Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry Newsletter

Board Members: John H. Miller Joe Arbaugh Gary Mules Board Chairman: Tim Miller Secretary/Treasurer: Lisa Miller Editor: Artis Mules Non-Board Members:

Chaplains / Executive Director: Ronald R. Baker Associate Editors: Sherry Wilkerson Cristy Horsley Ministry Outreaches Available:

In-Prison Ministry After Care Support Groups Pen Pal (letter writing) Mentoring Family Ministry Youth Ministry Restoration House

Ministry training seminars are available for local churches

Matt. 25:36 I was naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: <u>I</u> was in prison, and ye came <u>unto me</u>.

Changing Lives From the Inside Out

Jan/Feb 2014

Praising God for a New Year and Being Thankful for the Old One

We will actually be celebrating the beginning of our 27th year of serving the Lord in March. However, as we enter into the year 2014 we have much to be thankful for. We praise the Lord for those who have financially supported this ministry for so many years. We lost several contributors last year, but we were blessed as we picked up more who allowed us to make what we feel is a very meager budget. We have not lacked any office supplies, all my travel reimbursements have been met (mileage for fuel), and my housing allowance which allows me to pay rent and electric is always on time, so we are greatly blessed. I remember a time when it was hit-and-miss as

to getting mileage to pay for fuel, but praise the Lord it has not been that way for a very long time.

Don't get me wrong, it 's not that we have all of the donations we need coming in. I am just saying God is seeing to all our needs. We continue waiting for His decision as to future funds for a Restoration House Program. We have been praying for this for over 27 years now. When and if it's God's perfect will we will be able to begin our Restoration House Program. For more information on our dream for our Restoration House Program go to our website listed on the last page of this newsletter.

I am truly blessed from the hundreds of letters I am receiving from the pen pals all over the USA, which now makes this ministry at least nationwide. One of the inmates is actually from Aiea, Hawaii. While I would love to have some additional pen pal families to write male inmates, I praise God that so far, even though I've gotten behind a few times, I've been able to continue to respond to all of the letters.



Two of our early pen pals.

1. We are still looking for two additional board members. 2. We have a desire to be able to reach more businesses about a taxdeductible donation from some of the Christian-based businesses around, as well as other businesses that might do so for a tax write off. We have not had much success with that last year. With the economy the way it is many businesses Gary contacted just did not feel it

A Few Desires for 2014

was a good time to donate, while other seemed to think a Restoration House in their area would not be a good idea. 3. I would not mind having an additional editor to help with a very busy schedule of the present volunteer editors. They are all doing a wonderful job, but I could use someone who could just dedicate time to typing up handwritten items like letters I could have typed to use in newsletters or when I get a list of Bible studies they could be typed up and checked out to see if they are still sending out Bible studies. We don' want to send out lists where many of the ministries are no longer operating. This is what allowed out pen pal program to grow so greatly: several pen pal programs are no longer providing that service since they could not find volunteers to write male inmates.

Testimonies at the Day of Jubilee







Other listen and wait their turn to share their story





Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry

Day of Jubilee 2013

As some of you will read in your letter this year's Day of Jubilee was a very successful day of praise to God. It was overcast most of the day, but having the celebration in a very large metal building made for a very comfortable day come rain or shine. We had 7 ex-offenders who gave testimonies and everyone else who wanted to give one had their chance.

There were tears of joy from those giving the testimonies as well as those listening to the wonderful works of the Lord. There was also tears of sadness as people recounted past events that were very hurtful. No one attending went away the same as they came. <u>God was exalted and</u> that is what the day has been <u>set aside to do</u>. There were prayers of thanksgiving for the blessings God brought to and through the ministry in 2013 and prayers for more of the same and even more anointing in 2014.

All I can say is if you haven't yet attended this event, come and see for yourself.

Mealtime at the Day of Jubilee

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Food is always a great addition to this special event.

I am so glad the food is not and will never be the priority of this day's celebration. Some people used to say "When is your cookout?" but the day is now about praising God. I put emphasis on the way God is using the prison ministries to change the lives of those incarcerated, since many people do not get to see the lives God has changed through various prison ministries. All they hear about is the crimes being committed and the recidivism rate of inmates returning. Rarely does anyone hear of the successful men and women who make it because they now have Jesus in their life.





even called by that name. They have all magnified God, but we are trying each

And this was not all of the food.

