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Your twice-a-month e-newsletter from AGRM

Useful news and information for association members

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ourstreet News from AGRM and our members

mainstreet Reports from North America's downtowns

divisionstreet Vital statistics from industry experts

easystreet Innovative solutions and ideas

marketstreet Employment and product ads

streetlight Words to brighten your passage

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ourstreet
News from AGRM and our members

Convention Program Continues to Grow

Even as the convention team is putting finishing touches on the program for AGRM's 2016 Annual Convention, June 7–10 in Jacksonville, Florida, the schedule continues to grow!

Just in: On Thursday evening, convention attendees can watch a private screening of *I Am Not Ashamed: The Rachel Joy Scott Columbine Story*. Our friends at Pure Flix are sponsoring the pre-release showing of the movie, which is scheduled to be in theaters October 21. The movie is Rachel's story in her own words, drawn directly from her journals and writings. The movie also has a homeless youth connection—Rachel befriended a homeless student—that lends itself perfectly to a coast-to-coast initiative (already being planned!) encouraging teenagers to volunteer at rescue missions in Rachel's honor.

Of course, if you're a convention veteran, you already know that no two AGRM conventions are alike. This year, one new event is an Awards Reception and Ceremony. Nearly all the presentations that usually are woven into convention general sessions will be made all at one time during this special celebration. We'll introduce the winners of the 2016 Media Innovation Competition and the Russ Reid Lifetime Achievement Award, and recognize missions that have achieved Certification status. AGRM will also be honoring two individuals with two new awards: The Nehemiah Award and Innovator Award.

Don't miss a minute of the event! There's even still time to register. If you would still like to join all the fun in Jacksonville, head to our [online registration page](#).

Scholarships Add More People to an Already Full Event

We've again been surprised by a larger-than-anticipated registration for AGRM's 2016 Annual Convention. But even so, just five weeks out from the event, a generous donor whose foundation loves what AGRM does for members in the way of education presented us with a gift to bring 60 more individuals to Jacksonville!

One of the desires of the donor was to have additional staff from smaller missions attend—missions that can only afford to send one person. Having two people attend more than doubles the blessing; it allows the two staff members to reinvigorate each other over the months following the event by reminding each other what they heard and learned. As it turns out, more than 60 people will be benefitting from the scholarship. Some of the folks were so energized that they raised additional funds and split the scholarship between two staff members in order to send a total of three.

AGRM President Signs Letter Concerning Religious Hiring

On May 9, a multi-faith group of more than 30 church and faith-based organization leaders, including AGRM President John Ashmen sent a letter to the U.S. House of Representatives leadership defending an amendment intended to maintain religious staffing freedom. The amendment, offered by Rep. Steve Russell (R-OK), and added to the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2017 (NDAA), is brief, requiring that federal contracts and grants include for faith-based organizations the protections that are in two long-standing laws. Those protections are the religious organization exemptions in Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and the religious exemption in the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). You can read more about the letter and the amendment in this [article](#) by the Institutional Religious Freedom Alliance (IRFA).

A Former IUGM Staff Member Lends a Hand

AGRM continues to have many opportunities coming to us these days. (We'll tell you more at the convention.) To handle some of the work, on a short-term basis, AGRM has enlisted the help of Jim Harriger, former CEO of Victory Mission in Springfield, Missouri, and a team member of the association back many years ago. Jim worked for Steve Burger and wrote many documents, including the first-ever Certification Manual.

A Way to Save Even if You Missed the Price-Break Deadline

Moderators are key people at AGRM conventions, and just four moderator opportunities remain. Those who agree to moderate all five seminars in a single track can register for the convention at the special moderator rate

of \$395. These individuals serve as host of a seminar track, helping attendees get the most out of each seminar. To learn more, download the [moderator packet](#), complete the agreement form, and return to Justin Boles. If you've already registered, no worries, we can refund the difference between your registration fee and the moderator rate. Please be sure to get approval to be a moderator from your supervisor or executive leader before submitting your form.

Also, we're looking for a couple more volunteers to facilitate professional network groups during the convention. This is a one-hour commitment that will help you make connections for a lifetime. Contact Justin Boles at jboles@agrm.org for more information.

Looking Down the Street...

