



An Unexpected Journey

by Amanda Chaplin, Event & Development Coordinator

Beginning the new year always brings me to reflect on everything that happened in the previous year. I couldn't help but accept my "inner nerd" as I found myself connecting with Gandalf in the Hobbit-An Unexpected Journey.

Gandalf a great and powerful wizard who is trying to keep evil at bay, was talking to Lady Galadriel, a beautiful and very powerful elf-queen, about all that was going on in the world around them. They recruited a small and simple Hobbit named Bilbo Baggins, a Halfling, to help them on their quest.

As Gandalf spoke to Galadriel he said, *"This quest has set in motion things we do not yet understand."*

Galadriel then asked Gandalf, *"Why the halfling?"*

Gandalf responded to her question, *"I do not know. Soroman (a superior wizard to Gandalf) believes that it is only great power that can hold evil at check, but I find that it is the small things, the deeds of ordinary folks that keeps the darkness at bay...simple acts of courage and love."*

Why Bilbo Baggins?

Because when I am afraid, he gives me courage."

Galadriel, the wise Elf responds to Gandalf, *"Do not be afraid, you are not alone!"*

You might be wondering what wizards, hobbits and elves have to do with reflecting on 2017.

This past year at the Idaho Falls Rescue Mission has been a monumental journey, and for most *an unexpected one*. We have had huge victories but also tremendous battles. At times we have felt as if we were simply too small and too weak to accomplish the task at hand. We have found ourselves asking God, "Why choose us? For those of you who know the staff you may agree that we are an odd group of people. 😊 We simply have been brought together to serve a great and powerful God. A God who loves the poor and gives power to the weak.

We find ourselves trusting God each day to lead and guide us to do HIS work here. We trust Him each day to provide an

amazing team of Ministry Partners, like you, and He has proven himself MORE than faithful in providing an amazing team! *Thank you* for giving, and for making a difference! *Thank you* for helping to fight against the evils in this world, and *thank you* for reminding us, through your support, that we are not alone! We serve a mighty God who has mighty things in store for the IFRM. THANK YOU for being the heartbeat that keeps the mission flowing!



Our First Works Program Graduation!

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New Roof at the City of Refuge

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information and creating a place for it on our website.

Welcoming Our New Executive Director

by Brian Arave, Resource Coordinator

T Tyler Perkins is the new executive director of the Idaho Falls Rescue Mission replacing Dr. John Oakley who is devoting his full attention to his counseling business.

Tyler came into the mission as a volunteer looking to serve in any fashion he could, and he quickly had the opportunity to fix some broken toilets in the City of Refuge. Tyler was giving full time volunteer service to the mission and was soon offered a position of employment. Tyler immersed himself in doing capital improvement projects, and building relationships with staff, volunteers, and the participants of mission programs. In the beginning of 2017 Tyler became the operations director for the mission in a redefined.

role that in part replaced the role Dave McKinney held before his retirement in August of 2016 Tyler is a native of Nevada and comes out of a background of ranching and business. He was named as one of the top 'under thirty' business leaders in the state of Nevada and had the opportunity to have dinner at the White House with president George W. Bush.

Tyler became a born again Christian and this changed the focus of his life. The Idaho Falls Rescue Mission is excited about how the Lord is using Tyler and other key volunteers, and staff to bring new energy and ideas to the mission. The mission will be hosting a series of "Meet and Greet" opportunities to personally meet our new executive director as he shares the new vision of the Idaho Falls Rescue Mission.



TYLER'S THEME VERSE

*"I will lift up my eyes to the mountains;
From where shall my help come?
My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth. "*
Psalms 121:1-2

Noteworthy Mentions

FINANCIAL AUDIT

The Mission has completed its very first full, voluntary, outside independent audit. Though this was an expensive and exhaustive process, it is very important and exciting for a few reasons.

First, we get to share this information with the community and create a transparent, responsible, and accountable Mission.

Second, this will enable us to apply for more grants and partnerships that require audits. We will be digitizing this

Until then anyone who is interested can call and schedule a time to review the entire audit report. Thank you to everyone who was involved in making this possible.

VOLUNTEER NEEDS

As we welcome the new year we also would gladly welcome more volunteers! We are looking for volunteers who are excited about making a difference in their community and who have time they would like to give each week or month. If you would like to learn about getting

involved as a volunteer, please visit our website
www.ifrescuemission.org/volunteer.

IFRM THEME VERSE

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

JEREMIAH 29:11



After removing 3 layers of old roofing they were able to fix the damages and lay the new roof down.

LOOK WHAT YOU DID!