We had some very uplifting praise songs this year.

We have always had songs of praise over the years. However some might be singing while others fellowshipped. This year we did not have anything else going on while these songs were being sung. Those who knew the songs joined in and we even had some song sheets. I remember the very first Day of Jubilee before it was

They have all magnified God, but we are trying each year to lift Him higher than the year before to be more intimate in our praise and worship to God for all of His mercies toward those He has saved by His grace and mercy. May we always praise His Holy Name.

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Here we have a poem sent by one of the inmate pen pals from out of state.

His Son Well I have a story that I'd like to share So gather round and don't despair For see there is a God, a God above And I just want to share. share His love Now you may ask just how I know And that's what I'm about to show For see this was all God's inspiration Genesis through Revelations. Yet Matthew, Mark, Luke

and John Is about His one and only Son Who came upon this old earth By a virgin mother who gave birth. And at the tender age of thirty three He gave His life for both you and me He hung upon an old wooden cross And the people surely felt the loss But in three days He would rise And be seen by many eyes

Now if we take a look at the Book of Acts We'll see so many, so many facts About a man, a man named Saul Who would later become the Apostle Paul And preach the words of Jesus Christ That He paid the ultimate, ultimate price For all of man, mankind sins. And baby that's where the love, the love begins.

More Pctures of the Day of Jubilee.







Some of the Blessings I receive as I correspond with inmates all over the USA

This was sent to me by an inmate but I am not sure who wrote it.

Mail Call

Darkness and loneliness fill my cell, with pain and fear too great to yell. As I wait for the mailman to deliver to me, as I wipe away tears that no one will see! I pray so sincere with head raised above, "Please God, soon send a letter of love." I long to gaze upon pages so dear, with riches to bring my loved ones near. Words of diamonds on pages of gold, a message from Heaven as their story is told, "We love you, miss you,

pray you'll be free." A treas-

ured-filled envelope just for me.

Please bring memories of joys I once knew, family, friends, and things I would do.

The darkness and pain of my cell will prevail as my name again was not called for mail.



If your congregation has had a positive experience with helping an inmate and or the family of an inmate after his or her release we would love to share the story in a newsletter.

If you have a story about an experience as a pen pal we would love to share that with our readers. Most families I speak to about writing male inmates seem to be either too busy or they are fearful of what might occur if and when the inmate is released. Even with all of the safety features we include in the pen pal brochure they still have reservations. Perhaps some of you who have been a pen pal and have a very positive experience in helping an inmate find a church and see the transformation firsthand would help ease the mind of some who might then decide to become a pen pal.

We used to get poems, short testimonies, or stories from inmates; we would welcome some of them for the newsletter as well.





JANUARY 2014

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

Prayer Corner

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- 1. Two new board members with a little time to dedicate to the ministry .
- An additional editor to do typing and check out Bible studies and college courses on our list to see if they are still in operation. Also they could go online and make corrections to the website, and suggest or make improvements, keeping it better up-to-date.
- 3. Families willing to correspond with inmates being very careful and following the pen pal guidelines.
- 4. I would like to try again to get a coordinator from the churches getting this newsletter who can check from time to time to see how the newsletter is being displayed if at all. Churches are welcome to make copies for members or we will be happy to send interested members a copy.
- 5. If anyone knows of a Christian business that needs a good tax deduction, we would appreciate you simply mentioning this ministry and directing them to our website which explains what we do and what we are praying to do in the future. Tell people about us and spread the news that we are available to those who need us.

The initials BCC stands for Buckingham Correctional Center; these Bible studies 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. Wednesday is a Bible study, Sunday a worship service.

RJPM stands for Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry.

CBS stands for Community Bible Study, held from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM, led by Chaplain Ron Baker in Schulyer VA, RJPM. The Food Bank is held every third Thursday in the Schuyler community at a local church from 4:30 PM to 6:00 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 local body of Christ.

FEBRUARY 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5 CBS & DCC/ RJPM	6	7	8
9 DCC/ RJPM	10 BCC/ RJPM	11	12 CBS & DCC/ RJPM	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 CBS & DCC/ RJPM	20 Food Bank	21	22
23	24 BCC/ RJPM	25	26 CBS & DCC/ RJPM	27	28	