

REAL CHANGE

SPECIAL EDITION



THE NEWSLETTER OF REDWOOD GOSPEL MISSION

MAY 2020



The Mission: Still a Safe Haven

Jeff Gilman, Executive Director



God is still on the throne. He still wants more people to come to know Him. You can still share His love.

Here we are, just a few weeks after Easter. Our plans for our big outreach dinner were canceled, but that didn't stop us from celebrating the resurrection. In fact, we pulled out all the stops for the 114 people currently sheltering with us. And in spite of COVID-19, we still had a special Easter meal, plus a meaningful celebration — because the Gospel hasn't changed. God is still alive, and we still have the joy of sharing His hope with people in the most desperate situations.

Thanks to friends like you, the Mission is still a safe haven offering help, hope and healing to our poor and needy neighbors.

- **We're feeding people** – we're serving over 350 meals a day.
- **We're providing safe shelter** – we're caring for more than 114 people, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- **We're offering counseling and job-training** to the people going through our programs.
- **We're having chapel services.**
- **We're sharing the Gospel with as many people as possible!**

Your support and prayer partnership will allow us to keep doing those things in a way that I know we all need. Because while there is a pandemic going on, life continues, and ministry doesn't stop. We get hope from helping others, and that's what we all need right now.

A lot has changed, but the most important things remain the same.

For the latest news on our response to COVID-19, please visit our website at smission.org/coronavirus

Get involved at smission.org/meals



Mobile Shower Ministry Doubles Service Days



Now more than ever, hygiene and keeping yourself clean are critically important.

That's what our mobile showers offer to our homeless neighbors on the streets. We take the shower to them and provide the opportunity to get clean and be refreshed while we build relationships and share the Gospel whenever possible.

Before the pandemic hit, our mobile showers were going out three days a week. But with increasing needs and so many shelters unable to open their doors for overnight guests, county officials encouraged us to expand our offerings.

We're now sending showers around Sonoma County six days a week. We also offer take-away meals to every person who showers.

Extra precautions have been taken and the showers are deep cleaned between each guest to keep everyone safe, clean and healthy.

Prayer Points

- Pray for our guests.**
We have more than 114 people staying with us 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Please pray for peace and God's hand as we continue to serve these precious people in as many ways possible.
- Pray for our staff, who are working tirelessly.**
We've had to ask our volunteers to stay home and some of our staff have had to step away to take care of family. Those changes have left a bigger burden for those who can still work. Pray for energy, stamina and health.
- Pray for the men and women who are still on the streets tonight.**
Pray for God's protection over them until the shelters can reopen. Pray that God would use this crisis to speak to them and that they'll be ready to get help when it's available.

Get Redwood Gospel Coffee at Home!

With the churches that usually purchase our coffee closed, we have even more great coffee to share with friends like you. You can shop online at www.redwoodgospelcoffee.com and have our delicious coffee sent right to your door.

When you buy Redwood Gospel Coffee you help coffee farmers receive a fair wage that will both bless them and help transform their communities.

Plus, you're supporting men and women in recovery! Our coffee is roasted through our Coffee Certification Program, where students gain skills that they can use when they enter the work world again.

Why not plan a virtual coffee date and have a bag sent to your house and a friend's?

Of course, we are extra, extra careful to maintain COVID-hygiene standards to protect you and your home. Go to: www.redwoodgospelcoffee.com to pick your roast!



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