

streetsmart



Your twice-a-month e-newsletter from AGRM

Useful news and information for association members

Volume 10 Number 5 | March 1, 2016 | www.agrm.org

ourstreet News from AGRM and our members

mainstreet Reports from North America's downtowns

divisionstreet Vital statistics from industry experts

marketstreet Employment and product ads

streetlight Words to brighten your passage

This issue of *Street Smart* is sponsored by:

He's not just any Bob. He's **your** Bob.

Your stories.
Your photos.
Your Bob.
(Let us help you tell his story.)

Together,
We Make
a Difference

Brewer Direct inc.



ourstreet
News from AGRM and our members

AGRM Board Meets This Week

The association's board of directors is meeting this week in Reno, Nevada. The agenda includes orientation for five new members of the board and also marks the first board meeting with new chair, Craig Mayes, CEO of **New York City Rescue Mission** (New York, New York). Other board officers this year are Vice Chair Jim Reese, CEO of **Atlanta Mission** (Atlanta, Georgia); Secretary Linda Vaughan of **Union Mission Ministries** (Virginia Beach, Virginia.); and Treasurer Micheal Woods of **Western Carolina Rescue Ministries** (Asheville, North Carolina).

Please be in prayer for the board as this representative group of 15 looks at future strategies. There are a seemingly endless number of opportunities coming to the association these days, and the board will be looking at some strategies to move the association to the next level to take advantage of God's timing.

AGRM President to Address NAE Board

At the invitation of Leith Anderson, president of the National Association of Evangelicals (NAE), AGRM President John Ashmen will be speaking to the 100-member NAE board of directors next week in Washington, D.C., explaining the scope of rescue mission work in North America today, plus the specific opportunities and challenges facing gospel rescue missions in a pluralistic society. In the 75-minute session, David Treadwell, CEO of **Central**

Union Mission(Washington, D.C.), will be joining John and adding commentary from every day rescue mission life. The meeting will actually be held in the chapel at Central Union Mission.

2016 DC Forum Is “Sold Out”

We regret to announce that AGRM is not able to take any more registrants for this month’s major policy event in Washington, D.C. (March 14–16). We are out of rooms at the Kellogg Conference Center and out of rooms at our overflow hotel. Additionally, our meeting space on Capitol Hill is at maximum capacity. This will be the largest DC Forum since AGRM started holding the event in 2011. However, if you want to put your name on the waiting list, contact Director of Operations [Stacie Hughes](#).

On the schedule this year is AGRM’s first face-to-face meeting with top-level staff at the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), to describe the work of rescue missions and discuss the intent of some of HUD’s recent rulings. Please be in earnest prayer for that session, as well as the rest of the discussions and meetings that make up the event.

Updates to Annual Convention Program

The program for AGRM’s Annual Convention in Jacksonville, Florida, June 7–10 continues to grow—as do the numbers of registrants. All indications point to another banner year for attendance.

We’re excited to announce that country music star Tracy Lawrence will be joining us for the opening night General Session being held at the historic Florida Theatre! Tracy is very involved at **Nashville Rescue Mission** (Nashville, Tennessee). And Christian recording artist Greg Sykes, who was part of Integrity Music’s *Blessed Assurance: The New Hymns of Fanny Crosby* project, will also be part of that event. They join singer/songwriter/humorist Mark Lowry, vocalist Charlotte Ritchie, and the Andrew Landers band at this unique program that will also be open to the public.

That’s just opening night! This year’s event is certainly one you don’t want to miss. For all the details and to register, head to www.agrm.org/2016convention.

100 Days of Prayer Shines Spiritual Spotlight on Convention

Beginning Thursday, we are calling AGRM members to an endeavor linked to our upcoming annual convention in Jacksonville, Florida, June 7–10. It’s 100 Days of Prayer, and it allows everyone connected to AGRM-member missions to have an important part in setting the spiritual tone for the event—even those who can’t attend.

Last year we had a 30-day prayer focus, and the effort had a profound effect on the event.

So this year, we will begin our prayer effort March 3 and it will continue until June 10, the final day of the convention. We'd like to invite you to join us in praying for 100 days for this event. Our goal is to see increased participation and support for rescue mission ministries across North America.

We're asking you to take just three minutes a day to pray for these requests. We've prepared a [calendar page](#) on AGRM's website that will guide you each day. The prayers focus on the convention theme, the ministry of AGRM's members in the Jacksonville area, the staff and board of AGRM, leaders and businesses in the city of Jacksonville, those on the frontlines of mission ministry across North America, the people served by rescue missions, and the convention event itself.

