

Brightening the Future with Education

By Chris Hedlund, Education Director

Over a year ago, Hope Gospel Mission's education center reached capacity and was bursting at its seams. That led to opening the Solomon Learning Center in August of 2010. The Solomon Learning Center was designed to take all the employment readiness programs we offered to Hope Gospel Mission residents, Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University class, and computer introduction classes and offer those programs to the general public. Additionally, we've added Bible study correspondence classes and Leadership classes; and it's all available to the public. Coming soon will be a Biblical conflict resolution seminar and we are currently in the final stages of state approval to teach office administration classes. We expect those to be ready in the next couple months.

Since opening last year, the Solomon Learning Center has been able to increase the resources available to residents and graduates of the Mission. We have more space, a library, tutoring areas, separate classrooms, and diligent staff and tutors who are dedicated to helping people get to the next level.

Students at the Solomon Learning Center are not just

Next **Financial Peace University** class begins August 28 and runs 13 Sunday nights from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. **Tuition is free**, cost of the materials is \$100. Class is over half full so sign up early at **solomonlearningcenter.org**.

looking for a job – they are spending 12 months or more developing themselves into the best employees they can be. They are addressing root issues that interfere with their success, and they are putting a lot of effort into self-development. Recently, one employer who hired a Hope Gospel Mission Renewed Hope Program resident called and asked us to send more people who have completed our work readiness program because they were impressed with their work ethic.

Here's how you can be part of this life-changing training at Solomon Learning Center:

- Contact me, Chris Hedlund, and let me know that you're willing to give graduates of our program a second chance by considering them for employment. We will pass on job openings at your organization to our students who will then follow up on them.

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◀ *Samantha, our Summer Intern, tutoring Rob, a resident in the Renewed Hope Program.*



From the President & Founder: Mark Donnelly

On Friday, June 10th, a wall-breaking ceremony was held for the Sojourner House, a new 40 bed homeless shelter for single men and women, located at 618

S. Barstow Street in Eau Claire. It was designed to replace the current Warming Center which has operated for the past two years. It will be operated by Catholic Charities with help from other community partners that are part of the Eau Claire Shelter Coalition, a local group of concerned organizations, churches and individuals trying to meet the temporary needs of homeless individuals in our area that, for whatever reason, are not currently being met by other local organizations. Their goal is to open a no-questions asked homeless shelter by Oct. 1, 2011. The shelter would be open year round from early evening to morning and would provide a safe place to sleep, shower, do laundry and have breakfast. This poses the question of why there is a need for another shelter in our area and why Hope Gospel Mission is not able to accommodate them?

Hope Gospel Mission currently offers our services, with Christ-centered principles and methods, to many individuals with similar problems. Sometimes for safety reasons we must turn people away. In order to receive our services, we require a person to be sober and drug free when they enter the mission. If not sober, they may come back and see us when they are. Sometimes we will refer them for detox at the local hospital before coming into the mission. Those with a diagnosed mental illness are required to take

their prescribed medications in order to stay with us (for safety reasons). We refer them to our local hospital or the Free Clinic to get their medications and will then allow them to stay, unless they would pose a danger to our staff and residents. At this time we are unable to accept higher-level sex offenders. We currently offer emergency and help stays for up to 30 days and a two-year Renewed Hope Program for those who are ready to deal with the root issues in their lives that keep them homeless. Sometimes people aren't ready to deal with those root issues and choose not to stay with us. However, they know help is available when they are ready to change. Because of the reasons listed above, we still have people in our area that are homeless, even though help is available to them. This is the group of people that the new shelter is trying to address.

Hope Gospel Mission has offered our assistance to the Sojourner House to help this needy segment of our community. We want to make our programs available to the homeless individuals that will come through their doors. It is our desire that they will get to the point where they want the life changing help we offer through our two-year program, thus breaking the cycle of homelessness in their lives and becoming productive members of society.

We wish the new shelter the best and look forward to working with them.

