

MARCH 2019

MUGS

Here's What's Brewing

An Open Letter From Our Executive Director...

You've heard me say before that while MUGS is a non-religious non-profit, I view this journey through the lens of my faith in Jesus, and so it will come as no surprise that much of my personal encouragement comes from scripture. In fact, one of the passages that has been a constant for me, really since the outset, has been Psalm 126:1-3: *"When the Lord brought back to Zion those who'd been captive in another land, we were like those who dreamed. Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy. Then it was said among the nations, 'The Lord has done great things for them.' The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy."*

My hope has been that the Lord's involvement in this adventure would be undeniably evident, and because I was so convinced of the need for and potential of a place like MUGS in this region, I just KNEW that would happen when MUGS became an overnight success! 😊 So as we peeked into windows of vacant downtown properties in January of 2012, dreaming of where we'd one day be, it was a foregone conclusion in my mind that the same passion and vision that had captured my heart would grease the skids for every dollar and every resource we'd need to come flying in! Not surprisingly, hindsight provides a whole different understanding of that scripture 7 years later.

I am no less convinced of MUGS' potential. In fact, one day I'll 'bore' you with all the stories of how *"The Lord has (already) done great things for us..."* But I've had to learn to recognize and appreciate that the way the Lord has made himself undeniably evident comes not through our speed, but through our tenacity. I've lost count of the number of people and organizations around the country who've followed our story and have reached out to thank us for doing the hard work of launching MUGS in as debt-free a capacity as possible. (*"We're encouraged by your persistence. You're proving it can be done."*) And so we continue putting one foot in front of the other. We continue pursuing our next exciting funding stream, (*News on our new phone game soon to follow!!*), and we continue exploring every open door that will move us closer to a grand opening! And as always, thank you once again for your patient, ongoing belief in all that MUGS will be!

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