

Jan. / Feb. 2010

# Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry

Changing lives from

## Newsletter

the inside out!

Matt: 25:36

"I was in prison and you came unto me."

Have a blessed New Year

Matt: 5:7

"Blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy."

### What did we accomplish in 2009?

#### Board Members

Chairman:

Tim Miller

Members:

John H. Miller

Joe Arbaugh

Secretary/  
Treasurer:

Lisa Miller

Non-Board  
Members

Editor:

Artis Mules

Chaplains/  
Ministers

In 2009 Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry, with the help of many people, was able to successfully publish a Web site.

[www.jailandprisonministries.org](http://www.jailandprisonministries.org)

We thank Lynette Rambo for her work on designing the site. She also set up a Pay Pal account for credit card donations to the ministry and we have most of the information pertaining to this ministry online for people to get a clear understanding of what we are about. We completed reproducing the 14 brochures into color as well as converting the newsletter to color and changing their formats. We continue to offer seminars and visits to local churches to inform them as to how we might be of assistance to them in getting their congregations involved in some of the prison ministry outreaches.

Ron continues to write 9 state institutions and 2 federal

prisons. The letters average around 21 inmates and 10 ex-inmates several times a month, along with the churches which receive a letter and a newsletter every other month. This ministry averages about 45 letters a month.

While the ministry is holding it's own financially, we have yet to receive any financial encouragement as to a property for Restoration House or a promise of ongoing support of such a project. We continue to wait on the Lord in this matter. We do want to thank all those who have been supporting this ministry even through these hard times and pray you will continuing doing so as the Lord leads and pro-

vides for you.

After much prayer and searching we found some DVD's that are allowing Ron, Lisa, Artis and the rest of the board and those helping with the editing of ministry literature. These are 48 hours of training DVD's to help us understand better how Office 2007 software works and help each of us to get better use of the software God has blessed us with. Souls have been saved and lives have been changed because of God's use of this ministry and not all the people who have been changed are incarcerated. Thanks for your help in 2009 and pray for many more successes in 2010.

### Are you planning on reading through the Bible this year?

Throughout these newsletters there may be some thoughts or prayers I had put into a journal and the date that thought or prayer came to me. The question came up that some did not understand why the date of the thought did not coincide with the date of the newsletter, so I thought I would explain what they are.

It is time for those of us who read through the Bible in a year to begin again. Some of my readers have probably started last January and got sidetracked or got to some scripture verses that were not as interesting as others and fell behind on their reading, only to just decide to start again next

year. I believe that a daily devotional is one of the most affective ways for anyone to keep a more intimate walk with the Lord and hear God's will daily; however, just reading Scripture is not a devotional, you must seek God with your whole heart. Try it this year!

Jan. 2, 2002

I am blessed to be reading through the Word one more year.

God blessed me by allowing me to read through the Bible three years in a row now. The blessings of these readings are beyond numbering. At the prison tonight I was blessed by a message from Fred and God confirmed to me yet one more time that He is producing the messages I am sharing.

# What are the ministries' goals for 2010?

The prayer of Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry is to reach more souls for the Lord Jesus Christ including those incarcerated, their families, the administration, and people we come in contact with everywhere. Sometimes we fail to mention that this is our main goal, as we relate to the various programs we are trying to improve, or begin. We hope the readers of this newsletter are aware of the intent of this ministry: to serve God in any way He deems fit.

We have certainly gotten a lot of complements as to the brochures and the newsletters since Artis' donation to the ministry years ago allowed us to get the color copier, which has saved enough money, if we had paid to have the color copies printed, to pay for itself. Another prayer is to produce these brochures and the Newsletter in Spanish, as of the writing of this article, we do

not yet have a volunteer or volunteers willing take on this responsibility. One thing we would love to do this year is to get more people going to our website and contacting this ministry to get involved and become a part of the outreaches. The website gets the word out about the goals of this ministry so God might put it upon someone's heart to donate a farm to this ministry, even if it were on a trial basis and if we succeed after several years the owner could finalize the donation. This will remain a high priority prayer for this ministry, since the men who have been incarcerated for many years need a transition

back into society, and a twelve-month intense Christian program would be just what they need. As I have explained many times, this would give them a chance to get their driver's license back, begin paying all court costs, restitution, and fines. We would help them establish a job that they can easily support themselves and their families, even teach them a trade, and help them feel comfortable in their new surroundings. They would establish a relationship with a local church in the area they would be living in before they were released from the program, and help their family get involved in that same congregation. Helping this family with some counseling after being separated for many years would also be a part of this Restoration Program. If you would pray for God's will in this situation we would be thankful.

