

March / April 2014

Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry Newsletter

Changing Lives From the Inside Out

Celebrate the beginning of our 27th
year of ministry with us.

Board Members:

John H. Miller
Joe Arbaugh
Gary Mules

Editors & Board Members:

Artis Mules
Cristy Horsley

Board Chairman:

Tim Miller
Secretary/Treasurer:
Lisa Miller

Non-Board Members:

Chaplains/Executive
Director:
Ronald R. Baker
Associate Editor:
Sherry Wilkerson

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

Over the last 27 years we have had so many blessings in this ministry. We have grown from a local ministry to a state-wide ministry and now the ministry extends throughout the USA and into Hawaii. This expansion has come mostly because of the men in prisons all over the USA seeking a pen pal and other ministries sharing our address with the through our website. By other ministries seeking pen pals for these men they have seen our website, and some ministries have given the inmates our address for the pen pal ministry. They have also contacted us to ask questions about our plans for a future Restoration House Program. I have therefore

shared the House Rules, Spiritual Guidelines, and other information with various ministries and they have been encouraged by this information to think about doing



This was the first celebration of this prison ministry before it had the present name and before it was called the Day of Jubilee.

something similar in their states. At least one ministry in Tennessee is using a form of our spiritual guidelines and house rules. It is also encouraging to see the smiles on

the faces of the men I actually get to minister to face to face week after week and study the Bibles and worship with them.

It is a wonderful experience to come from a support system of selling pigs and plumbing jobs for fuel for travel and office supplies early on, to actually being able to set a meager budget at the beginning of the year that will see to all our monthly travel and office supplies. God is providing through many of you all our needs through His riches in glory through Christ Jesus. For each of you who have given a financial gift or stamps for the pen pal ministry we thanks you greatly. God Bless.

2014 Study Time for Brother Ron Baker

As I have mentioned I the past I have been reading through the Bible each year for many years now. In 2013 I studied through a study Bible and read all of the footnotes and even looked up other resources to help me better understand God's Word. For 2014 I started with letters in the Bible. I started in Acts and I am reading through it and taking it verse by verse and

word by word and using every resource I have to better understand what each verse, chapter, and the entire book is saying to the reader. Each time I read through the Bible I get new understanding of verses I did not catch the previous time reading through the Bible. So even though it took two days to cover the introduction and the first three verses of Acts, I am

praying I will get much more out of it this time. I will say it feels odd not actually having a certain amount of Bible to cover each day, but I know I am getting more out of the smaller portion I am covering than before. So I expect it will be a long time of digging into God's Word before I finish the Bible this time. Please pray for great results.

Board Members



Tim & Lisa Miller



Cristy Horsley



Gary & Artis Mules



Joe Arbaugh



John Miller

What makes this ministry tick- a great Board!

As I have mentioned in the past many times, I have a wonderful board which this ministry could not succeed without. To the left are pictures of our present board members, their duties are on the first page of this newsletter. If you even join us for an event such as the Day of Jubilee celebration you could get a chance to meet them. John Miller and Joe Arbaugh have been on the board the longest.

Then next would be Lisa Miller then Tim, they did not join together. Lisa has been so great with all her church duties and family duties and working full time to keep all of the minutes recorded and all of the finances straight these many years. Then Artis who had been editing for several and a great supporter both financially and prayerfully for all this time decided to go ahead and join the

board in 2009, after she was already working as hard or harder than anyone. Then she talked her husband Gary to join to help raise funds for the ministry and, last but certainly not least, some of the board members talked Cristy, who had also been an editor for a long time, into joining the board. All of them deserve a lot of praise, after all look who they have to put up with. ☺

What We Learned in 27 Years of Service to God in Jails & Prisons

I remember very well going into the jails while waiting to be approved to go back into state prisons as a volunteer minister. It was on my mind to minister to inmates, after all that was the basis for prison ministry. Other than being polite to the staff I had little or no thought of trying to minister to any staff members.

Then later came Liberty University. I took two courses having to do with ministering within the criminal justice system. In this same class were chaplains, there was a prosecuting attorneys, a couple of police officers and a sheriff. In these two courses I learned something I should have known as a Christian. It was my duty to represent Jesus to EVERYONE I came in contact with, yes, even the staff or a prosecuting attorney, if I came in contact with any. I guess deep down I could not see how a prosecuting attorney or a sheriff could want in-

mates to be saved. I had a lot to learn, and I did not learn it all in the 80 hours of class time. I had come into ministry with a prejudice toward the authorities, thinking about the very ungodly ones I had contact with in my criminal past. I was doing the same thing toward police officers, correctional officers, attorneys, and judges that I had seen behave in an unchristian manner toward inmates. I was putting them all in one category not allowing for any good to be seen in any of them.

I am very thankful for God changing my heart to have compassion on others as God has shown me forgiveness and compassion. In these 27 years of ministry I have run into prison staff who couldn't care less about inmates. These staff members were there for a pay check, it was a job, and Christian programs and volunteers which caused a little more work were a nuisance to

them and, in their eyes, a waste of time. I could sometimes see the lack of compassion for inmates and volunteers by many staff members and officials over the years.