We have many faithful prayer partners in our AGRM family, and we urge you to pass this calendar on to those who pray for you and your mission on a regular basis as we all seek God's heart for His work through us.

Convention Features Culture Changers Seminars

It's that time of year, when much of the news out of AGRM relates to the annual convention. We want to bring to your attention another unique part of this year's event.

If you haven't made travel plans yet, be sure to check out the Culture Changers Seminars that will be held Tuesday, June 7, from 10:00 a.m.–2:30 p.m. at the Nonprofit Center of Northeast Florida. These are just \$49 each (you can only select one of the three sessions) and include lunch. Topics and presenters are:

Toxic Charity/Charity Detox

Presented by Robert Lupton, author of *Toxic Charity* and *Charity Detox*.

In a recent article Lupton noted, "One organization that is making great strides in restructuring, or what I would call 'detoxifying,' its charitable endeavors is the Association of Gospel Rescue Missions, which has been helping the homeless in North America since the 1870s. For the first time in their centuries-old history, they are currently reconsidering their free-service policies." Don't miss the opportunity to hear firsthand what he has to say to rescue mission leaders.

Helping Clients Remove Barriers

Presented by Dawn Lockhart, president and CEO, Family Foundations; and Brooks Ann McKinney, director of safety net provider relations, Mission Health and Hospitals

Logic Model: Planning, Funding, Implementing, and Evaluating Programs

Presented by Leah Donelan, vice president of operations, Nonprofit Center of Northeast Florida

Find more details [here](#). These four hours of high-level training are a great deal. But you need to arrive a bit earlier in Jacksonville, and you need to claim your spot because space is limited. If you haven't registered for the convention yet, you can register for a Culture Changers Seminar when you do [register](#); if you have already registered and you want to add one of these seminars, please call Convention Registrar Marcy Sandoval at (719) 266-8300, ext. 100.

Media Competition Begins March 15

AGRM's 2016 Media Innovation Competition call for entries begins March 15. This competition is your opportunity to enter your mission's best work from 2015 in the categories of annual report, general brochure, newsletter/magazine, website, video, podcast, blog, and photo. Awards will be presented in each category in two different budget categories. In addition, new categories for redesigned mission logos and for social media will be included.

Begin looking through your various media for what you think of as the best work produced in 2015. There is no charge to enter the competition, which is judged by independent professionals working in the fields of the competition's categories. Awards will be announced at AGRM's Annual Convention in Jacksonville.

Watch the next issue of *Street Smart*, as well as an email from Director of Communications Brad Lewis, for all the details.

AGRM President's Latest Travels on Behalf of AGRM

AGRM President John Ashmen has been crisscrossing the country representing AGRM in recent and coming weeks. Last week, John was able to attend both the Grizzard Getaway and the Brewer Direct Client Conference in Southern California. At each of these business members' events, John had opportunity to bring an update of the latest AGRM activities, as well as to meet with the mission CEOs and development personnel that these direct mail companies serve.

Looking Down the Street...

- Please welcome AGRM's newest mission member **Scarlet Hope, Inc.** (Louisville, Kentucky). [Rachelle Starr](#) serves as the mission's executive director.
- **Gospel Center Rescue Mission** (Stockton, California) is celebrating its 75th anniversary at a gala featuring former San Diego Chargers running back Terrell Fletcher, senior pastor of the City of Hope International Church, on April 8 at Stockton Golf and Country Club.

- Mick Breault has retired as president of **Waterfront Rescue Mission** (Pensacola, Florida). [Devin Simmons](#) has been named the mission's new president. Our congratulations to both!
- Please welcome AGRM's newest business member **GACS LLC** (Travelers Rest, South Carolina). CEO [Elias Bustos](#) serves as AGRM's main contact.

Passing of a Servant

Our condolences to the family of Warren H. Barnes, who passed away February 8. Warren had served through the years as executive director of **Twin City Mission** (Bryan, Texas) and **Shreveport-Bossier Rescue Ministry** (Shreveport, Louisiana), as well as co-founder of **Tyler Emergency Rescue Ministries, Inc.** (Tyler, Texas).



Facebook Launches Nonprofit Tutorial Page

Facebook, used by many organizations to share initiatives, network, and fundraise, announced it has launched nonprofits.fb.com.

The *Nonprofit Times* [reports](#) that the organization-focused website will look to strengthen nonprofits' Facebook presence, help groups better use Facebook tools, and share success stories. The tutorial site is set up to provide guidelines assisting organizational employees with everything from setting up a Facebook account to conducting social media campaigns to engaging new users with the social media giant's ad program.