98%

You, our faithful ministry partner, gave 98% of the total cost! THANK YOU for responding to this great need!!
You made this repair a reality!

Winter and spring can be wet and cold enough in this part of the country, *but when your roof leaks it can make things just plain miserable.* Not only can it cause wet and cold discomfort, but it can do all kinds of damage to your ceiling, walls, paint, electrical...you name it. This has been the case at the City of Refuge for the last several years.

Although there has been an ongoing effort to find the leak and patch it, with every new winter and spring came new leaks and new water damage. Due to strained finances and major transition the Mission was not able to finance the proper repairs or even think about replacing the roof. So, we did the only thing that made sense. First, we prayed and asked the Lord to provide. Then, this last fall we asked you, the community and faithful donors, to help resolve this issue once and for all.

It would not have been possible to even estimate your overwhelming response and support! So now, with humility, pride, and some emotion as well, we share with you all that you so

A NEW ROOF AT THE CITY OF REFUGE

by Tyler Perkins, Executive Director

generously given. The City of Refuge now has a brand-new roof! For the first time in years the men who come through our doors will be a little warmer, a little more comfortable, and a little safer!

This project was no small feat. First, all the gas lines had to be lifted, rerouted and replaced. Then, the original roof, along with two others that were laid over the top of the original had to be torn off. So, there was quite a bit of demolition to do. Next, the new roof drains were cut, framed and set. Due to being old and undersized all the original roof drain lines had to be completely torn out and replaced. This required a lot of the ceilings inside the building to be torn out and replaced. Once this was done, the new roof went down without a hitch. At the same time the new drain line, along with a new overflow drain, was being installed. Finally, we not only have a new roof, but a new overflow drain, and a new primary drain that carries the roof water out to the street.

All of this happened in October as the construction crews raced to beat bad weather that might shut them down.

A big thanks to **Wright Roofing** and **First Street Plumbing** for not only working so tirelessly to get all of this done before winter, but also helping us out on the financial end. Thank you!

Now, for the best part of this report. When we reached out to you, the community, the ones whom this Mission really belongs, we had a rough estimate of what this was going to cost. No one here at the Mission ever dreamed that about 98% of the total cost would be sent in by you, the community! So, thank you so much to all our friends, family, supporters and partners!

This is one more reminder as we get ready for a new year that God does provide.

If you would like any further details about this project or any other story in this

newsletter, please feel free to call the main office and schedule an appointment to come down and see what's going on at your local Mission.

Thank you and God Bless!



A big THANK YOU to First Street Plumbing and Heating and Wright Roofing. They did an amazing job!



The finished product!
Our beautiful new roof.

WORKS PROGRAM GRADUATION

by Mark Matthews, Works Program Director

As I reflect on 2017, it was an exciting time for the Idaho Falls Rescue Mission. After six months of crafting the Works Program we were able to begin in May. As we began this new and exciting endeavor we trusted in the Lord to lead us with the first group of men, but it was a turbulent start. We continued to fine-tune the program as we went along with the willingness of those who put



Chris, the owner of Teton Lofts presenting Jeremy with the keys to his new apartment.

their trust in us. We were asking them to follow us as we follow Christ.

We have been encouraged by you, our partner in ministry. **You are the reason this program has been able to come to fruition! Thank you! Without your support this ministry would not be possible.**

It has been amazing to see how those who have entered the program have begun to bear Biblical fruit. We have had some program participants relapse and leave the program, but we continue to pray for them and trust God to grow the seeds that were planted during their time here.

In December we experienced the highlight of the year! After six months in the Program we had our very first graduate! Jeremy worked diligently during his time in the Program and ended with money in savings, his own



apartment, and a solid foundation in what it means to walk with Jesus in this life. So many rejoiced with him that night. We couldn't do what we do if it weren't for the kindness and generosity of many in the Idaho Falls Community. Each and every one of you who give of your time, your talents, and your treasures have made this program possible.

Thank you!

We look forward to seeing what our Lord is going to do in 2018. May we always be about Rescue, Recovery and Restoration as we seek the Lord in all we do!