**“Come unto me, all [ye] that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest .”**



This is what I call rest.

When God says to come unto Him, He wants us to be able to rest in Him and trust in Him no matter what is going on around us. Certainly with all that is going on in the world and with the economy at an all-time low we can not trust in this world, our government, our health, or anything other than God to supply our needs through His riches in glory through Christ Jesus. Isa. 32:17, 18 17 “And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance forever. 18 And my people shall

dwell in a peaceable habitation, and in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting places;” This is a promise to God's people who work righteousness. Moses said in Ps. 90: “*I Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations.*” So as we dwell in the total will of God we will experience His peace. Never let anyone convince you God's peace eliminates trials and problems in life. True peace is experi-

enced even better in the midst of very trying times as the Holy Spirit exerts supernatural power on the believer to strengthen his or her resolve. **Isa. 26: 3** “*Thou wilt keep [him] in perfect peace, [whose] mind [is] stayed [on thee]: because he trusteth in thee.*” God promises to keep us in perfect peace when our minds remain on the power of God and not the problem.



The stack of letters in this picture are a few of the ones being mailed out with the newsletter.

## Letter writing is a vital part of this ministry.

I have a very long list of inmates who used to be incarcerated and with whom I have lost contact with because they stopped writing. However, I can honestly say none of the men who continues to write can say I quit writing them first. I have been writing one man for almost 24 years and the only reason I was not writing him before is because I was serving time with him before that. Usually men who get out might write a short time, but after a few weeks or months they get

busy in their lives and usually stop writing. Some men tell me they do not write because they know how busy I am, but part of the ministry is corresponding and sharing the gospel in letter form. I never get enough time to speak individually to the men at the various services, so if they write they can ask all the questions they want and take as long as they want to speak to me through the

written word. Even though I sometimes get behind, I respond to each letter I get personally and I would not have it any other way. So, if you are incarcerated, or not, feel free to write this ministry.

Churches are welcome to copy this newsletter for distribution to more members, or if someone wants to be added to the mailing list let us know.

## Do you have ROACH problems? By Faylene Lawson

The insect darted in all directions, beating itself against the wall again and again in search of an escape from the dark shadow of my foot. I kept up with its attempts and finally squashed it with the toe of my shoe. Flipping the dead creature into the hall light, I saw with disgust that it was unmistakably a ROACH! It wasn't the first one to make its way from outside into the hall across the badly worn threshold at the front door.

I've been thinking a lot about roaches lately. The neighbors across the street and next door have both moved away, leaving a dreadful roach problem for their landlords. They have moved, but the roaches have remained . . . lots of them. Exterminators have been hired to take care of their eradication, but perhaps they have only forced their speedy evacuation. Some of them, no doubt, have decided to try out our house to see if there might be a welcome.

There are similarities between the activities of roaches and sin. Roaches come in unannounced and begin to multiply and make themselves at home, contaminating all our unprotected goods. So does sin. Just when we think we have everything under control, something slips in unannounced, begins to multiply in our thoughts, and makes itself at home. Everything unprotected in our heart and mind soon becomes at risk of invasion. Roaches don't normally come out in broad daylight like flies, ants, or spiders. Elimination of those household pests may take time and effort but it's doable without disturbing too many things. Not roaches. Turn on the light at night,

when they love to do their dirty work, and they will scatter in all directions. After many battles without complete victory, people begin to feel that they have been defeated by the nasty pests, get depressed about them, and just learn to live with them. Sound like sin? When they move out of their house, someone else must deal with their unresolved problem.

Someone told me that the first sign of life after an atomic bomb are the roaches. A friend, who volunteers as a fireman in our small town, told us about a house that caught fire and quickly burned to the ground. Unable to save the house, the firefighters and volunteers watched in awe as the ground began to crawl even though the house was completely engulfed in flames. From that fiery furnace emerged an army of ROACHES! They had survived!

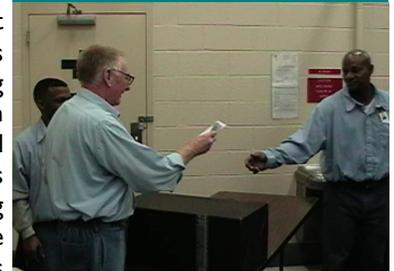
In our little sin infested town an elderly man passed away. The man had been a very abusive father and husband; the daughters could still find an occasional glass shard in their mother's head after 30 years. The man's life was full of roaches – sin. He drank, cursed, and abused his family into a bitter state. No matter how he acted in the daylight, the roaches in his life were multiplying and spoiling his household. After many battles with alcoholism and abuse (and the reasons that caused them) without complete victory, he began to feel defeated by his sin, got depressed, and just learned