- Please welcome back into AGRM mission membership **The Healing Place** (Texarkana, Arkansas) [Virginia Howard](#) is the mission's executive director.
- Please welcome into AGRM mission membership **St. Matthew's House, Inc.** (Naples, Florida). [Vann Ellison](#) is the mission's executive director.
- Congratulations to **The Path of Citrus County** (Beverly Hills, Florida) and executive director DuWayne Sipper. The mission recently won the John T. Barnes Community Organization Award from the Chamber of Commerce Citrus County.
- The Drumstick Dash at **Wheeler Mission Ministries** (Indianapolis, Indiana)—their race run now by some 20,000 people on Thanksgiving Day—is the subject of a new [video](#) *Move Your Feet So Others Can Eat*, which tells the story of the race and its effort to help homeless people in the community.
- Tim Gore, community relations director at **Springs Rescue Mission** (Colorado Springs, Colorado) is going the extra fundraising mile—or the extra 102 miles! To celebrate the mission's 20th anniversary, Tim will travel to the original rescue mission in Glasgow, Scotland, and run 102 miles north in Scotland's most iconic ultra marathon, the West Highland Way race. A local car dealership is donating \$100 for every mile completed. Learn more about Tim's endeavor at www.springsrescuemission.org/sponsor-tim.
- Please welcome new AGRM business member [donor.com](#) (Brentwood, Tennessee). [Penny Hollenbeck](#) is the company's president.
- Also, welcome another AGRM business member, [Verified Volunteers](#) (Fort Collins, Colorado). Vice President [Kimberly Chochon](#) serves as the main contact for AGRM.



College Students Pushed Out of Foster Care and into Homelessness

When a child in foster care turns 18 and graduates from high school, the state pulls funding. This renders the student homeless, according to an [article](#) in *The Hechinger Report*.

Home instability is a significant risk factor that reduces one's chances of graduating from college. And homelessness isn't the only obstacle—it is often compounded by other risk factors such as part-time enrollment, delayed entry into college after high school, not having a regular high school diploma, having dependent children, being a single parent, being financially independent of parents, and working full-time while enrolled.

There are some national and local resources that can help. The College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007 provides for financial aid and access programs for homeless collegians. Still, students who have been pushed out of foster care lack community provisions to fill gaps created by states.

Fentanyl Proves More Deadly than Heroin

America is getting more and more addicted to opioids. While both heroin and morphine are as old as the illegal drug trade itself, there's a new wave of more dangerous synthetic substitutes, including a dangerously powerful variety called fentanyl, [reports](#) *The Christian Post*.

Of the more than 5,000 people in the U.S. who died of opioid-related overdoses in 2014, the majority were found to have fentanyl in their system. Meanwhile, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) recently issued a national alert, recognizing that the increase in the number of overdoses of fentanyl are so alarming considering that the cases of seizures in 2013 were at 942; a year later, that number topped 3,000.

The drug is being mass-produced because it is used by doctors as an effective and powerful painkiller, the most powerful opioid known today. But the drug also has very addictive effects, leading to its street popularity on the streets. The DEA revealed that majority of it entering the country illegally comes from either China or Mexico. However, the most disturbing fact is that majority of those who purchase it on the street don't know what fentanyl is and the harm it can do. It is so dangerous that anyone who happens to make contact with it even without ingestion could experience seizures or be killed through overdose. When a substantial amount of it is absorbed through the skin or if someone inhales it, it can lead to dizziness, sudden slow breathing, and even death.

New Website Details the History of Philanthropy

The past 500 years of global philanthropy has been chronicled in a free, permanent digital exhibit, [reports The NonProfit Times](#).

The “History of Modern Philanthropy,” accessible at [HistoryofGiving.org](#), divides five centuries of giving into five time periods: 1500 to 1750, “New Meaning in a Changing World;” 1750 to 1890, “Upheaval & Reform;” 1890 to 1930, “Lasting Change;” 1930 to 1980, “Redefining Philanthropy;” and 1980 to the present, “Global Outlook of Giving.” The exhibit has been curated by the National Philanthropic Trust and took a team of historians more than 1,300 hours of research to complete. The project has been in the works since 2011.

The history of charitable giving is told through 200 entries bolstered by 95 historical images, documents, and video and audio clips. Features include a document from 1638 memorializing the earliest known fundraising effort for Harvard University, audio of a 1918 song dedicated to Red Cross nurses titled “The One Red Rose the Solider Knows” and a photograph from 1960 illustrating philanthropy-funded voter-registration initiatives for African Americans. History Associates and Suka Creative assisted in curating the exhibit. The History of Modern Philanthropy is open-source and will welcome collaboration for future phases, according to the organization.