Eagle Scout Volunteer Project

by Tyler Perkins, Executive Director



Becoming an eagle scout is a big deal, so we are always honored and excited when a prospective eagle scout chooses the IFRM as the home of their Eagle Project. In this case, Bryant Bradshaw was willing to tackle a real need, renovate our dining hall (aka the Son Shine room). This is where we serve free meals to the community 365 days a year. Anyone who wants or needs a warm meal can join us

at 5:45pm daily. This ministry is important to us and the community. We serve anywhere from 60 to 120 meals a night. Not to mention breakfast and lunch to men at the City of Refuge and IFRM staff. We also use the Son Shine room for meetings, events and trainings. Needless to say, our dining hall gets a lot of use and not a lot of care. Bryant put together a group of people that included family, friends and fellow scouts. They purchased some supplies and went to work. The first order of business was to break down all the tables and chairs and remove them from the Son Shine room. Once this was accomplished all of the large appliances

were moved to the center of the room. The walls and baseboard were cleaned, which was a huge task, as the walls and baseboard had several years of wear, dirt and buildup. Fresh white paint was added. The group then took the cross off of the wall and gave it a brighter blue background. After that, the group scrubbed the floor until it also became several shades brighter. We cannot thank Bryant enough! You and your group changed the feel of the Son shine room to a much cleaner, brighter place.

Thank you so much and congratulations on your Eagle Scout achievement!

Serving Our Neighbors

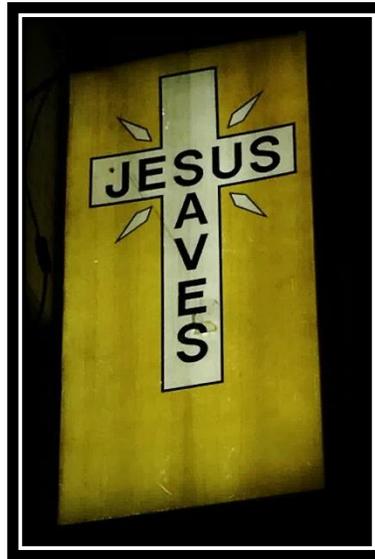
by Mark Matthews, Works Program Director

In the first few months of the Works Program we decided to do our part to help those who were hit by devastating Hurricane Harvey in Texas. It was exciting to see the men in the Works program work diligently just wanting to help those who were affected by the hurricane in Houston. We were able to provide a truck load of supplies to send down to help. What a blessing to be able to help in this way! You, our faithful partner, helped us make this possible! **Because of you, those effected by the hurricane received necessary supplies!** In July we had an amazing opportunity to serve the homeless people of Salt Lake City. We spent the weekend sharing with

those who are homeless and struggling with addiction in the city about the hope, love and strength we can have in Jesus.

THANK YOU for making it possible!

The men in the program stepped up to serve meals at the Salt Lake Rescue Mission. This is something we hope to incorporate into the program every year.



Some of the Works program staff and participants that were involved with the service projects this past summer.



Idaho Falls Rescue Mission Prayer Requests

- That God would direct our steps as a mission.
- For our guests to accept Christ as Savior and rely on His strength.
- For us to find a facility to better suit our needs.
- For more volunteers to join our team.
- For success in social enterprise opportunities.
- For God to provide for our financial obligations.
- For opportunities to build greater partnerships in the community.
- For spiritual growth and maturity of the IFRM staff as we rely on the Lord to fight the battles we face each day.

“...prayer is essential in this ongoing warfare.

Pray hard and long.

Pray for your brothers and sisters.”

EPHESIANS 6:18

Introducing Our New Culinary Manger

by Tyler Perkins, Executive Director

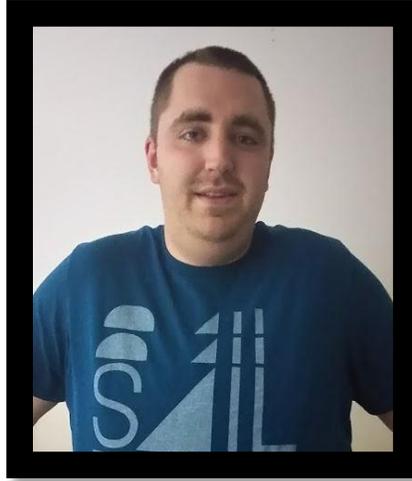
The Idaho Falls Rescue Mission is proud to introduce Mitch Chaplin as the first on-staff Culinary Manager.

Mitch grew up in Nova Scotia, Canada, and has been in a kitchen most of his adult life. He started cooking at a local chain restaurant in Nova Scotia where he quickly worked up from prep cook to head line cook. He also worked at a high-end pub and grill where he quickly became sous chef and was able to develop new recipes and help create the menus.

Before moving to Idaho Falls Mitch worked at a gourmet burger restaurant where he was able to create new burger recipes. He and his wife Amanda moved to Idaho Falls in 2016.

