



and the *Word* was made flesh

For unto us  
a *Child* is born,  
unto us a *Son* is given: and the government  
shall be upon his shoulder: and his name  
shall be called *Wonderful, Counsellor,*  
the *Mighty God, the Everlasting Father,*  
the *Prince of Peace.*

— ISAIAH 9:16 —

BLESSINGS TO YOU FROM THE STAFF OF THE PACIFIC GARDEN MISSION

## Letters from "Unshackled!" Listeners:

"I am writing you because me and a lot of the other men here [penitentiary in Texas] listen to your radio program called "Unshackled!" We all like to hear the true stories of the reenactments of people's lives that have been changed. Thank you for having the "Unshackled!" series play on the radio." —SERGIO

Thank you for praying for me. Tonight I listened to the program from last week, and realized how I'd been running from God. I wasn't sure that I was saved, so after the program I asked the Lord into my life. Praise God. I've never felt so much peace and tranquility in my life. —NEIL E.



John Brewster

AS PGM NEARS THE END OF THE YEAR, it reminds us to praise the Lord for his many blessings and sustaining grace through the leadership changes in the ministry. Thank you for your prayers and support. As you know, cash flow has been somewhat negative all year; December is an opportunity for Pacific Garden Mission to have a positive cash flow.

You have an opportunity to insure a good December while at the same time decreasing your tax burden. Unless Congress extends the benefit, this will be the month to donate your mandatory 401k distributions to an eligible nonprofit organization. Also, if you have stock profits, it maybe advantageous to donate the stocks directly. Please feel free to contact John Brewster at 312.492.9410 for transfer instructions. **Merry Christmas!**

## OCTOBER 2013 NUMBERS

- 946** Daily average of homeless sleeping overnight.
- 119** Number of men and women enrolled in Bible Study Program and provided room and board.
- 73,253** Approximate number of plates of food served.
- 82,280** Estimated number of items of clothing distributed at PGM or given to other missions.
- 223** Number of patients treated in free Medical/Dental Clinic.
- 233** Number of persons who professed faith in Christ!
- 3,024** Stations broadcasting in 14 languages (Albanian, Arabic, English, Farsi, Greek, Japanese, Korean, Macedonian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Spanish, and Turkish)

PACIFIC GARDEN MISSION makes no charge for care. Food, clothing, overnight accommodations, and medical treatment are totally free. Financial gifts from faithful supporters—and their prayers—keep this ministry alive. PGM receives no city, state, or federal aid.

Areas of ministry include the Mission for Men, Women's and Children's Division, Medical/Dental Clinic, "Unshackled!" radio, Bread of Life outreach, Polish evangelism, and PGM Men's Choir.

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PGM, producer of "Unshackled!" is a member of  
National Religious Broadcasters.

“FOR UNTO US A CHILD IS born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace” (Isaiah 9:6).

Unto this Child, the Magi came, bearing gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. These gifts, as great as they were, paled in comparison to the gift given by this cradled Infant some two thousand years ago. The thousands who come to Pacific Garden Mission and learn of Jesus and accept Him into their hearts are infants themselves, newborns into the goodness of the great gift, the pearl of great price, that not only changes lives, but also grants entrance into the gates of heaven. The Christmas season is upon us, and we at PGM wish to let all know that their gifts to the mission have each day of the year saved and changed so many lives. Your freely given gifts to the mission are manifest fruits as evidenced in the lives of the following individuals, individuals whose lives have been transformed since coming to PGM and receiving the greatest of all gifts given by Jesus Christ.



**Thomas French and his sister, Mary, sharing a quiet moment together in the PGM courtyard**

**Thomas French** was two when his father died of an overdose of drugs. Thomas’s mother’s new boyfriend injected Thomas with heroin when Thomas was only five, a way to baby-sit this child. Years filled with drug use, gang life, and interims in and out of juvenile detention centers and later prisons followed. He finally reached his end: he sought to purchase enough drugs to end his life. It was at this point that he came to Pacific Garden Mission, where he heard the Gospel message and gave his heart to Jesus Christ. Thomas admits, “I was on a road to death or jail; now I give my testimony, and people come to me and say my story really helped them.”

## DR. DAVID D. McCARRELL REMEMBERED

On Monday, October 21, 2013, Pacific Garden Mission’s former president, Dr. David D. McCarrell, age 82, went to be with the Lord. Of course, we are all saddened by his leaving. However, after many years of faithful service to the Lord at Pacific Garden Mission, he was remembered by employees and family members as they celebrated his going Home on Saturday, October 25, by singing “Victory in Jesus” at the close of his funeral service.





**Carl Montgomery greets one of the overnight guests in the men's lounge.**

**Carl Montgomery** was on the road to destruction. As a gang member, he was shot and stabbed several times. The last time he was shot, he went to Iowa to recover safely. A year and half later, he was setting up a dope house in Iowa using his Chicago connections. While in Chicago to pick up drugs, he decided to use a “little” of the dope himself; four days later, he was out of dope and money. An acquaintance directed him to PGM where he received food and rest. For the next few days, he would wake to stories of Jesus. He saw others full of joy and thought maybe they were on some type of drug. Carl surrendered to Jesus; the Lord revealed to Carl that “there is no right way to do wrong.” Carl said that “without Him, life wasn’t worth living; now I love learning to do right as defined by the King.”