to live with them. In his latter years he did manage to quit drinking and spoke with the pastor about Christ's forgiveness for his sins. The pastor, knowing the great roach problem in the man's heart, encouraged him to repent openly to his wife and children, asking their forgiveness for the things that tore their hearts to shreds. He never did that. And it was apparent at the funeral that the bitter roaches of unforgiveness had spread to his children. His earthly house was destroyed; the army of roaches left it to find new dwelling places in the closest human houses around. Nothing can exterminate the roaches of sin in our life but the shed blood of Jesus in repentance and forgiveness for our own offenses and those committed against us. I cannot allow any disappointment to make a home, multiply, and put down roots of bitterness. When I leave my earthly home, I don't want the ground to crawl with my "undealt" with roaches! I want God to shine the spotlight on every crevice of my being so I may see them as clearly as if it were daylight, and I want my life filled with light, love, and forgiveness

*Written By Faylene Lawson.*



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Brother Steve St Clair to the left while he was an inmate at Dillwyn. He has been serving the Lord since his release and been to the Day of Jubilee the last two years. He brings the Word into local nursing homes in the Bedford area, gives tours at the National D-Day Memorial, attends his local church regularly, and helps elderly people in his community. This is a static I would like to share with my readers, Steve loves the Lord and his'

Faylene Lawson is helping with some of the editing and She and her husband Gene are writing some articles for the newsletters. Some of you knew Gene from when he went into Dillwyn a few times with me when he lived in Charlottesville. He now lives in ID and still helps out Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry.

# JANUARY 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Happy New Year	2
3	4	5 CBS	6 DCC/ PF	7	8	9
10 DCC/ RJPM	11 BCC/ RJPM	12 CBS	13 DCC/ RJPM	14	15 Food Bank	16
17	18 Martin Luther King Day	19 CBS	20 DCC/ PF	21	22	23
24 / 31	25 BCC/ RJPM	26 CBS	27 DCC/ RJPM	28	29	30

Restoration House will remain a high prayer priority. I would pray for this ministry to be able to minister to more families of men and women who are incarcerated; for their salvation. There is still a need for Board members. More readers of the website that the ministry might be better known throughout VA and the surrounding areas.

For a Spanish translator to translate brochures, newsletter, and other literature from English to Spanish.

That the chaplains in the institutions will have a heart for the inmates incarcerated at their institution. That the DOC will continue to allow Christian programs, even with all the social animosity toward the true Christian values.

Praise God we met our budget and that we were able to set aside some funds to begin a Restoration House when God gives us the go ahead.

Along with the prayers for needs, we must praise God for all He is doing in this ministry changing the lives of many men and women.

Another prayer of thanksgiving is for the men and women behind the scenes of this ministry making all the workings of this ministry possible.

We can not help but thank and pray for those who contribute to the financial needs of this ministry.

The initials BCC stands for Buckingham Correctional Center; all services are held between 6:30 and 7:45 PM

DCC stands for Dillwyn Corrections Center; all services are held between 6:00 and 7:30 PM

RJPM stands for Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry

PF stands for Prison Fellowship

CBS stands for Community Bible Study; 2:00 to 3:30PM; Held by Chaplain Ron Baker, RJPM

Sunday service and 5th Monday is a Worship the other services are generally a Bible study

The Food Bank is held every third Friday in the Schuyler community at a local church; from 5:00 Pm to 7:00 PM

### Offerings & Donations

are tax deductible since Rehoboth is a non-profit organization. They can be sent to the address below and will be used to further of the Jail & Prison Ministry.

Ministry Address

Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry

Ronald R. Baker, Chaplain

6166 Helens Way

Schuyler, VA 22969-9607

E-mail: rrbak@juno.com

Phone: (434) 831-2593

Web site: www.jailandprisonministries.org

### Mission Statement:

To establish and strengthen the Christian life of inmates and their families by providing opportunities for worship, instruction, nurturing of children, fellowship, service, mutual aid, brotherly counsel, and to establish and strengthen the Christian life of evangelism.

To bring the Gospel to the unsaved and to lead them to faith in Christ followed by membership in the body of Christ.

# FEBRUARY 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Ground Hog Day	2 CBS	3 DCC/ PF	4	5	6
7	8 BCC/ RJPM	9 CBS	10 DCC/ RJPM	11	12	13
14 DCC/ RJPM	15 Presi- dent's Day	16 CBS	17 DCC/ PF	18	19 Food Bank	20
21	22 BCC/ RJPM	23 CBS	24 DCC/ RJPM.	25	26	27
28						