



The City Gate

To Reclaim, Rebuild and Restore, Lost and Broken Lives

Reflections in the kitchen

By: Parris Wentz

Hello, my name is Parris Wentz. I am a part of the kitchen staff here at The City Gate. I became a part of The City Gate's team within the autumn month of October in 2015. Since this time, God has blessed me with such a unit as The City Gate family. I look forward to coming to work each day, as I am so well loved by the people who both work here as well as the guests who come in regularly. One way I have felt God's love is through His people, and these people have been such testaments of what God's love for me truly looks like. I only hope to share God's love the way they have shared it with me.

God has also continued to show me how blessed we are. He has so provided for us in such an incredible and clever way! Our God is rather unique and timely. One recent, rainy day, I was serving messy donuts for breakfast. Concern swept over me, as we did not have much to serve for lunch in the next few hours. I had this huge sense of peace though, and simply prayed that God would provide us with food for lunch. Within minutes, one of our drivers, Frank, brought in a huge van load of sandwiches and chicken from our trusty partner, Albertson's...JUST IN TIME. I could do nothing less than sing and praise the Lord! Why doubt him, when every, without fail, He only provides? I am in awe of how great our God is. Not only does he provide for me in so many specific ways, He also never forgets about the people of our beloved city of Spokane. Our God is good, and I am thankful that He has allowed me to be such a witness in His beautiful story. Thank you all for supporting us and being a part of God's work in this way.

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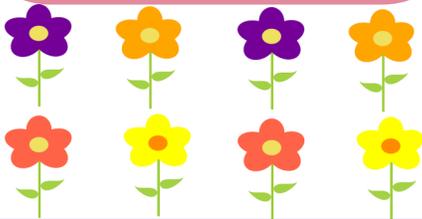
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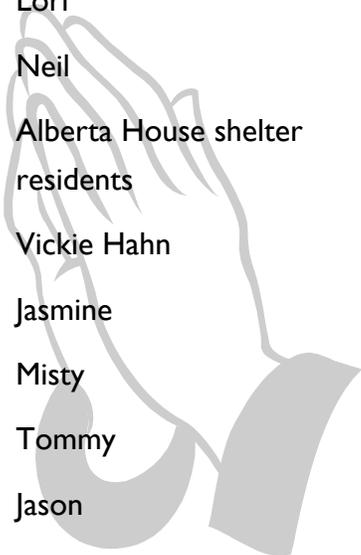
The City Gate Staff

- John Murinko, pastor
- Shirley Murinko
co-director / office mgr.
- James Gulbranson, assistant
director/security
- Donny Saunders, food bank
- Buffie Harmon, clothing bank
- Jimmy Hahn, coffee station
- Cheryl Jimeno, kitchen
- Parris Wentz, kitchen
- David LaMoureaux, Souolutions
- Kathy Gibbons, Front desk
- Elisha Shelton, Alberta House
mgr.
- Bonnie Murinko, newsletter/sub



Please PRAY for:

- Nicole
- Lori
- Neil
- Alberta House shelter
residents
- Vickie Hahn
- Jasmine
- Misty
- Tommy
- Jason
- Tennessee



The newest branch of our ministry, Souolutions, is progressing very well... We will be open before summer! We have had a lot of supporters come alongside to help out financially and physically. We are grateful for the man hours that have been invested to keep this driving forward. We have volunteers hanging sheetrock, painting & cleaning...We will be keeping you updated through our newsletter and Facebook. Please continue to follow our journey and continue to pray for our direction. BLESSINGS!

***We are still needing art supplies...Do you have any to share?**



Souolutions

303 W. 2nd Ave
Spokane, WA
99201

- ♦ AA meetings
- ♦ Bible study
- ♦ Live Music
- ♦ Art classes
- ♦ Pool tables/Air Hockey

- ♦ Coffee Shop/Café
- ♦ Nail salon
- ♦ Video games
- ♦ Computer lab
- ♦ COMMUNITY!



A new clean & sober neighborhood hangout ...Coming Summer 2016

Word from the board

Submitted by: Laura Wintersteen-Arleth

The season of new beginnings is upon us. Spring starts in a few weeks and we are in the season of celebrating Jesus' resurrection. **1 Peter 1:3** "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to His great mercy, He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

I have been thinking about the need for new beginnings in our hearts. There are times in all of our lives when we need a new beginning with God. Maybe we have failed the Lord terribly through deliberate rebellion and sin. Perhaps we have drifted carelessly into the world and its ways, neglecting the things of God. Maybe we are farther from Him than we want or should be. Maybe we have lost some of our excitement for serving Him. A disappointment or trial may have caused us to drift from the close fellowship with God and His people that we once enjoyed. Maybe a busy life has gotten in the way of our closeness with the Lord. We all need a new beginning sometimes. **Ezekiel 36:26** "And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh."

Is it even possible? And if it is, where do you start? The thought of a new beginning is scary, because you don't want to risk another failure or feel you may not have the energy. But you're not content where you're at. Maybe you have gotten too comfortable with life as it is now. **Ephesians 4:22-24** "To put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness."

I have been a Christian for many years and have had many seasons of new beginnings because of circumstances in my life. The one constant has always been knowing Jesus and His Word will never fail. Circumstances or people will change or not meet your expectations, but Jesus never fails. His love and faithfulness is always surrounding me. I think back over the years of circumstances in my life that have caused heart aches or difficulties. Times I thought I had failed or that God didn't know the trials I was facing. These were growth times and times of new beginnings for me. Times to re-energize spiritually. Times to ask for forgiveness, direction and renewal. **Matthew 7:7** "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you." These have been times to take comfort knowing that the Lord does have our very best. **Jeremiah 29:11** "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." I have had to be patient and wait, but knowing in the waiting comes new beginnings and a spiritual renewal. **Isaiah 40:31** "But they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

New beginnings with God are possible no matter how spiritually low we have gone, no matter how compliant we have become. New beginnings with God must focus on the cross of Jesus Christ. New beginnings with God must focus on obedience to His Word. **2 Cor 5:17** "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."

Many of the people served at The City Gate are searching out new beginnings in their lives. The City Gate ministers to those who are seeking guidance, prayers, direction and new beginnings. We are a place of acceptance, love, hope and renewal. Reclaim, Rebuild, Restore is our mission. We see daily those who find new beginnings and find peace and hope. I challenge each person to support The City Gate with financial resources, prayers and time. Come see the ministry of The City Gate and meet the people we serve and those who serve. Find a new beginning in your own life.

Help us to be good stewards of our finances

To receive our newsletter **IN COLOR** by email. Simply email us at: thecitygate@qwestoffice.net with your name and "email newsletter" in the subject line.



To Reclaim, Rebuild, and Restore Lost and Broken Lives

The City Gate

"A Gathering Place"

Matthew 11:28

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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

Coffee

Canned protein

Socks

Shoes

Hygiene items

Don't forget about The City Gate this spring. Maybe you'll even run across some of these things in your spring cleaning. Remember though, it's warming up, so we are looking for summer clothes now... **THANK YOU!**



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 every-day. 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