**Derrick McMorris putting on a smile and a fresh coat of paint as part of the PGM maintenance crew.**

Pacific Garden Mission staff employee **Derrick McMorris** came to the mission because he was “looking for a place to dry out. I was living on the streets and

was in a situation where people were trying to hurt me, seriously. I jumped on a number 14 bus and wound up getting off at Balbo and Michigan. I had never been on that bus [14 bus route] before. Something led me towards State Street. And I saw that cross, and inside I met Byron Freeman, and I broke down crying. If I had not found that cross, I would be dead. My motto back then was, ‘If you want to do evil, follow me.’ Now, I understand grace and mercy. I just want to grow stronger in God.”



**Kenyetta Edwards focusing on her studies.**

**Kenyetta Edwards** says that her life took a bad turn around the age of thirteen when she ran away from home. As she grew older, she began getting into fights and having a difficult time holding her temper. In her twenties, she started drinking. Having suicidal thoughts, suffering from depression, and still fighting anger issues, Kenyetta arrived at PGM, where she was given Godly counsel and a place on the Women’s Bible Program. She is now brushing up on her education with classes offered here in the mission. Looking upon her time here at PGM, Kenyetta says, “Jesus helped me. I am getting an understanding of God, and Jesus has helped me with my problems, and my emotions.”

At eleven, **Walter Thomas** began running with the gangs of Chicago. At age twenty he began serving his first murder conviction. Nearly eleven years later, he was released; however, within three months, he was convicted of a double murder. He was unexpectedly released in 2011. Decades earlier, a woman passing out Gospel tracts had told him that he needed to get into a Bible program like PGM. Now faced with an unex-



Walter Thomas in the PGM Prayer Chapel.

and love; without PGM Walter said he would either be in prison for some gang-related act or dead.

pected chance to live outside of prison, he wanted to find out if this God was real. Two days after being released from prison, he came to PGM and heard about grace. Walter knew about the law, that it condemned him to hell, but grace he'd not heard of before. He joined the program and soaked up all the truth he could. Now his greatest joy is to share Christ with troubled young people. For Walter, PGM brought him from the dark into the shining light of the Lord's grace

Each of these stories provides a powerful example of how God's gift to man, when accepted, changes even the most desperate of lives. We at PGM are so thankful for what God is doing in the lives of the men and women whom He brings to us. It is so exciting to see people being "born again," and we are eager to continue the work in 2014 with your prayers and support. Thank you for your part in making the gift of Jesus real for these and so many others at PGM, as well as for your continued support of "Unshackled!"

## SPECIAL REQUEST: Women's & Men's Needs

As detailed in last month's November newsletter, Pacific Garden Mission has seen an increase in the number of its overnight guests. We are in need of your donations. In particular, the following items would be greatly appreciated: personal hygiene products, socks, undergarments, girls' clothing sizes 8-13, boys' clothing up to size 8, and toddler diapers. All donations are welcome any day and any time of the week. Thank you!

# Christmas Service

## Pacific Garden Mission

**SPEAKERS**

Pastor Ervin McNeill  
Chaplain

Pastor Sampson Green  
Director of Men's Division

Pastor Philip Kwiatkowski  
President

**MUSICAL GUESTS**

Soli Deo Gloria Brass Band  
Paul Redulescu

Come worship our Lord, Jesus Christ and celebrate His birth with us at Pacific Garden Mission right before Christmas.

**When?**  
7:00pm – 9:00pm  
December 21, 2013

**Where?**  
Pacific Garden Mission Auditorium  
1458 S. Canal Street, Chicago, IL 60607  
[www.pgm.org](http://www.pgm.org)

**RSVP by phone 312.492.9410**



## A Word from Philip Kwiatkowski

President, Pacific Garden Mission

### Why did Jesus come? He came to set us free.

How do *these* men do it? This is a common question that we are asked. Addiction is a plague that has infected our society. The rate of recidivism in many secular programs is very high and leaves participants feeling frustrated and hopeless.

The problem with secular treatment is that it has a faulty foundation. Romans 1:21 reads, "Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened." As society continues to move away from God, the imaginations they have for solutions to human problems will be vain.

Drug addiction has a demonic source. Revelation 9:21 reads, "Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts." The Greek word for sorceries is *pharmakeia*, from which comes our English equivalent *pharmacy* that we identify with drugs. If the source of addiction is spiritual, the world will never find a secular solution. Romans chapter six offers a key to victory.

The first key word is *knowing*. Romans 6:6 states, "Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin." Before the Bible tells us how to act, it tells us that there is something that we need to know. Society tells a person "once an addict, always an addict" or that this person has a disease that he/she was born with called an addiction. If that is what a person believes, that is what he/she will do. The Bible says in 2 Corinthians 5:17, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." I have to by faith believe that I can become a new creature; it is a battle of the mind. Second Corinthians 10:4, 5 says, "(For

the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ." A stronghold is a false way of thinking. We encourage our residents to memorize Scripture, read Godly books, and renew the mind.

The second key is *to reckon*. Romans 6:11 reads, "Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord." Not only do I have to know God's truth, but I also have to reckon it to be so. I have to believe the truth of God's Word.

The third key is *to yield*. Romans 6:16 reads, "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey...?" The Bible instructs us to put on the new man. Get active once you believe. Go to church, volunteer, serve God in some capacity.

This is what we teach our residents, and we have seen God doing amazing things. You have to approach the problem from the prospective of the Creator; men and women can be free indeed. John 8:32 tell us, "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