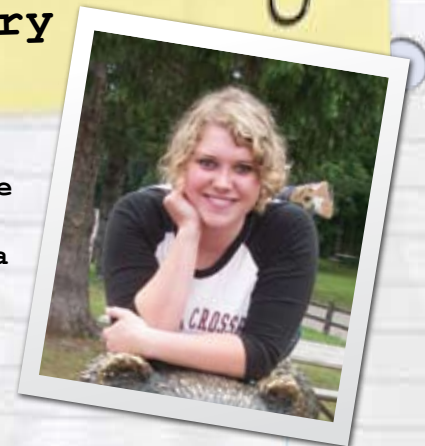
Warmly,

Everyone at Hope Gospel Mission

Samantha is our new summer intern. She grew up in Eleva and is currently taking classes at both UW La Crosse and UW Eau Claire. She enjoys camping trips with her family and spending time on her uncle's dairy farm. Next year she will be serving on the Leadership Team with Campus Crusade for Christ in La Crosse.

At the Men's shelter, she enjoys working as the receptionist and assisting with stewardship projects. She will also be spending time at the Bargain Center, the Ruth House, and the Solomon Learning Center this summer. Samantha is very grateful for her time with HGM and is looking forward to spending her summer serving others in the name of Jesus.

Meet the Staff: Samantha Gregory



Brightening the Future *(cont'd)*

- Attend any of the work readiness classes to enhance and advance your own work ethic.
- Attend any of the leadership, conflict resolution, or other classes to gain leadership skills.
- Contact us regarding offering any of our leadership training at your organization for your staff.
- Sign up for one of the Emmaus Bible College correspondence classes online.
- Contact me to see how you can provide scholarships to students in need from the community.
- Share this article with someone who may need any of our services.

Visit our website and watch our new videos for a virtual tour and testimonials regarding our services at www.solomonlearningcenter.org. Many great and wonderful things are happening in our classrooms right now. Partner with us and share in the excitement of success. Enhance your options and advance your career.

To view current class schedules and register for classes, please visit

www.solomonlearningcenter.org



I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. **Philippians 1:3-6**

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COMING SOON!

Great upgrades at our Bargain Center.

Find us on Facebook for coupons and specials



Annual Banquet of Hope

You are invited to attend our Annual Banquet of Hope on Tuesday, September 27 from 6:30pm to 8:30pm at The Florian Gardens in Eau Claire.

Join us for a free meal and an informative, inspiring program. We will be sharing about the last year at the Mission and what God has done in the lives of the homeless and poor we have been able to help. Please RSVP by calling us at 715-552-5566.

In Honor of...

Thanks to the following individuals for their financial support of the Mission in honor of a loved one or friend. Persons being honored are in bold text.

Nelson Abbott, Richard Abbott
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John Magnuson, Dennis and
 Karen Wagner
William Manos, Vera Manos
Chad Marking, Ralph and
 Norma Marking
Kenneth and Margaret Mayer
 (2), Carol Pickerign
Friends & Relatives who
passed away, Loretta Harris
John R. Metz, Phyllis Metz
Ray and Mildred Miller, Con-
 nie Przybilla
Millie Moan, John and Joyce
 Johnson
Lloyd Moats, Ruby Moats
Mom and Dad House, Jack and
 Greta Meyers
Mom and Dad Meyers, Jack
 and Greta Meyers
Debra Moseng, Richard and
 Helen Jorgenson
Andrew Nawrocki, Raymond
 Nawrocki
Don Nedland, Lori Bauer
Jodi Nelson, Emily M. Bowe

Items we need

MS: Men's Shelter. RH: Ruth House.

- Shampoo (MS)
- Deodorant (MS, RH)
- Ibuprofen (MS)
- Double-edged razors (MS)
- Soap (MS)
- Athletic socks (RH)
- One-a-day vitamins (RH)
- Notebooks (RH)
- Hair accessories (RH)
- Twin sheet sets (RH)

All donations are tax-deductible and can be dropped off at the Men's Shelter at 8 South Farwell Street.

Like us on Facebook!

Stay up to date with our events, prayer requests and more when you "like" Hope Gospel Mission on Facebook. Go to

www.facebook.com/hopegospelmission



Thank You

- Culver's Restaurant, for your donation from your Easter Lunch to benefit the Salvation Army and Hope Gospel Mission.
- The Eau Claire Community Foundation, for a grant of \$3,500 to replace the Men's Shelter boiler.
- Down to Earth Garden Center, for your donation from your special sales event to help the homeless.

www.hopegospelmission.org

General Office

PO Box 1127
 Eau Claire, WI 54702
 (715) 552-5566

Men's Shelter

8 S. Farwell Street
 Eau Claire, WI 54702
 (715) 552-5566

Ruth House

2517 Moholt Drive
 Eau Claire, WI 54703
 (715) 834-4000



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