

Don't miss...



2

Celebrate NEW LIFE



3

"God set me free."



4

Your Gift = BIG Impact

Easter ISSUE 2021

Bay Area

HOPE

A Publication of the Bay Area Rescue Mission

2114 Macdonald Avenue • P.O. Box 1112 • Richmond, CA 94801 • [BayAreaRescue.org](http://BayAreaRescue.org)

Gene is  
celebrating  
*HOPE!*

Your support brings hope  
to the hurting this Easter.



“

God filled me  
with His love  
and set me  
free.

”



**W**hen Gene was a child, he was an object of ridicule and it left deep wounds he carried all his life. “I have learning disabilities and was always called retarded and stupid,” he says. “I felt like I was less than everybody else.”

In spite of his pain, Gene had a giving heart. When he grew up, he spent his free time volunteering in his church’s youth ministry. But, even there, he felt rejected. “The kids were so disrespectful,” he says.

His depression grew until he couldn’t bear it any longer. “I was going to kill myself. Then someone introduced me to drugs and they numbed the pain,” he says. “But I lost my passion for Christ.”

Gene’s drug use only led

to more rejection. Other addicts preyed on him, stealing his property and beating him up. “I lived in my car sometimes to hide,” he says. “Shame and guilt were tearing me up inside.”

Finally he’d had enough. He longed to sense the Lord in his life once again, so he entered our Men’s Life Transformation Program. Through Bible studies, chapel services and Christian counseling, he reconnected with the Lord. “God filled me with His love and set me free from my shame and guilt,” Gene says.

We also connected Gene with a grief counselor who’s helped him process his pain. **“I finally shared the abuse and trauma**

***“I feel Jesus’  
unconditional  
love.”***

**I’d gone through, and now I’m at peace and have confidence,”** he says.

Gene plans to complete the program, find a job, get his own place

and return to volunteering in his church’s youth ministry. “Now I can be a good example of a follower of Christ,” he says.

**Thanks to the blessing of your support, Gene is celebrating Easter as a restored creation in Christ.**

“I’m living free from my addiction, motivated to be a better man and to share the gospel. I’m letting God control my footsteps.”

# Easter 2021

ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

## ANNUAL EASTER CAMPAIGN

Celebrate hope by caring for our most vulnerable neighbors!



**106,730**  
meals

*\$2.09 for a meal!*



**9,475** nights of  
shelter



**120** men & women  
in our discipleship  
programs (on  
average)



**14,400** hours  
of education &  
counseling

*Thank you for your  
compassion & support!*

*"I came that you may have life and have it abundantly." - John 10:10, NASB*



A Message from REV. JOHN M. ANDERSON

## THE MIRACLE OF EASTER *lives on in you*

Can you imagine what it must have been like to gaze into that empty tomb that Easter morning? To rise from the depths of despair to heart-pounding, indescribable joy... realizing Jesus conquered the grave?

That's the power of the resurrection. And that same power is still transforming hearts and lives today.

Jesus came that we may have life abundantly, and we embrace that as our calling. **We exist to help our neighbors experience life to the fullest, as God intended.**

As we celebrate the miracle of Easter, we also celebrate the miracles God is working in the Bay Area today. Every chain that's

broken... every heart that turns to Him... every life that's restored is a cause for rejoicing.

*And it's all thanks to caring friends like you!*

This Easter, I pray that you will see God move mightily in your own life, just as you have given generously so He can work miracles in the lives of your neighbors like Gene (whose incredible story is on page 3).

May our hearts be as one as we cry out together, "Hallelujah, He is risen!" this Easter.

Rev. John M. Anderson  
Executive Director



## Celebrate **NEW LIFE** this Easter

It's hard to have hope when you're hungry and homeless. This Easter, we'll warmly welcome our neighbors in need with immediate help like:

- **A hot meal for \$2.09**
- An overnight stay in our shelter
- Clothing, hygiene items & Christ-centered care

**YOU can give even more people the gift of meals and care this Easter.** A nourishing meal, served with love, is often the first step to a new life in Christ!

- ✉ Give now using the enclosed reply card and envelope.
- ✦ Give online anytime at **BayAreaRescue.org**.

*Thank you for your support of our Rescue Mission guests.  
Have a blessed Easter!*



**26th Annual**  
**New Life Golf Tournament**  
*Monday, May 10*  
*Rossmoor Country Club*

It's that time of year again. Your opportunity to join other compassionate golfers in support of the life-changing work we do each day at the Rescue Mission.

**It's our 26th annual New Life Golf Tournament!**

It will be a day filled with food, fellowship and fun on the links. You'll play a round of golf and enjoy delicious lunch and dinner, all in the company of other friends of the Rescue Mission.

And whether you golf, volunteer or sponsor a golfer, you'll be helping raise funds to support our programs that save, sustain and transform the lives of homeless and hurting people here in the Bay Area.

**We need YOU to make this event a success!**

For more information, visit **[BayAreaRescue.org](http://BayAreaRescue.org)**.



# DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

## Your Gift = BIG Impact

Donor Advised Funds are an easy and tax-efficient way to manage charitable giving.

Donor Advised Funds allow donors to receive an immediate tax deduction for their charitable contribution, and then recommend grants from the fund on the donor's own timeframe.

Grants made to the Bay Area Rescue Mission through Donor Advised Funds are designated to be used "Where Most Needed." If you have a specific interest that you'd like to support, please contact Mimi at

☎ (510) 215-4869.

Consider scheduling an annual gift to the Bay Area Rescue Mission from your Donor Advised Fund to support our ministry each year!

Bay Area Rescue Mission's tax I.D. number is 94-6124054.

**Thank you!**