



THE MISSION NEWSLETTER
1321 E. Lancaster Avenue
Fort Worth, TX 76102
(817) 339-2553 | www.ugm-tc.org

FOLLOW US ONLINE:

A local united Christian organization and ministry dedicated to providing love, hope, respect and a new beginning to those experiencing homelessness.



DON SHISLER
CEO Emeritus

TIME FOR ANOTHER NEW BEGINNING

Over the last 28 years, I have witnessed new beginnings — far too many to count — at Union Gospel Mission of Tarrant County. Each one was a blessing from God, made possible by friends like you.

Now it is time for another new beginning.

I am stepping away from the day-to-day operations as President and CEO of the Mission, and moving into a new role as CEO Emeritus for the next two years. During this time, I will focus on donor relations, expanding our programs and continuing with building and construction projects.

After much prayer and discernment, we have selected a new CEO. Dr. Charles M. Wolford II will lead UGM-TC through many more years of transforming the lives of hurting men, women and children. I'm sure, in the months to come, you will agree that Dr. Wolford is the right person to lead the Mission forward.

I ask you to please pray for me, our Board and our staff as we enter a new season of service to those in great need. And please pray for Dr. Wolford as he joins me in doing the Lord's work here at UGM-TC.

I believe this new beginning will be a blessing for everyone. I am excited about my new role and confident that we can count on your continued partnership in the months and years to come.

Thank you, and may God bless you and your loved ones this Easter season and always!

In Christ,

Commit your works to the Lord, and your thoughts will be established.

PROVERBS 16:3, NKJV

SAVE THE DATE:

Lunch and Learn 2024!



Come to UGM-TC for a free lunch and tour of our campus ... and see all the good you do here!

Time:
11:30 a.m — 1:00 p.m.

RSVP to our Director of Development, Jordan Price, at jprice@ugm-tc.org or (817) 338-8406.

2024 Lunch and Learn Dates:

April 2	August 6
May 7	September 10
June 4	October 1
July 9	December 3

KEEP IN TOUCH

Like us on Facebook

Follow us on Instagram (@ugmtarrantco)

Include your email address on the enclosed response form to receive Mission news and opportunities via email



FATHER ROGERS MEREDITH

WHY EASTER IS OUR HOPE

Many consider Christmas to be the primary celebration of the Christian year, but Easter holds pride of place. Certainly, the weight of our devotional life is bent in the direction of Easter, with good reason. After all, without the resurrection of Christ, as St. Paul reminds us, "our faith is in vain." Yet, how could any event overshadow the incarnation or the death of Christ upon the cross? Why is Easter our hope?

By His resurrection, Christ began the work of new creation, and that work continues. In Christ, the old order has been turned upside down. The rich have been sent away with nothing and the poor have the place of prominence. The powerful are fading as the meek inherit the earth.

Christ has not gathered politicians to govern His new world but instead has sent out those who bind up wounds and wipe away tears. Lofty ideas, but true. In that spirit, in partnership with caring friends like you, Union Gospel Mission of Tarrant County extends the message and truth of Easter to the friendless and the hopeless.

We seek to save those who are lost, to visit the prisoner and to comfort those who mourn until the day when the New Heavens and the New Earth collide, and all break forth into joy.

PLEASE PRAY:

- For our residents, that they will experience the joy of Easter as they celebrate their new lives in Christ.
- That those who do not know the Lord Jesus Christ will find fulfillment in His love and mercy.

HOW MAY WE PRAY FOR YOU? We would like to pray for you.

If you have any prayer requests you would like to share, please email them to rmeredith@ugm-tc.org.

The MISSION NEWSLETTER

Stories of the Lord's provision through you in Tarrant County

NEWSLETTER



You light the way to Heaven
Good news this Easter

MARCH 2024

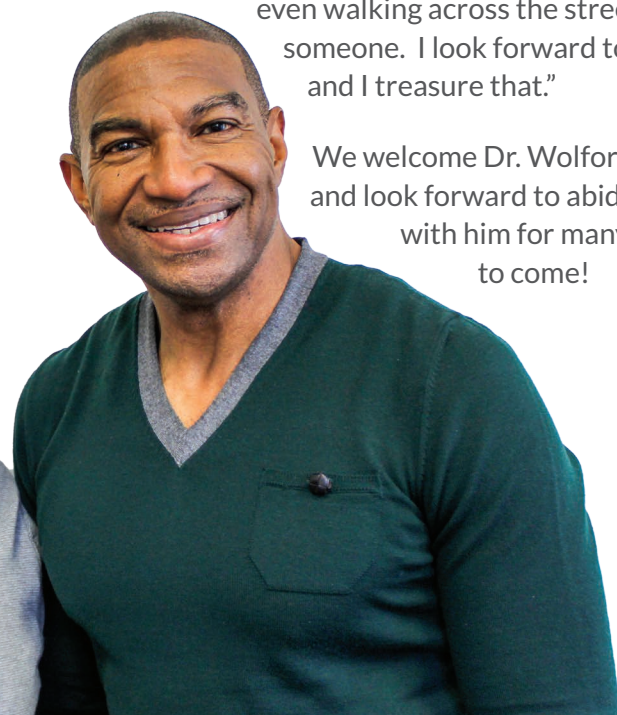
Say Hello to Our New CEO!



On January 15, Dr. Charles M. Wolford II joined UGM-TC as our new CEO, working alongside CEO Emeritus Don Shisler. Dr. Wolford comes to us with 33 years of ministry and service to the homeless. Married and the father of three, he is a native of the Dallas/Fort Worth area.