All Eight Wards in D.C. Getting Homeless Shelters

Washington, D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser recently announced the locations for eight new district-run homeless shelters, one for every ward in the district, [reports](#) the *Huffington Post*.

These new shelters are slated to replace D.C. General, the former hospital turned mega shelter that, along with a network of motels, currently houses homeless families in the district. D.C. General has a number of problems and most district residents agree that it has to come down, but many were surprised by the mayor's new plan to spread out the new shelters.

Bowser also plans to bring the shelter rolls down by rehousing people more quickly. The mayor hopes these smaller shelters in each ward will bring the issue of homelessness in D.C. into the light. D.C. General created an environment of "out of sight, out of mind" when it

came to the homeless population, and the mayor hopes the new plan will start conversations about solutions across each ward.

University of Arkansas Professor Offers Class on Homelessness

A new sociology course on homelessness will take University of Arkansas students out of the classroom and into the community this fall, [reports](#) *The Arkansas Traveler*.

Kevin Fitzpatrick, a sociology professor at the university, will teach a new course on homelessness. The course is open to all majors and graduate students, and will require students to volunteer at a homeless service provider throughout the semester.

Fitzpatrick and a few of his colleagues worked with officials from the city of Birmingham, Alabama, in 1987 to develop the first homeless count in the city and conducted interviews with more than 160 homeless adults. He has been working with homeless people ever since. Fitzpatrick says the class will help students to understand the work of homeless providers and put a face on homelessness. "I think that one homeless person is one too many, regardless of where we're at," said Fitzpatrick.



High Rent in Portland Leads to Evictions and Homelessness

In Portland, new communities of vinyl pop tents and makeshift camps have been popping up everywhere, with many spilling out into city parks, [reports](#) *The Guardian*.

As a quick fix to address the prevalence of homelessness, Mayor Charlie Hales announced a plan to manage "camping" throughout the city for safe sleeping. Homeless people will not be able to sleep overnight on sidewalks, but tents will be acceptable in certain areas from 9 p.m. to 7 a.m. Up to 10 city-sanctioned campsites with a couple hundred disaster-relief pods will be established through nonprofit service providers. Cars and RVs for homeless people to camp in will be permitted in designated areas. This plan is largely experimental and has been given a six-month trial run.

Portland saw rents go up nearly 15 percent in 2015, the highest increase in the nation, with an average rent of \$1,689 per month. Rents are expected to keep increasing. This increase may be linked to the growing numbers of unsheltered people in Portland. Between 2011 and 2015, there was a 41 percent increase in unsheltered women and a 48 percent increase in unsheltered African Americans between 2013 and 2015.

In addition to the short-term campsite strategy, the city of Portland and Multnomah County are proposing \$30 million this year to combat homelessness and provide more affordable housing. If approved, the funds would go into effect in July 2016.

Which Gender Is Most Likely to Give?

According to a [report](#) by *The Wall Street Journal*, many nonprofits have never tailored fundraising efforts to reach women, but new research shows a few reasons why they should.

Women are more likely to give, and give more, than men in similar situations. Research at the Women's Philanthropy Institute at the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy has found consistently that women and men give differently. In one study, Baby Boomer and older women gave 89 percent more to charity than men their age, and women in the top 25 percent of permanent income gave 156 percent more than men in that same category. Women were also more likely to give than their male peers at virtually all income levels, even though women in general tend to earn less, have less retirement money, and have a greater life expectancy than men.

Some explanations for these differences are that women tend to be more altruistic and empathetic than men. Research also suggests that men tend to make charitable gifts when an appeal frames the donation as being in his self interest or as a way of maintaining the status quo, while women tend to give to promote social change or help others who are less fortunate. Marriage also has a positive influence on giving, with married couples giving more than single-head households.

Childhood Poverty Could Alter Food Intake Later in Life

A team of researchers at Texas Christian University has found that people who grow up poor seem to have a significantly harder time regulating their food intake, even when they aren't hungry, [reports](#) *The Washington Post*.

The researchers, interested in exploring why obesity is more prevalent in poorer populations, devised three separate experiments, which tested how people from different socioeconomic backgrounds behaved in front of food. The researchers asked participants how hungry they were and then offered them drinks and snacks. Those who grew up in higher socioeconomic households exhibited normal consumption behavior—eating when they were hungry, saying no thank you to the snacks when they were full. Those who grew up in the lower socioeconomic households ate no matter how hungry they were.

