

# House of Hope Newsletter

www.houseofhopeministry.net

The following article is taken from the  
Seattle Union Gospel Mission  
2015 Annual Report.

*"I want them to find what I've found"*

Mike Torre

**"The word 'homeless' was a comfort to me,"** Mike Torre confesses.

When he lost both his twin daughters and his dad in the same week, something inside felt irrevocable broken. No home for Mike meant no more pain.

Ten years on streets, numbed by drugs, lead Mike to **jail in Kitsap County**. There he met **Michael Sgobba**, the Mission's former director of Prison Ministries (Michael was prison (UGM) Ministry Director from 2001—2006), who met with him one-on-one and gave him a Bible.

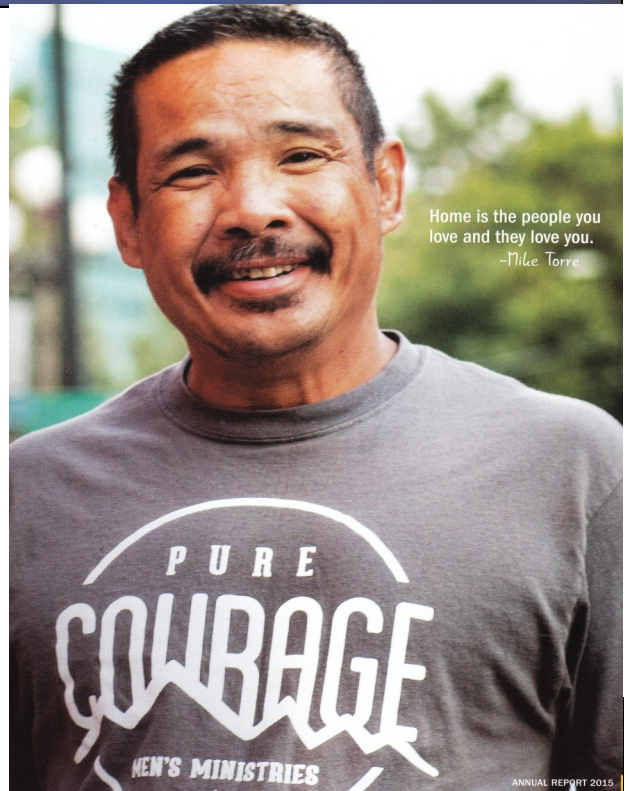
That very night, God appeared to Mike in a dream alongside his father and twin daughters. Mike again felt the hope of new life. He studied the Bible regularly and met with Michael weekly.

When Mike was released, Michael was waiting in the courtroom to take him straight to the Mission (Men's Programs).

**"I didn't want to be alone anymore,"** Mike says. In the Mission's recovery program, Mike found a new family in his brothers at the Men's Shelter and also rebuilt his relationships with his siblings and remaining grown children.

**"I know now that I don't need drugs for a painkiller because I have the best painkiller medicine in the world - Jesus,"** he says.

Mike now spends five nights a week going out on **Search & Rescue** to help others find their way home. **"I want them to find what I've found."** (The Search & Rescue Vans go out on the streets of Seattle looking under bridges, in the bushes, etc. for Men & Women to feed, help and rescue for Jesus.)



Artwork by Chad (Inmate at Kitsap County Jail)

## *“Pastor Michael’s Corner”*

As most readers may know, I write to prisoners nearly everyday if they write to me from prison. The things that you don’t know (hear) can sometimes be great blessings to us at House of Hope —or— they may also cause much heartache for us. We were supposed to visit an inmate (Doug) at Clallam Bay CC, but received a letter this week from him and I quote “Dear Brother Michael and Sister Margie, I am writing this to let you know that we are on ‘Lockdown’ as of this morning. A Corrections Officer was severely assaulted in the dayroom by an inmate .... I have been praying for him all day long, so please lift him up in prayer. Word has it that he is doing okay but please keep praying.” We all (Volunteers, Donors, Church Family, Inmates and Officers) need prayer for safety inside jails and prisons: especially, **please pray for officers and families.** Pastor Michael

### The heart of Jail/Prison Ministry— A New Way of Thinking & Living

*One inmate writes:* “I want you to know that you have been the biggest help to me and I appreciate all that you have said to me in pointing out what you have seen in my life that is holding me back from God. I never realized how much pride has been pulling me down and I want to thank you for calling me out on mine the last time we talked. **After the talk with you the subject of pride vs. humility seemed to be there every time I opened the Bible.** I studied James 4:7 ‘Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.’ using SOAP (Scripture, Observation, Application and Prayer). **Pride is what keeps us from God. Through humility and submission we can receive salvation. . . . - Nick**

### “Getting to Know Our Volunteers” .....

My name is Mark. Being part of the jail ministry team has been a huge part of my life for the past two plus years.

**Being allowed to serve God in this way has blessed my life.** The Word of God is sharper than any two edged sword and the ministry team gets to share it with the men and women in jail. **Lives are transformed right before our eyes as the Word of truth comes into a person.** We get to see God’s miracles as men and women share their success stories...seeing Him fill them with light, love and forgiveness...seeing some leading Bible studies inside jail or prison, and some who go back out into the community, no longer coming ‘back’ through that revolving door in jail, but now leading new rich lives in the Lord!

Through the week, won’t you join us by praying for the inmates? **And would you also pray for the ministry team to be able to bring Hope, Love, Joy and Peace to them each week?**—Mark E. (Kitsap County Jail Volunteer Minister on Tuesday / Thursday Nights)

We Can **ALWAYS**  
Use Help With:

### Donations

(Cash – Check – Pay Pal - Credit Card)

### Pen Pals

to write Inmates

### Jail Ministry Help - Bible Studies

(Tues & Thurs 6-9pm)

### Ministry to Inmates

(M-thru-F 9am-4pm)

### Church Partners

Contact us for more information.

## Your Prayers

**House of Hope Ministries is a Non Profit Charitable 501c3 Corporation Ministry serving inmates of jail, prison and after-care in Kitsap, King, Pierce County and Washington State.**