Dr. Wolford finds inspiration for his mission in Acts 3:6–10, where Peter heals a lame man in Jesus' name. "Many of us come from traumatized life experiences and look outside the Lord Jesus Christ to find hope," he says. "God comes into our journeys and restores us from the conditions in our lives that may have paralyzed us and leads us into lives of joy and hope."

As he begins his new role, Dr. Wolford expresses his appreciation for UGM-TC's rich history of service in North



We welcome Dr. Wolford and look forward to abiding with him for many years to come!

Texas. He describes the Mission as "strong and healthy" and is excited to be part of the team.

Relationships are very important to Dr. Wolford. "The Word of God tells us to abide with one another," he says. "I want to get to know and spend time with the people here and hear their journeys, their successes, what God has been doing for them. We all have a story to tell, and sometimes those stories are shared sitting in the lobby or at a meal, even walking across the street with someone. I look forward to that and I treasure that."



Led by God, Gwendalyn Finds a New Life at UGM-TC



Gwendalyn's new life began with a dream that her life would change, a message from God to leave her home in Houston and go north. She loved God, but she was afraid of uprooting all that was familiar and comfortable. Eventually, she had no choice but to obey.

"Things started going wrong," Gwendalyn recalls. She had a serious car accident. Her mother passed away. Then she was out of a job. She maxed out her credit cards and depleted her savings. Then, remembering her dream, she headed out with just \$100 cash left in her pocket. She made it as far as Fort Worth.

With no money for a hotel room, Gwendalyn slept in her car in the parking lot instead. She searched the internet for a place to eat and found Union Gospel Mission of Tarrant County.

Gwendalyn came to Club 1401 for meals and slept at the Mission as an overnight guest until being accepted into the women's residential program. This is where the real change — the positive, lasting change promised by God — began.

At first, Gwendalyn didn't think she would get anything out of the classes. But she was surprised by how much grief and trauma was uncovered and ultimately healed. "It was like ripping a Band-Aid off a sore. I wept, I cried, I did it all. It taught me so much," she says.

"I feel like God led me here because I have a passion to help the homeless, to help single women, battered women. God put me here so I would have more humility, more wisdom. He allowed me to walk through it, to see what it's like, from the outside and the inside."

Gwendalyn has since graduated from the program, found a church family, started working and moved into a place of her own. But UGM-TC will always be close to her heart.

"Being at UGM-TC is part of my journey," Gwendalyn says. "I've had people here tell me I've inspired them. I'm not trying to force anything on anybody, but I feel it's my duty to tell the world of God's goodness and what He has done in my life. He hasn't led me wrong yet!"

Thank you for walking alongside Gwendalyn and so many other women on their journeys!

EASTER JOY AT THE MISSION



Easter is a special time for all of us at Union Gospel Mission of Tarrant County. Everyone looks forward to an uplifting chapel service and a wonderful meal.

But for the boys and girls here, it's also a time to enjoy some fun and celebration! That includes a visit from the Easter Bunny and an Easter egg hunt.

You Can Make Easter Special

Are you looking for a way to get involved at UGM-TC this Easter season? There's plenty for you to do right now, and all year round!

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- Provide a filled Easter basket for one of our resident children
Ideas: Christian children's books, candy, coloring books, crayons or colored pencils, stuffed animals, stickers, fun socks
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Chairman – Eddie Broussard
- Vice Chairman – Caroline Samis
- Treasurer – Charlie Allen
- Secretary – Nicole Brown
- CEO – Dr. Charles M. Wolford II
- CEO Emeritus – Don Shisler
- Chaplain – Fr. Rogers Meredith

- Bill E. Bailey
- Terrence Butler
- Larry Chilton
- Ronald Clinkscale
- Mary Jane Edwards
- Michael Gonzalez
- Gene Gray
- Chelsea Griffith
- Crawford Gupton
- Barcus Hunter
- Robert J. Keffler
- Toni Meadows
- Terry Montes
- Peter Philpott
- Emily Radler
- Columba J. Reid
- Julie Siratt
- J.D. Stotts
- Allison Wagner
- W. David White
- Robbie Zimmerman



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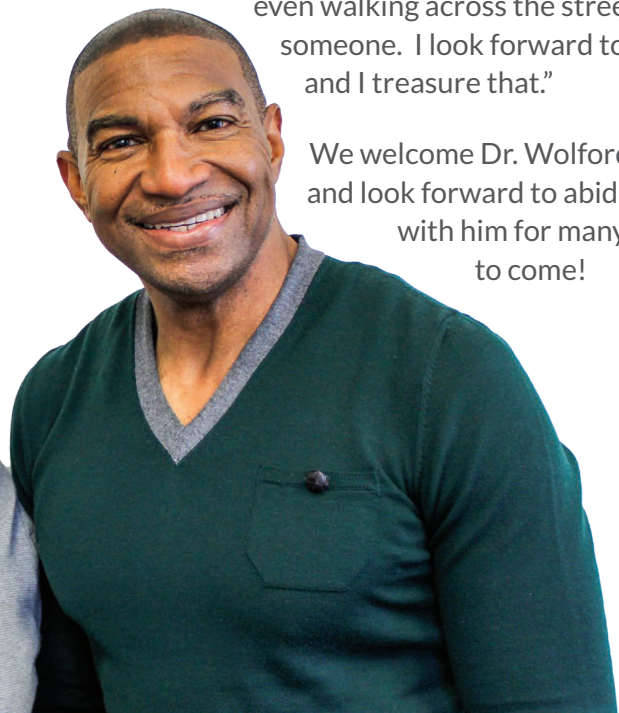
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