this ministry. And with out the help of our friends, family, and you guy's donating none of this would happen. "Our family a circle of strength, Founded on faith...Joined in love...Kept by god! Thank You and all have safe and blessed holiday. As you prepare for your end of the year giving, remember Good Shepherd Ministries is a 501(c)3 charity with all donations being fully tax deductible.



Client Testimony of Life Change

My name is Alex I am 39 years old and a grateful recovering addict. I was at Good Shepherd Ministries for a year. I graduated the program and I have moved on in my life but I never forget were I came from and what god and Good Shepherd Ministries has given me a second chance on life. Growing up I lost my mother in a car accident early in my childhood. My father was an alcoholic growing up and was always working and not around much. My drug use started at a young age started smoking weed and drinking at age thirteen. This continued for years, eventually as I got older it got worse but I was always able to have a pretty good job, I even was able to graduate from college. I held down several great jobs, when I turned 38 my father passed. I think that's when my drinking took a turn for the worse and I hit rock bottom. I ended up in the hospital with liver, and pancreas issues and a nurse actually talked me into going to a treatment center. So I started my recovery process, went to Access treatment for 3 months. Then ended up at Good Shepherd Ministries. Here I really got in touch with my spiritual side and learned what god had in store for me and started helping others who were less fortunate through service work, and other out reach programs. Today I manage one of the biggest transport companies in Dayton and have my own house. I still got to the new alumni meeting every Thursday night (Good Shepherd Alumni) with my brother. I am blessed to have my Good Shepherd Family and brothers. Thank you god and Good Shepherd Ministries! This program is really special and is savings lives!

> "We pray for your family has a blessed Christmas season this year and a prosperous 2018. "Merry Christmas"

Thank You to all the vendors support!

Norwex GL crochet

3rd on 3rd

Wooten's

Chuckwagon

Bath fitters

Scentsy

Lula roe

Joshua

Redmond Designs

Hand made & charming

31

Lonnie's

Green Acres

Foodie Bobs

Usborne Books **GSM: ALUMNI SUPPORT**

Another Good Shepherd Success Story! Coming back to support his Good Shepherd Brothers and a great cause! First time he has bought his own Christmas tree in three years! God is good!



	Needs
GSM NEEDS	T-Shirts, all sizes, Black Dress Socks, all sizes, Heavy knit hats, Thermal Underwear,
	Work Gloves, Sheets, double, single, Pillowcases, Wash Clothes,
Cash Donations	Breakfast Cereal, bagged, \$20 Kroger gift card, Tuna, Salmon, Hamburger Helper, Mac
Building Supplies	N Cheese, Peanut Butter, Spaghetti Noodles, Canned Beef, Canned Fruit, Canned Veg- etables
	HOME
Canned goods	\$25 Lowes gift cards, Drano, Fabreeze, Laundry Basket, Religious Wall Items, TV Con- verter, Light Bulbs, Dresser
Christmas Donations	HYGIENE
	Soap, dish, liquid and laundry, \$15 Walgreen Gift Cards, Listerine, Toilet Paper, Tis- sues, 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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