



November 2023

MISSION *Messenger*

JUSTIN THANKS GOD FOR YOU

**YOU HELPED HIM
SEE GOD'S PLAN IN
TIMES OF TRIAL**

Justin never thought we'd be sharing his story in the *Mission Messenger*.

A few years ago, Justin and his wife had just relocated to Texas for Justin's job and they were settling into a new routine with much hope on the horizon. Then COVID hit.

"My wife was high risk with asthma, so we tried to play it safe," Justin remembers. Thankfully, Justin's wife remained in good physical health during the pandemic. But over the course



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSOR:

Amy Downing • Prearrangement Counselor
adowning@armeshuntfuneralhome.com
765-948-4178

Keep reading Justin's story inside →

YOU HELPED JUSTIN SEE GOD'S PLAN *continued from cover*

of the next year, her mental health began to suffer.

"I'd been married to this woman for 10 years; the love of my life. I know her," Justin shares. "And I watched her turn into someone that wasn't her."

"Her mood became erratic, and she refused to see a doctor," Justin shares. "She would get into screaming matches with others. One day, she called me after taking the car and said she never wanted to see me again."

"I watched her mental state and my whole life deteriorate," Justin expresses.

Having grown up in Marion, Justin moved back to be near family. He was getting by on money he saved, but it was running out. "I googled 'homeless shelter,' and I found this place," Justin says.

On his first day at Grant County Rescue Mission, Justin walked to Family Dollar to get a few items and recognized the guy stocking shelves. It was a friend from childhood who also ran the store. Justin shared his story, and his friend gave him a job on the spot.

Justin knew it wasn't coincidence.

With a new job and a place to eat and rest, Justin tried to make sense of his marriage, all the while working hard and serving at the mission. People encouraged him to file for divorce, but in his heart, he couldn't.

"I made a commitment when I married her, in sickness and health, so I couldn't cut her out like that."

Then six months later, Justin got a text from his wife. She had wrecked her car and was in the hospital. "It terrified me," Justin shares. "It's not the way I would've chosen, but I knew where she was, and she was forced to be in front of a doctor."

"Turns out she had heavy metal poisoning in her body. That's what had changed her mentality."

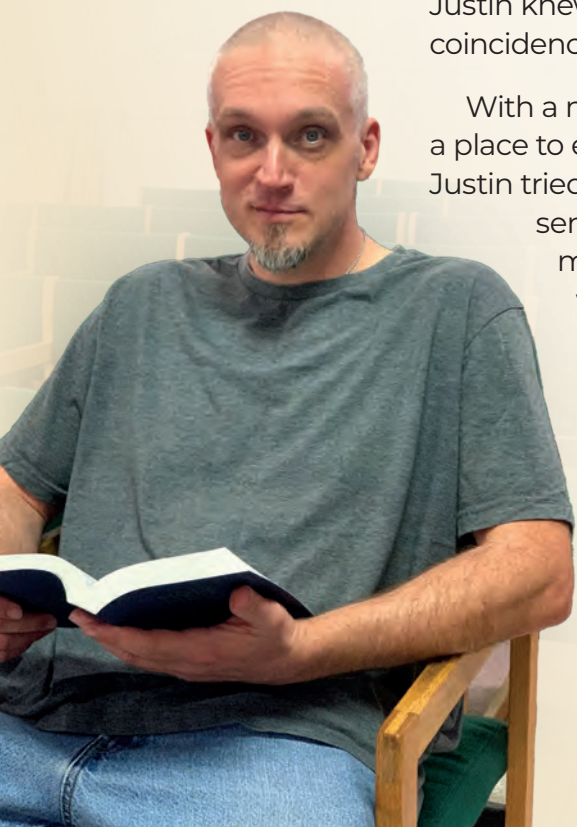
If you had time to hear all the details of the restoration of Justin's marriage, you'd be moved by his faithfulness to his wife and his humility before God. Praise God that his wife is healthy again and they're moving toward full reconciliation. There is more work ahead, but in his hour of need, God gave Justin caring neighbors like you to help him through.

"God has moved in my life during my time here," Justin shares. "I've realized His wisdom is not my wisdom; His timeframe isn't my timeframe. I don't like the things we've gone through, but if this is what had to happen to bring my wife and I together and to God, I accept that."

This Thanksgiving, Justin recognizes that life isn't always perfect — but God is always there. He counts his blessings and keeps an eternal perspective.

"Gratitude has helped me keep my head above water," Justin adds. "I thank God every day for the people He's put in my life. This place helps broken people. I've watched men come in, and think, 'There's no way they're going to make it.' But God reaches into their heart and they start to grow." Justin is one of them.

"To the people who help keep this place going, thank God for you, and don't stop," Justin shares. "This place saves people."





A BREAKFAST FOR THE RECORD BOOKS

On Saturday, September 2 at Marion Municipal Airport, we had our most well attended fly-in/cruise-in breakfast yet!



Thanks to everyone who came by to enjoy the pancakes, planes, and cars, all in support of the life transformation happening at Grant County Rescue Mission!



3,596
pancake breakfasts



175
planes



250 GALLONS
of pancake batter



400
vintage cars





Rev. Brad D. Terhune
Executive Director

GOD USES YOU TO CHANGE LIVES

YEAR-END PRAYERS AT GCRM

- Pray for guests as they spend the holidays here instead of with family. It can be a lonely season for many, and we want neighbors to know they are loved and not alone.
- Ask God to protect our staff from sickness. These are the busiest weeks of the year, and we seek to serve each day with health and strength.
- A large percentage of our financial donations come in the last two months of the year. Ask the Lord to guide and bless the people He intends to use for this ministry. And praise God for the people who follow His call to give. We are thankful for each one!

Dear Friends in Ministry,

For almost 40 years, Grant County Rescue Mission has served as a refuge for hungry and homeless neighbors. Many times, the men who turn to our doors have struggled with addiction or time in jail. But, as you've read in Justin's story, challenges come in many ways. I've endured them. You've experienced them.

All of us need God's grace and a helping hand from time to time.

There wasn't anything Justin did that caused the hardships he faced with his wife. But like we see in the story of Job, God used those difficulties to turn Justin's heart toward Him.

Whatever trials our neighbors are facing, we remain committed to serving them, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. But we're only able to do so because of God's provision through caring supporters like you.

As we enter the Thanksgiving and holiday season, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for your compassion, empathy, and kindness. You share what you have with others in need, generously and sacrificially. On behalf of every guest who will sit down for a nourishing meal, sleep comfortably in a warm bed, and take steps toward stability this season, thank you.

God uses you to change lives, and I hope that brings you a sense of peace, joy, and encouragement today.



423 S. Gallatin St.
Marion, IN 46953

765-662-0988

mygcrm.org
info@mygcrm.org

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Brad Terhune,
Executive Director



facebook.com/mygcrm

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