The researchers warn that their findings are still preliminary. “We don't know exactly what the mechanism is, or how self-aware the people who eat even when they aren't hungry are,” said the team's lead researcher. “We need to pursue more research to figure out what is causing these troubling patterns of behavior.”



The following job positions are currently open at AGRM member missions. Please visit www.agrm.org/careers to view full descriptions and to apply. Click [here](#) for instructions on using AGRM's Recruiting Center to post open positions for your mission.

Crossroads Men's Crisis Center Manager: The City Mission, Cleveland, OH

Data Administrator: Las Vegas Rescue Mission, Las Vegas, NV

Development Associate: The Path of Citrus County, Beverly Hills, FL

Development Director: Salina Rescue Mission, Salina, KS

Director of Development: Bethesda Mission, Harrisburg, PA

Executive Director: Victory Mission, Springfield, MO

Executive Director: Gospel Center Rescue Mission, Inc., Stockton, CA

Facility Property Manager: Oliver Gospel Mission, Columbia, SC

Female Resident Assistant: Capital City Rescue Mission, Albany, NY

Food Service Attendant: Buffalo City Mission, Buffalo, NY

Major Gifts Officer: Buffalo City Mission, Buffalo, NY

Manager-Donor Relations: Buffalo City Mission, Buffalo, NY

Men's Case Manager: Las Vegas Rescue Mission, Las Vegas, NV

Men's New Life Program Manager: The Rescue Mission, Tacoma, WA

Men's Recovery Program Counselor: Spokane Union Gospel Mission, Spokane, WA

Nurse for Free Medical Clinic: Capital City Rescue Mission, Albany, NY

Residential Coordinator_Cornerstone Manor Facility: Buffalo City Mission, Buffalo, NY

Residential Coordinator_Mens Facility: Buffalo City Mission, Buffalo, NY

Vice President of Advancement: Springs Rescue Mission, Colorado Springs, CO

Vice President of Shared Services: Springs Rescue Mission, Colorado Springs, CO



A Call to Courage

*Seek the Lord while he may be found;
call on him while he is near.*

*Let the wicked forsake their ways
and the unrighteous their thoughts.
Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will freely pardon.*

*“For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways,”
declares the Lord.*

*“As the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.
(Isaiah 55:6–9)*

One of the biggest questions every follower of Jesus asks is “What is God’s will for my life?” We can be reassured from Isaiah 55 that as we seek God, He wants to be found and He wants us to know His path. We are also challenged by the idea that our desires and the paths we would ordinarily follow may often be radically different from what God desires. This Scripture has several implications:

- Our perspective is limited. We cannot see anything beyond what our five senses tell us, right here and right now. We cannot see into people’s hearts around us. We don’t know with certainty what the future holds—not even 10 minutes from now. At any given time, we only see a small part of the big picture.
- Our perspective is broken. Due to selfishness, pride, and everything else that dwells in us under the banner of sin, we have a skewed perspective concerning ourselves and the surrounding world. Our inner compass points us toward what we want. The problem is that what we want may not be what is right and best.
- God’s perspective is perfect. God can see everything going on in the world right now. He sees everything going on in every person’s mind and heart. He views everything from eternity past and in eternity future with one glimpse. Additionally, His path is set on everything that is right and best.

As you pray about God's direction for your life, do you let go of what you think you know? Have you offered to God your mind and heart as a blank slate?

Used with permission from Daily Devotionals, www.shortdailydevotions.com.

To contribute: If you would like to write a devotional thought for StreetLight, please make it about 200 words and include at least one Bible verse or passage, and submit via [email](#).

AGRM is a nonprofit organization committed to furthering rescue missions. AGRM provides limited space in "Market Street" for advertising opportunities, services, and products to advance the cause of rescue missions. AGRM is not responsible for the claims made by its advertisers and reserves the right to select or reject any advertising, in the sole discretion of AGRM, for any or no reason.

PRIVACY: Protecting your privacy is very important to us at AGRM. We will not rent, sell, or exchange your e-mail address with a third party for any purpose.

All Scripture quotations taken from the HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION, unless otherwise noted. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondervan Bible Publishers.

Street Smart is sent to you as a member service of AGRM, and is published on the 1st and 15th of each month (unless those dates fall on a weekend or holiday). The content does not necessarily represent the views of or imply endorsement by AGRM. To submit items for publication, e-mail editor@agrm.org. To unsubscribe, email unsubscribe@agrm.org.