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## NEWSLETTER — AUGUST 2017

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### "ALL GLORY TO GOD!"



Justin was born in Pendleton, OR in 1984. Growing up was very difficult as he and his siblings were abused in different ways. After his mother had to go to treatment program, he and his siblings went into the foster system. Through that Justin's life took a turn for the worse. He started fighting with kids, threatening people and stealing. He was violent and hated the world and the people in it.

He learned that even though all he knew was being let down and hurt by the people who should have protected him, he has the ability to choose a different path.

Still, the hatred in his heart kept him going on the wrong path. He started using and selling drugs, threatening people if they wouldn't pay. With a heavy heart, he looks back on those days and says, "I was ruthless back then and that [still] hurts me a lot."

Justin was in and out of juvenile detention, jail and prison from age 10. Since he was a child, he knew that Jesus existed but did not get serious about his faith until later in life. During his time in prison, he was drawn to God but did not want to end up like many other inmates: professing belief in God during difficult times but forgetting about him right after being released. Still, he started attending Bible study groups and talked with others about God, but it would still take a while until Justin fully trusted God. Finally, Justin was not able to withstand Jesus anymore. The song "Till I met you" by Laura Story spoke directly to his heart and helped him decide to submit his life to God.

After being released from prison, Justin had a difficult time getting off the ground. He stayed out of trouble but was homeless and without a job. After spending some time in Florida, he came to Spokane to spend time with his brother. Even though their relationship is not always easy, Justin really wants to encourage his brother to seek God.

When Justin heard about The City Gate, he started coming in order to eat breakfast and lunch. During their first interaction, Pastor John earned a lot of respect in Justin's eyes. He says about Pastor John, "I can respect a man who puts his foot down for what he believes in."

Justin kept coming back to The City Gate, started volunteering and shortly after was offered an apartment at the Alberta House. Justin wants to give all the glory to God in all that he does and we are rejoicing with him in the fact that he knows, "God who came in with the light and brought him out of the darkness."

**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**Marie Siebe**, Kitchen Manager and Newsletter**Jimmy Hahn**, Kitchen Staff**Elisha Shelton**, Alberta House Manager**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

- Justin
  - Wes
  - Terresa
  - Jeremy
  - James Jr.
  - Rudi
  - Michael
  - Daniel
  - Jimmy
  - Eric Murinko
  - Pastor John and Shirley
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## *Word from the Board*

Have you ever thought about the impact your time, talents, money have made? I think about The City Gate and the fact that we are celebrating 30 years of serving those in need. This would not be possible, if there had not been people like each of us who have given our time, talents and money. God has used every minute, every talent and every dime each person has given to His glory and to serve others. The City Gate started out in 1987 across from the old bus station downtown, then moved to the Otis Hotel and now is in the present location. We have a clothing bank, food bank, showers, social services and church services. We serve 10,000 meals a month. I don't even think you could count the number of cups of coffee served. We operate the Alberta House Apartments. I think about each person who has entered through the doors, seeking acceptance and love. The City Gate is here to Reclaim, Rebuild and Restore lost and broken lives. I also think that people come here to serve. We have partnered with many churches, individuals, The Moody Bible Institute, Whitworth University and WSU College of Nursing; people who are here to serve, but I know are also being served. In the last 6 months, we have had 7,600 hours of volunteer time. I know when I come to serve, I leave knowing I was served by the wonderful clients and staff we have.

The City Gate participates in Amazon Smile and Fred Meyer Community Rewards. Go to our website: [www.thecitygatespokane.org](http://www.thecitygatespokane.org) to learn more about The City Gate and how you can serve through these programs.

The City Gate has been able to serve and make an impact in the lives of thousands of people for 30 years because of the impact that your time, talents and money have made. As a board, we pray over The City Gate and ask God's guidance to be good stewards of the gifts He has so richly blessed us with. We have been blessed with wonderful, strong, loving leadership, who need our continued prayers.



CELEBRATE 30  
ON THE 30TH

We want to celebrate the 30 great years The City Gate has been blessing many people. We will be having a **“Celebrate 30 on the 30th” on Saturday, September 30th, from 1 - 5 pm.** Location to be determined. Put the date on your calendar so you can celebrate with us.

I am looking for the following help:

- People to help organize
- Financial donations
- Donations of snack items
- Stories about The City Gate—is there something you would like to share about the impact The City Gate has made
- Pictures of your City Gate memories

Your continued time, talents and money are needed and appreciated. If you can help in any way or have something to share, please contact me at: [lwintersteen@wsu.edu](mailto:lwintersteen@wsu.edu) or 509-999-6282.

Please continue to make an impact on your community through The City Gate. Let's continue to help The City Gate serve another 30 years.

“Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.”

- 1 Peter 4:8-10



*Laura Wintersteen - Arleth*

Board Member



# The City Gate

To Reclaim, Rebuild and Restore, Lost and Broken Lives

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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[The City Gate Spokane](#)



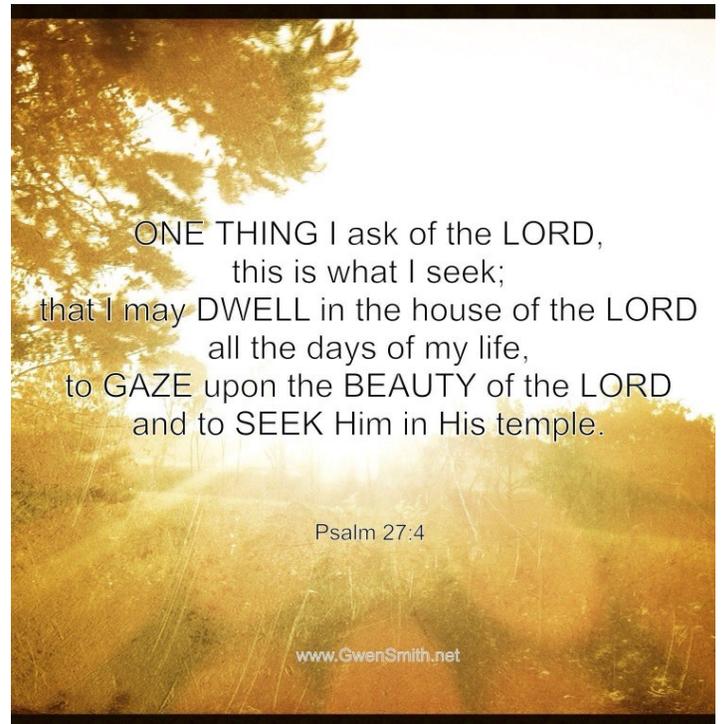
[www.thecitygatespokane.org](http://www.thecitygatespokane.org)

## *A Gathering Place...*

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

### NEEDS:

- Coffee
- Tomato Sauce
- Frozen vegetables
- **In dire need of Men's and Women's summer clothing**
- **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 for women



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