Since then Mitch has been the Night Manager at Franklin's Famous Philly Cheesesteaks, helped open Cyclo Vietnamese Restaurant and held the position of Assistant General Manager at Kneaders Bakery and Café in Ammon. He is now the sous chef at the Idaho Falls Country Club.

Mitch is just as passionate about Ministry as he is about food and has just as much experience. He attended Ethnos 360



Bible Institute in Michigan, he's served in several youth groups, led a young adult Bible study, and graduated from Ethnos 360 Canada's Emanate Training, which is a tribal church-planting and linguistic training Program. Mitch and Amanda were on their way to serving at Ethnos 360 Bible Institute, where Mitch was going to be part of the culinary program, when God planted them here in Idaho Falls and brought them to the Rescue Mission. Mitch began serving as a volunteer cook for our evening meal program and after getting more and more involved as a volunteer he accepted the position as Culinary Manager at the

IFRM.

One of the first big changes that Mitch was able to be a part of was the installation of a brand-new kitchen hood. This was only possible because of a Community Block Grant awarded to us from the City of Idaho Falls.

This is a huge step for the Mission in coming into compliance with the City and also in the ability to work as a commercial kitchen. A huge thank you to The City of Idaho Falls, Lisa Farris, BS&R and everyone else involved. Please contact Mitch or come down and see us to find out more about the IFRM Culinary vision. We will soon be bringing the Idaho Falls area GOOD FOOD for a GOOD CAUSE!



Our new hood vent and 4-burner!



Tiffany Lamb
Office Administrator

New Office Staff



Juana Alvarado
Ruth House Day Staff



Valerie Martinez
Volunteer Coordinator



Bar J Wrangler (above)
and Justin Palmer (below)



Bar J Wrangler Benefit Concert

by Amanda Chaplin, Event & Development Coordinator

Every year the Bar J Wranglers partner with the Idaho Falls Rescue Mission through our Bar J Wrangler Christmas Benefit Concert.

This year's event was at the historic Colonial Theater in Downtown Idaho Falls. We had record-breaking ticket sales this year with a completely sold out show and our free-will offering yielded a very generous gift from all of those who attended the show. Thank you to all who came and showed their support for the IFRM!

We were excited to welcome back, for the 2nd year in a row, Justin Palmer the Cowboy Poet. He shared 2 rhythmic poems that were loaded with humor and expressed the reason why we celebrate Christmas, as a celebration of Christ our Savior's birth.

We want to thank Cottonwood Suites for donating accommodations for the Bar J Wranglers, Town and Country Gardens for providing beautiful Poinsettia's,

and we want to say, "thank you" to the Bank of Commerce for sponsoring the nights event. It's through partners like this that make it

possible for the Idaho Falls Rescue Mission to provide Rescue, Recovery and Restoration to those in need of it in south-eastern Idaho.

We at the IFRM are thankful to have so many people, churches and businesses show their support through partnering with us through giving their time, talents and treasures to make this ministry possible! **THANK YOU!!!**

IMPACT REPORT

2017 Ticket Sales: 973

2017 NET: \$15,431

2017 Event Donations: \$1695

In Honor & In Memorial

October, November & December 2017

In memory of George Miller
by High Dessert Realtor Inc.

TO THOSE WHO HAVE GIVEN A DONATION IN HONOR OR IN MEMORY OF SOMEONE AND THEIR NAME IS NOT LISTED ABOVE, WE ARE TRULY SORRY. DUE TO THE SUDDEN EVENT OF SWITCHING FROM OUR MOST RECENT OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR TO OUR NEW ONE, THE PROCESS OF RECORDING THESE DONATIONS FOR OUR NEWSLETTER WAS OVERLOOKED.

WE FEEL SO HORRIBLE ABOUT THIS, AS WE TRULY VALUE YOUR WILLINGNESS TO GIVE IN HONOR OR MEMORY OF SOMEONE. WE ASK THAT IF YOU GAVE A GIFT IN HONOR OR MEMORY OF ANYONE FROM OCTOBER THROUGH DECEMBER OF 2017 AND THEIR NAME IS NOT LISTED ABOVE THAT YOU CONTACT TIFFANY AND SHE WILL MAKE SURE THAT THEY ARE INCLUDED IN OUR MARCH NEWSLETTER. YOU CAN CONTACT HER AT tlamb@ifrescuemission.org, BY CALLING 208-552-5575 OR BY STOPPING INTO THE OFFICE AT 840 PARK AVE. IN IDAHO FALLS. AGAIN, WE DEEPLY APOLOGIZE FOR THIS AND VALUE YOUR PARTNERSHIP WITH THE IDAHO FALLS RESCUE MISSION.