



The City Gate

To Reclaim, Rebuild and Restore, Lost and Broken Lives

Reclaim Rebuild Restore

Meet Terry Lee Burk, COOK EXTRAORDINAIRE!

In and out of The City Gate for over seven years, and volunteering consistently for over one year, Terry has found his “happy place” in our kitchen.

Our head cook since June of 2013, Terry has turned what many would refer to as a “soup kitchen” into a culinary delight! With a smile on his face, every morning The City Gate opens, Terry turns on the Christian radio station, takes a look at the food donations that have come in, and begins to create.



From various vegetables and legumes to aged cheese and spices, our cook extraordinaire leaves no chance for waste OR taste problems!

His first experience with cooking was in Job Corp as a teenager.

Cooking brings me closer to God.

It gives me peace and a wonderful feeling.

When Terry ended up homeless for the first time, when his dad left him high and dry after their trailer was repossessed, Terry had two options. His high-school found out Terry, one of their football players, had no place to live, so they gave him the option of

going into foster care or the Job Corps. He opted for the latter. Joining Job Corps, he learned to weld, cook, and had the opportunity to become a ‘Hot Shot’ in Roseburg, Oregon, putting out forest fires.

After graduating, Terry came back to Washington and went to work logging. He moved to Spokane in the ‘90’s and brought with him a portable saw mill. After doing a few jobs locally, Terry made the mistake of parking his saw mill in the wrong place. It was impounded. Unable to pay the fees and now, without his saw mill, unable to make money, Terry found himself homeless again, jumping from place to place in the woods.

“There were a lot of younger groups that were beating people up with their skateboards and setting people on fire in their sleep”, exclaimed Terry. *(Continued on page 2)*

March 2014



Next month: CELEBRATE
27 years in ministry with us!

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Terry checked into the House of Charity rather than be included in a surprise beating. He was able to get into housing through social services but soon found out the building ran rampant with drug deals. Not willing to put up with it, Terry found himself back out on the streets. He found employment remodeling houses for an independent contractor, and was able to temporarily stay in the vacant houses while he worked. When the remodeling jobs ended, Terry did odd jobs, such as raking leaves, lawn work and anything else he could find.

Eventually Terry arrived at permanent housing through the Alberta House Apartments, directly above The City Gate. Being very reclusive, the first time Terry walked in to The City Gate, he says he was a bit nervous. He met Pastor John, and was soon able to start helping out here and there. "I feel safer when I am working at The City Gate", Terry says, "I need to keep moving!" He knows that staying busy and productive helps him stay away from drugs and people who are involved with things he doesn't want to have anything to do with.

Working in the kitchen fulfills Terry's need to stay busy, utilizing his creative juices, and gives him the opportunity to bless others. The blessing for us as a ministry, dependent 100% on donations, is that, now we are maximizing the resources that come in, and providing nutritious meals for our guests. Terry is extremely resourceful and makes all his sauces from scratch including his red sauce. He loves to boil down tomatoes and add his special touches. When I went around the dining room, asking people their favorite food Terry has prepared, here are the responses:

- Terry's salads. There's always so many good things mixed in!
- Definitely his fried breakfast potato with eggs, bacon and cheese on top.
- The baked asparagus with butter, garlic and parmesan!
- Oh my goodness, his stuffed bell peppers with mashed potato and pork sausage.
- I love his oatmeal with brown sugar, butter, almonds and whatever else he puts in it!
- That burrito-tuna melt that he made, YUM!
- Oh yeah, his teriyaki chicken, all the way.
- Terry's eggplant parmesan with ricotta cheese, garlic, onions and a touch of LOVE!

I asked Terry, "In a perfect world, what would you be doing?" His response, "I choose to focus on what today has to offer and go with that, keeping my feet planted. Being homeless, you float around in a dream world, so I try and keep with today." In response to why he loves to cook, Terry replied, "It brings me much closer to God and gives me peace. A wonderful feeling comes over me when I take something in its rawness, start putting it together to find what works, and it all comes together!" Well, a wonderful feeling comes over us also, as we partake daily, of the delicious creations that are presented for our eating pleasure! We thank you Terry and most of all, we THANK GOD for bringing you to The City Gate.



By Andra Phelps



FOOD for THOUGHT

By Pastor John



PUT DOWN YOUR STONES!

In John 8, we read about a woman caught in adultery and brought to Jesus by the religious leaders. He handled the situation by saying to the crowd; HE WHO HAS NO SIN, LET HIM THROW THE FIRST STONE!

During a Wednesday dinner service, I had my volunteers (mostly church goers and college students) line up together, facing our guests. Announcing to our dining room full of people from the streets and surrounding area, "We are going to have a stoning session." I asked the crowd, "You who are without sin, including all of you "Christian" people, please raise your hand." As I looked around the room, no one had a hand raised.