Then there are those staff and officials who would go out of their way to see that the programs got started on time, treating the volunteers with much kindness. How can I put all of these people in one basket, any more than society can categorize all inmates in one basket because all they ever hear about is the crimes committed and the ones who re-offend. Why don't more people hear of inmates who get out of prison after one or even two incarcerations and succeed in a wonderful way, giving back to society much more than they ever took away? Let's pray God allows us the same compassion and forgiveness toward others that God has shown each of us.

Readings for Passion Week Events

Palm Sunday:
 Jerusalem Entry/First Temple
 Cleansing - Mt. 21:1-13
 The Pharisees' Protest - Luke
 19:37-40
 In the Temple - Mt. 21:14-16
 Staying at Bethany - Mt. 21:17

Monday:
 The Fig Tree Cursed - Mark
 11:13-14
 Second Temple Cleansing in
 Two Days - Mark 11:15-17
 Plot Against Jesus - Luke 19:46
 -48
 Widow's Mites - Luke 21:1-4
 Jesus Leaves for the Night -
 Luke 21:37-38

Tuesday:
 The Withered Fig Tree's Lesson
 - Mark 11:20-24

Jesus' Authority Questioned,
 He Uses Parables to Continue -
 Mark:11:27-12:1, 12:12
 Jesus Challenged By Leaders
 Twice More - Mark:12:13-27
 Another Fig Tree Parable -
 Mark 13:28-31

Wednesday:
 The Chief Priests - Mt. 26:1-5
 Alabaster Box at Bethany that
 Night - Mt. 26:6-13
 Judas' betrayal (three accounts)
 - Mt. 26:14-16, Mark 14:10-11,
 Luke 22:3-6

Thursday:
 Preparation for Passover (three
 accounts) - Mt. 26:17-19, Mark
 14:12-16, Luke 22:7-13

Good Friday:

Judas Leaves (three accounts)
 - Mt. 26:20-25, Mark 14:17-
 21, John 13:21-33
 The Lord's Supper - Mt.26:26-
 29
 The Garden - Mt. 26:30-56
 Religious Trial - Mt. 26:57-
 27:2
 Roman trial - Mt. 27:11-31

Saturday:
 The Crucifixion (four ac-
 counts) - Mt. 27:32-66, Mark
 15:15-47, Luke 23:26-56,
 John 19:17-42

Resurrection Day:
 The Resurrection (four ac-
 counts) - Mt. 28:1-20, Mark
 16:1-16, Luke 24:1-53, John
 20:1-22 By Artis Mules



Artis Mules editor and board member.

Salvation for all?

It is widely taught that Jesus died for everyone's sins. Indeed, God is "not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." (2 Peter 3:9) He truly desires to have all men saved and come to a knowledge of truth. (1 Tim. 2:4) God gives salvation freely through Jesus Christ to anyone who wants it. (Rev. 22:17) However, when Jesus spoke of the salvation he would

bring, he didn't use the word 'all.' He used the word 'many.' He told his disciples that he would give his life as a ransom for "many." (Mt. 20:28) On the night before he was crucified, as he celebrated the first communion supper with his disciples, he again said, (Matthew 26:28) "For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." That is why those who are

already Christians are exhorted to "make your calling and election sure." (2 Peter 1:10) And to (2 Cor.13:5) "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobrates?" As we prepare to rejoice together on Resurrection Sunday, it is a good time, over Lent, to do just that.

Thought for Feb. 18, 2002

What does the Lord have in store for you, ask and He will answer, as you ask with a sincere heart?

Have you had a chance to enjoy Rehoboth's Pen Pal Ministry?

I have been writing inmates in the VA prisons since the ministry started 27 years ago. It started with writing inmates who got transferred from the prisons I visit to other VA prisons. So from writing the prisons I visited weekly, the writing went statewide. As I mentioned a while back, several Christian pen pal ministries no longer provide that service, it seemed to be very hard to get families interested who

are not too busy to volunteer, so those ministries no longer supply pen pals. So men started looking to other ministries for someone to write to them. Many men do not have family out here so a kind encouraging Christian letter could help change a life. In the search for pen pals other ministries came across our website and men began writing asking for someone to write. We got our first request from out-of-

state in 2012 and they continue to come daily. I have 11 pen pals writing male inmates and 6 ladies writing female inmates. I do not get a lot of female inmates, but I have 138 male inmates on my pen pal list which I could use some help with. If any men or families are interested in writing men, look for the Pen Pal Brochure on our website and contact us. I promise, you will get as much out of this as they will



One of our past inmate pen pals.

MARCH 2014

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

Prayer Corner

Prayer for more families to write to male inmates.

Pray for Restoration House to become a reality

Pray for men who have no place to be released to find a place.

Pray for broken families to be restored when inmates are released.

Pray for things going on within the prison system that the public needs to know about.

Prayer for our government to stop wasting money paying people good salaries, but not holding them accountable to accomplish what they were hired to do.

Pray for inmates who need to be getting proper mental help and counseling who are being held in prison, who other inmate take advantage of.

Pray for the chaplain and board members of this ministry and all of those who provide stamps and financial aid for this ministry to accomplish God's will.

Pray for more church to see a need to not only work in foreign missions fields, but to think of local missions as equally important.

Notice that I now go into the prison under RJPM each time even though PF leads the odd week services at DCC 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.

The Food Bank is held every third Thursday in the Schuyler 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 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.

APRIL 2014

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