NYC Reports Record Number of Both Homeless People and Billionaires

The number of homeless people living in shelters in New York City broke a record last week, with more than 56,000 individuals in need of stable housing. Interestingly, a record number of billionaires are also living in the city that never sleeps: According to the Wealth-X and UBS Billionaire Census 2014 released last month, New York City is home to 103 billionaires—more than any other city in the world, [reports The Huffington Post](#).

The widening gap between rich and poor is a growing problem in the U.S. As NPR reported last week, income has fallen flat between 1975 and today (adjusting for inflation) for the economic bottom half of Americans, while it increased exponentially for the wealthy, growing 36 percent for those at the 95th percentile. A 2014 Brookings study showed New York sits behind Atlanta, San Francisco, Miami, Boston, and Washington, D.C., as America’s most unequal cities in terms of income. A 2009 survey revealed that the top 1 percent of New Yorkers raked in nearly one-third of the city’s total personal income.

Gilbert Taylor, commissioner of the Department of Homeless Services under Mayor Bill de Blasio, said new city approaches will prevent at-risk individuals from falling through the cracks while helping those in shelters find permanent housing. One of those approaches, Taylor said, is the HomeBase program, which provides a variety of resources to families, such as assistance working with landlords, financial planning advice, and help finding

more affordable housing. The program has recently expanded its work through 23 separate offices from 14 previously, offering more resources to more families.

Abortion Rates Fall to Historic Low in Developed Countries

Abortion rates in developed countries are at a historic low, according to a new report, mostly due to increased use of contraception, [reports Time](#) magazine. However, the rates of abortion have remained unchanged in developing countries, where the practice is often unsafe.

The analysis of abortion data shows the annual abortion rate dropped from 46 to 27 per 1,000 women aged 15 to 44 between 1990 and 2014 in developed countries. In developing countries, that rate fell only from 39 to 37 per 1,000 women in that age range. The stark contrast between wealthier and poorer countries is also evident in the proportion of pregnancies that end in abortion. In developing countries, that percentage has declined from 39 percent between 1990 and 1994 to 28 percent between 2010 and 2014. In developed countries, that proportion increased from 21 percent to 32 percent of pregnancies during the same time periods. The stability of abortion rates in the developing world raises safety concerns, according to the report.

The analysis also found that the frequency of abortion appears to be roughly the same in countries with restrictive abortion laws as it is in countries where the practice is legal. The abortion rate in countries where abortion is illegal or allowed only to save a woman's life is 37 abortions per 1,000 women, while the rate in countries where the practice is legal is 34 abortions per 1,000 women.

Walgreens Plans to Expand Mental Health Services

Walgreens Boots Alliance will expand mental health services, including access to behavioral health treatment via telemedicine, to expand customer options for treatment, screenings, and awareness, [reports Forbes](#).

About one in five Americans suffers with mental health conditions, which is greater than medical conditions such as diabetes and heart disease. But patient adherence to prescriptions is worse for mental health conditions than physical illnesses, so Walgreens sees its army of pharmacists and nurse practitioners having an impact. Less than 50 percent of Americans who are prescribed medications to treat mental health conditions take them as directed, if at all, Walgreens said.

The expansion of mental health services is the latest push by drugstore giants like Walgreens, CVS, and Walmart to push further beyond a pharmacy chain's traditional role of dispensing and managing customer prescription needs. To improve mental health treatment, Walgreens will offer access to 1,000 therapists and psychiatrists via Breakthrough, an MDLive telemedicine company.



easystreet
Innovative solutions and ideas

Selfie Station

As part of its spring fundraiser called “The Kitsap Great Give,” **Kitsap Rescue Mission** (Bremerton, Washington) urged donors to come to a “donation station” in their facilities to take a selfie at their Selfie Station, and then post it on Facebook to urge others to give. The campaign featured a photo of the Mona Lisa taking a selfie with her iPhone, and the tag “Even Mona Lisa is getting in on the fun.”



marketstreet
Employment and product ads

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.