A big burly guy came up to me later and said, "I really appreciate what you did." You see, he didn't feel alienated or alone...It made him feel like he isn't an outcast but that we all have something in common, a need for Jesus.

The bible says, Jesus didn't come into the world to condemn the world, but to save it. However, Jesus is Light and Light exposes darkness. When anyone gets around the Light, they are either drawn TO the Light, or they run FROM the Light because they don't want their sin exposed. It's God's business who comes to Him and who doesn't.

We are called to love one another, not hurl stones when we see someone in fault. Let's bring God's Words of Life to people, rather than condemnation. PUT DOWN YOUR STONES and LOVE!

How YOU can help!

FUNDING

Monthly Commitments

1X Donations

Fundraisers

FOOD

Coffee/Creamer

Proteins & Dairy

Boxed/Canned Meals

Instant Potatoes

HYGEINE

Razors/Shaving Cream

Toothbrushes

Toothpaste

Deodorant

Shampoo/Conditioner

MEN'S & WOMEN'S

New underwear & Socks

Shoes

Jeans

M-XXL Shirts

MISC.

Back Packs

Sleeping Bags

Plastic/Paper Bags

VOLUNTEERS

Daytime

Evening

CALL or Facebook us first
before dropping items off.
Tue-Fri: 509-455-9670

A WORD FROM THE BOARD

As we get in to this new year, we are seeing increased needs of our clients. And we have a lot more clients coming in needing food, clothing and friendship. We are now serving about 7,000 meals every month! Although we financially “broke even” last year, we were blessed by a few “one time” donations. We have to broaden our support base. We cannot continue our ministry without some additional support from all of our supporters.

I know that all charities are in dire need of additional funding. We have never accepted any public funds, because they always come with strings attached. Most often, the strings are restrictions regarding religion. We have been, and will always be a bible based ministry, holding services every Sunday, providing food, clothing, housing, fellowship, counseling and the Word of God. Only God can know and change hearts! He does save lives in the inner-city! We have seen His fruit!



Bill Davis, President of the Board

Please go to The Lord and seek His guidance as to how you can help us continue to serve His ministry in the inner-city of Spokane. **YOU WILL BE BLESSED!**

(A poem by a guest at The City Gate)

THE LITTLE PEOPLE

The little people come
The little people go
We live our little people lives
Cuz it's the only life we know

The others see but an eighth of these
For they see what we choose to show
A little gift in little amounts
Equally granted, no need for
power, jewels or crowns

Even a big tall tree
starts as a sprout
That's just what we are
We the little people count

By Jonathan Thomas (aka) Lil Jon

April will be our 27th
year of ministry! **HELP
US CELEBRATE . . .
DONATE!**

EASTER IS COMING!

The City Gate is serving a special dinner to our inner-city guests! Interested in volunteering or want to help financially? **PLEASE** call Tue-Fri, 10-3, or message us on facebook:

The City Gate



To Reclaim, Rebuild, and Restore Lost and Broken Lives

The City Gate

"A Gathering Place"

Matthew 11:28

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Spokane, WA 99201

509.455.9670

E-mail - thecitygate@qwestoffice.net

LIKE us on

facebook

See MORE of what your prayers, financial support, and donations are doing for the inner-city poor and homeless of Spokane.

www.thecitygatespokane.org

Please Pray For:

- John
- David
- Jasmine
- Jeffery
- Patience



The City Gate staff

- John Murinko, pastor
- Shirley Murinko co-director/office mgr.
- Bonnie Murinko co-director/food bank
- Jim Hahn, food bank
- Buffie Harmon, clothing bank
- Don Lanegan, dining room mgr.
- Danielle Green, kitchen
- Elisha Shelton, kitchen
- Terry Burk, cook extraordinaire
- Andra Phelps, public relations
- Wes Heimbecker, social services
- James Gulbranson, security
- Brenda Gulbranson, kitchen
- Sue Shane, coffee station
- Carrie Brown, Alberta House Mgr.

February 2014 Lives Impacted

Kitchen:

10,208 meals served

Bread/Produce:

1,072 appointments

Food Bank:

152 people served

Clothing Bank:

174 people served

Volunteer Time:

608 hours

Counseling:

44 appointments



April will be our
27th year
of ministry!
**HELP US
CELEBRATE**

DONATE



Without the support of volunteers who give their time and energy to this ministry, The City Gate would not be the haven it is to so many people. Whether you come once a week or once a year, you have contributed to keeping this place up and running. Your donations, regardless of time, money, food, prayers or clothing, have done so much to help the people who walk through our doors everyday. As pastors and as Christians, we want to thank you for heeding the voice of the Lord and ask you to keep us in your prayers as we continue this journey.

Love, Pastor John & Shirley