

MISSION GATE UPDATE

Turning Lives From Crime to Christ Since 1985

OCTOBER 2025



Rick Mathes, Founder, Prison Minister



Our Father in heaven so loved His children that he gave your children you. You are the greatest creation God can perform. You, Dad, are the best God is capable of: in His image and likeness, He created you. Why? So that you might kneel beside your son and teach him to be a man of God like you. And if you don't? You have abandoned your child to the slow death by sin, the devil could torture him with all the days of his life. Do not abandon your child to the flames of hell because you didn't love him enough to teach him about the love of Jesus that saved you!

"Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord."

Ephesians 6:4

"It takes a Father" Project- Trish Mathes, Executive Director

Pictured here is a representation of what it is like for many of our fathers in our men's programs. David stated, "I am so grateful to God for allowing me the opportunity to have this time with my children to visit and to rebuild this relationship. I remember waiting for the moment I would get to see my children and now that time is today, I am learning to appreciate them here and now."

Many residents' children come to have a couple hour visit, then have to load back up with the grandparent or mother who brought them to visit and drive back to their homes. This is cutting into the time they are able to bond with their father.

The Lord has laid it on our hearts to open up "Daddy's Place", once our new 19-men home is completed. It will allow us to open a single cabin down the hill for our men to be able to have their children stay overnight on the weekends. This will allow them to be able to grow the bond that their children and our Lord desire them to have. They can start taking their children to the church that they attend while here at the Fort on Sundays, and start teaching their son or daughter the goodness of our Lord as they praise and worship together.

Scripture states that a man is the spiritual leader of their family. We believe that when a father gives his life over to our Lord and starts walking in His path, great things are to follow. Join us in our mission to complete Shepherd's Inn so we can open up Daddy's Place, where a Father and child's bond can grow through our Lord's grace.



David McClellan and his boys

Meet Mickey Sanford, our Volunteer Coordinator

Praise the Lord that He answered our prayers and brought to us, Mickey Standford, our new full-time volunteer coordinator. Mickey says, "How awesome it is to see God at work. My church, Injoy Fellowship, and my wife Deanna are all rejoicing with me to be able to work for such a great ministry as Mission Gate."

If you would like to volunteer or would like us to bring a team to your church or bible study group to share the wonderful works of Mission Gate, please feel free to reach out to me at mickey.standford@missiongateministry.org or call me at 417-665-1035.



Mickey with his wife Deanna

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds" Hebrews 10:24

MissionGateMinistry.org / PO Box 6644, Chesterfield, MO 63006 / info@missiongateministry.org / (636) 391-8560

MISSION GATE UPDATE

October 2025

Rotary Club comes to Promises of Hope– Shawnya Blankenship

The St. Peters Rotary Club Chapter, whose motto is “Service Above Self”, came out to Mission Gate’s Promises of Hope Ranch to build several above ground garden beds for our ladies and children. This was a blessing no one saw coming; we received a call at the office one day and it just took off from there. Our ladies are looking forward to being able to show the children how to grow fresh fruits and vegetables this coming spring. With prices on the rise, having this option will allow for our ladies and children to be able to incorporate fresh vegetables into their diets, helping them learn skills they can use in their future and a healthy eating lifestyle.



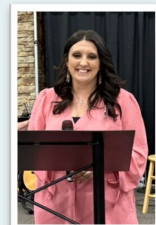
“I will give you back your health and heal your wounds,” says the Lord.” Jeremiah 30:17

Septemberfest was truly a night to remember– Joyce Fields

We will not soon forget the powerful song Randy Mayfield opened the program with called, “You raise me up”. Which was followed by our Founder Rick Mathes awarding a few volunteers that have been with Mission Gate since the beginning, 40 years ago. A special thanks again to U.S. Sen. Jim Talent, Randy Mayfield, and Vic Venezia for sticking by our side as we have navigated this ministry which our Lord guides.



We heard from our past graduates from various sites that have all continued to seek the Lord and have successful careers as small business owners, real estate agent, and leaders in the companies they work at. Then Crawford County Probation and Parole Officer Jennifer Humphrey (pictured left with Trish) stated, “I am just amazed how smooth everything operates between Mission Gate and Probation and Parole. It helps our clients so much having both places working together for their good.”



Then heartfelt testimonies brought tears and a realization to what situations the residents we support have went through in their past. More importantly what they have overcome by reading God’s Word like Haelie Jenkins (pictured right) shared during her powerful testimony. The conviction of the Holy Spirit helped Haelie realize she was living in a sinful relationship by being married to a women. She is now divorced, serving in her church and stated she is a child of the Most High King.



Sydney Segan (pictured left) stated, “Septemberfest was completely unbelievable...except we have a God who makes the unbelievable real, and he’s done it through Mission Gate.” We couldn’t have said it better Sydney. We hope you all will consider joining us in the great works our Lord is doing here at Mission Gate and look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events and Septemberfest 2026. The best is yet to come and as Rick always says, “Press on!”



This is what a Saturday looks like at Mission Gate

Saturdays are taken full advantage of here at Mission Gate. We have sporting events for the children, discipleship during Rick’s Digging Deeper class, a fish fry at the City Outreach, counseling at the Fort, and children playing while their mom’s study His Word. Praise God for moments like these in our resident’s lives.



“Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!” Psalm 107:1