Account Executive/Major Gifts Officer: Open Door Mission, Omaha, NE

Annual Giving Manager: Denver Rescue Mission, Denver, CO

Case Manager: Las Vegas Rescue Mission, Las Vegas, NV

Case Manager for Women, Children & Families: Open Door Mission, Omaha, NE

Chaplain: Rescue Mission of El Paso, Inc., El Paso, TX

Chaplain: Denver Rescue Mission, Denver, CO

Chief Development Officer: Seattle's Union Gospel Mission, Seattle, WA

Client Services Coordinator MOC: Denver Rescue Mission, Denver, CO

Cook: Union Gospel Mission Twin Cities, Saint Paul, MN

Crisis Intervention Coordinator, Social Worker: The Bowery Mission, New York, NY

Data Processing Specialist: Open Door Mission, Omaha, NE

Dental Assistant: Union Gospel Mission Twin Cities, Saint Paul, MN

Dentist: Union Gospel Mission Twin Cities, Saint Paul, MN

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

Development Director: Salina Rescue Mission, Salina, KS

[Director - Safe Harbor](#): Milwaukee Rescue Mission, Milwaukee, WI

[Director of Development](#): The Shepherd's House, Bend, OR

[Director of Finance and Business Development](#): Kansas City Rescue Mission, Kansas City, MO

[Director, Food Services](#): The Bowery Mission, New York, NY

[Director, Major Gifts](#): The Bowery Mission, New York, NY

[Executive Director](#): Turlock Gospel Mission, Turlock, CA

[Family Support Worker \(Evenings\)](#): Open Door Mission, Omaha, NE

[Food Service Attendant](#): Buffalo City Mission, Buffalo, NY

[Food Services Manager](#): Denver Rescue Mission, Denver, CO

[Front End Developer](#): Denver Rescue Mission, Denver, CO

[Housekeeping/Maintenance Manager](#): Milwaukee Rescue Mission, Milwaukee, WI

[HR Supervisor](#): Rescue Mission Alliance, Oxnard, CA

[HR Supervisor](#): Rescue Mission Alliance, Oxnard, CA

[Human Resources & Training Coordinator](#): Denver Rescue Mission, Denver, CO

[IT Technician](#): Denver Rescue Mission, Denver, CO

[Maintenance Coordinator Technician](#): Union Gospel Mission Twin Cities, Saint Paul, MN

[Maintenance Technician](#) : Open Door Mission, Omaha, NE

[Major Gift Officer](#) : Open Door Mission, Omaha, NE

[Major Gifts Officer](#): Buffalo City Mission, Buffalo, NY

[Manager-Donor Relations](#): Buffalo City Mission, Buffalo, NY

[Men's Center Support Worker](#) : Open Door Mission, Omaha, NE

[Pastor](#): Las Vegas Rescue Mission, Las Vegas, NV

[Principal - Cross Trainers Academy](#): Milwaukee Rescue Mission, Milwaukee, WI

[Program Director](#): The City Mission of Findlay, Ohio, Findlay, OH

[Program Director - Naomi Family Residence](#): Union Gospel Mission Twin Cities, Saint Paul, MN

[Property Manager](#): Open Door Mission, Omaha, NE

[Receiving Clerk](#): Open Door Mission, Omaha, NE

Recovery Program Coordinator: Westminster Rescue Mission, Westminster, MD

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

Residential Coordinator_Mens Facility: Buffalo City Mission, Buffalo, NY

Staff: Bread of Life Mission, Holbrook, AZ

Vice President of Administration: Milwaukee Rescue Mission, Milwaukee, WI



Guarding the Gift

O Timothy! Guard what was committed to your trust, avoiding the profane and idle babblings and contradictions of what is falsely called knowledge (1 Timothy 6:20).

Paul wrote his first letter to Timothy when Timothy was in Ephesus. As Timothy taught the gospel there, false teachers had arisen that were adding to it and changing it. At the end of his letter, Paul warned Timothy to guard what had been entrusted to him.

Timothy was to guard the gospel, the good news of our salvation through Christ. In fact, Paul mentioned this again in the second letter he sent to Timothy (2 Timothy 1:14). This was most certainly a matter of importance to Paul and should be important to us as well.

You see, our faith in the gospel is a gift from God (Ephesians 2:8); not only is it a gift, it is a costly gift (John 3:16). Naturally, when we receive a valuable gift we keep a close eye on it. But often we forget what a treasure we have received in the gift of salvation, and we don't guard it as Paul instructed Timothy to.

In some cases, guarding this gift involves defending the gospel, such as confronting false teachers who preach that God is our spiritual genie and we must simply "rub" the lamp of prayer and He will give us what we want. Other instances might be far more personal, such as confronting sin in our own lives.

We have been changed by this priceless gift of the gospel and have become new people. Fight the good fight when temptation arises and seeks to steal what has been entrusted to you (1 Timothy 6:12).

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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](#).

[back to top](#)

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