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## NEWSLETTER — JUNE 2017

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# BRENT'S JOURNEY TO GOD

LIFE IS A JOURNEY. IT IS COMPRISED OF UPS AND DOWNS, GOOD YEARS AND BAD YEARS, SUCCESS AND FAILURE. BRENT'S JOURNEY INCLUDED OVERCOMING CHALLENGES, FINDING GOD, TURNING BACK TO THE WORLD, AND IN THE END BEING CALLED BACK BY HIM. FINALLY ARRIVING AT THIS POINT IN HIS LIFE HAS TAKEN HIM A LONG TIME; BUT, NOW BRENT IS GLAD TO SAY, "I KNOW I AM WHERE I'M SUPPOSED TO BE AND THAT IS HERE."

When Brent was 16 years old, his father passed away and Brent lived with his uncle Eddie for one year. It was him who encouraged Brent to join the military. As a young almost 18 year old, he joined the navy and travelled to South-East Asia for two and a half years. This was a much shorter time than he had originally planned; but, his mental health would not allow him to participate in the Navy any longer.

After an honorable discharge, Brent got into trouble. He had to go to jail, but, it was there that he accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior, in July 1977. As we all know, changing one's ways is not easy and Brent was in serious trouble again almost three years later. This time he had to go to prison, the so-called "Gladiator School." He was 25 years old in the flesh but only a baby Christian in the Lord. Therefore there were times when he handled difficulties well and other times when he didn't. It was trial and error, a growing time for him.

Once he regained his freedom, everything seemed to go well for him. However, this was not what God had in mind for Brent. So, he started to run away. Brent says, "I was running from God." At that time his involvement with The City Gate started.

A couple years after that, his brother died, which caused Brent a great deal of pain. He sought peace and relief from his burdens in people and the world. But by God's merciful hand, He drew Brent back to him. God started to reveal to him what he wants him to do. Brent knows the streets of Spokane. He knows a lot of people and many of The City Gate's visitors. God asked Brent to share with them what he is all about. People are able to see what God is able to do through the way He changed Brent. This is a clear message to the world.



Brent is so relieved to have come through this difficult time of running away from God and experiencing pain. He enjoys the peace that comes with a life led to honor God. Brent says about The City Gate that it is home to him. Having lost his brother, Brent still grieves not being able to spend time with him. But God provided another brother for Brent. Pastor John has been there for Brent and invited him to go fishing. But this is not all. The pastor of his home church Hillyard called Brent, "my friend." "It has been a long time since a pastor or anybody has called me 'my friend'," Brent says with tears in his eyes.

Brent would honestly rather be with God, but since it is not his time yet, he wants to be the best brother he can be to the people around him. And we are glad that he is here at The City Gate to be a light to our visitors!

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## Word from the Board

### A Simple Act of

# kindness

It was the day before Easter and I had arrived at City Gate to drop off supplies for Easter dinner. The kitchen was busy with people preparing the food and it looked like they could use help. As I began to work, I suddenly became very ill. I didn't know what was happening and I felt scared and vulnerable. Pastor John immediately came over to help me. He sat with me, reassured me, and prayed for me until I felt well enough to go home.

This experience was profoundly impactful for me. I have always been called to help others but this time I was on the receiving end, a feeling to which I was not accustomed. Pastor John's actions that day gave me a sense of comfort I didn't know I needed, and I was reminded that a simple act of kindness, no matter how small, is never wasted.

Corinthians 15:58 "Therefore, my dear brother and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain."

Thank you in advance for your continued kindness and generosity.



*Gail Stevers*

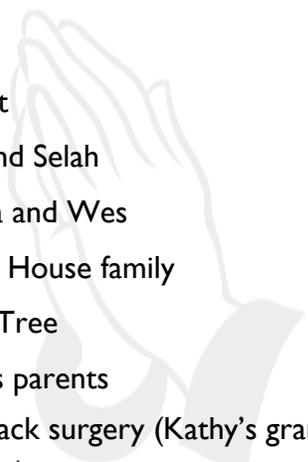
Board Member

### THE CITY GATE STAFF

- John Murinko**, Pastor
- Shirley Murinko**, Director/ Office Manager
- James Gulbranson**, Assistant Director/ Security
- Kathy Gibbons**, Front Desk
- Donnie Saunders**, Food Bank
- Buffie Harmon**, Clothing Bank
- Jimmy Hahn**, Coffee Station
- Wes Chriswell**, Produce
- Marie Siebe**, Kitchen Manager
- Daniel Lee**, Kitchen staff
- Elisha Shelton**, Alberta House Manager

### PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Brent
- Herbert
- Katie and Selah
- Terresa and Wes
- Alberta House family
- Prayer Tree
- Derek’s parents
- Cali’s back surgery (Kathy’s grand-daughter)
- Angie, David and kids
- Daniel



### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**



**The City Gate is celebrating 30 years of service and ministering to our community!**



To honor and celebrate God’s provision in this wonderful ministry, we will be having a celebration in early September.

Your help is needed to help plan a great party.

If you are interested in helping to plan, please contact The City Gate Board member, Laura Wintersteen-Arleth at [nursemom39@msn.com](mailto:nursemom39@msn.com) or 509-999-6282.



# The City Gate

To Reclaim, Rebuild and Restore, Lost and Broken Lives

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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Spokane, WA 99201  
Phone: 509.455.9670  
E-mail: [thecitygate@qwestoffice.net](mailto:thecitygate@qwestoffice.net)



[The City Gate Spokane](#)



[www.thecitygatespokane.org](http://www.thecitygatespokane.org)

*A Gathering Place...*

“Come to me all who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest” — Matthew 11:28

## NEEDS:

- Corn starch
- **Frozen vegetables**
- Coffee
- Tomato Sauce

Please only donate spring and summer clothing!

- Summer sandals/ flip flops for Men and Women
- Shorts and tank tops for Men and Women
- **Men's clothes:**
  - Jeans for Men, Size 30, 32, 34, 36, 38
  - T-shirts for Men, All Sizes
  - Shoes for Men (size 9 and up)
- **Women's clothes:**
  - Jeans and shoes for women

THE LORD YOUR GOD IS GOD  
*he is the*

**FAITHFUL GOD**

KEEPING HIS COVENANT OF *love*

TO A THOUSAND GENERATIONS

OF THOSE *who love him*

AND KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS

*Deuteronomy 7:9*



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*