

JAN/FEB

2017

Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry Newsletter

CHANGING LIVES FROM THE INSIDE OUT

What will the new year bring for you?

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Executive Director
Ronald R. Baker

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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.

We here at Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry want to wish all of our readers a happy, blessed, and prosperous New Year. However, the prosperity we pray you will receive has more to do with your spiritual needs than just your physical needs. **Heb. 13:5** “[Let your] conversation [be] without covetousness; [and be] content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.” Knowing we are in the hands of God gives us confidence that He will continue to provide all of our needs, and even some of our wants, as long as our wants will not draw us away from His loving care. **Phil 4:19, 20** 19 “But my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. 20 Now unto God and our Father [be]

glory for ever and ever. Amen”

As the new year is upon us and we are that much closer to Jesus’ return for His church, let us seek to serve Him even more fervently knowing the time is short. **Eph. 5: 15, 16** 15 “See then that you walk circumspectly (*cautiously*), not as fools but as wise, 16 redeeming the time, because the days are evil.” What are we doing with our time to further the kingdom? If we have family members who are lost are we using the time left positively to see that these kinfolk see Christ in us and that they hear our testimony of how He is changing our lives.? When the words that come from our mouths match the lives we are living, people get a clearer picture of God’s grace, mercy, and peace. Then they know God has made positive changes in our

lives and He can do the same for them. So if we are going to make promises or resolutions for the new year let us be bolder in sharing God’s great news about saving grace and forgiveness for sin. Let everyone know Jesus did the hard part and paid the price to redeem sinners.

So let’s see how many souls we can speak to about the Lord each day, each week, and all year. If we make it a point to make the gospel a part of every conversation who knows what great things can come of it? I’ll tell you who will know: God will.

So we look forward for many new souls to be added to the kingdom by the leading of the Holy Spirit through each of us.

Wood cutting outreach to the local community

Wood cutting has gone well so far this fall and the early part of the winter. We have provided wood for 8 families who we knew had a need for wood. One family now has a heat pump since they are both getting older and have a hard time getting the wood in the house from the wood pile. With the heat pump they will not have to do that. They hated to give it up after burning wood for

heat all of their lives, but after they get used to not having to bring it in from the wood pile to the house in the cold, icy weather, they will be glad for that new heat pump.

Since it is only January we still might have more requests for wood but we have a little stock piled, so when the snow is on the ground we will not need to cut. We want to thank the

many people who made this ministry such a success. We have had plenty of help from people, some who do not even burn wood and some from people who help us and we help them get their wood. Many hands make light work. We praise God for this outreach.



We need some help filling the position of the Director of Operations. Job description and benefits are negotiable.

Director of Operations

After 28 years praying for the Restoration House and another year getting it ready for residents, we find ourselves once again seeking God for directions and being able to place residents in the house. Although there is still some work needed on the grounds and a little in the house we could move in residents and have them do the work if we had someone to be in charge of running the place. One suggestion made was to not have a director, saying if God has not given you one, perhaps you do not need one. Before we even began seeking a place to start this program we prayed and we had 28 years to hear the Lord. In those years looking at other places we saw places which turned into a

flop house shortly after opening and closed shortly after that. We knew if this house was going to be a successful Christian reentry program we would have to present a Godly example for the men to look up to and to be sure all of the mandatory programs were attended faithfully.

I never thought that it would be so hard to find someone to run the house. Our thoughts were if someone was retired and had a check coming in they could afford to run the house for a salary we could afford with free room and meals. That has not been the case. So rather than being discouraged we are praying to God to see if he wants the house used for another pur-

pose. One thought is to rent the house out for a time with the understanding, up front, between the renter and us that when we find a director we will give them ample time to find a new place. Another thought is to rent it out and put that money away to pay a better salary for the director to make this position more interesting. As a last resort, we could sell the house and try to find something that would allow residents to have transportation to find jobs more easily. So we ask all of you, especially those who gave so much financially and did so much work on the house to pray for a director and let us know if you have any suggestions as what our next step might be. Thanks!



Where will the banquet be?
MT View Mennonite Church
488 Howardsville Turnpike
Stuarts Draft, VA 24477
March 4, 2017

Come and enjoy the 2017 Ministry Banquet

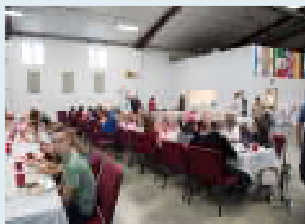
Change to " We hope that anyone who missed the last banquet will mark **March 4, 2017**, on their calendar for the next banquet. All of the details are not final at this point but we thought we would get this reminder out to get people aware of when and where it will be. We will be trying to raise funds for the ministry of course. Last year we were VERY blessed to do great to draw in funds

and labor for the Restoration House. This year we will put these funds toward other long term needs. We want to be more active in the community through the residents of Restoration House, provided we have a director to open the house for residents. We are going to try to start a landscaping business for the men so jobs will no longer be a problem. The men would have a job right away when they

come to the house, and could also seek other, better suited employment while still working. To have a landscaping business, they will need a truck and possibly a trailer to haul a mower, tools, and mulch with as was needed for the job. There are a couple of other businesses we would give thought to for these men and all will require additional funds. Join us in prayer and plan to join us for the banquet!



Birds eye view of all that great tasting food Jubilee
2016



Day of Jubilee 2016

Still Looking for Board members able to serve

Although we only meet as a board once every other month, the new positions that need to be filled will also include working with the Director of Operations for the residents of Restoration House. One of these board members could take on keeping track of all of the financial details for Restoration House. These finances will be separate from the other ministry funds so there will actually be

two treasurers. These two board members will meet with the Director and one other board member, and then present all of the activity related to the House with the other board members at our bi-monthly board meetings. These four members will see that all of the house rules and spiritual guidelines are followed, that all of the finances are kept track of, and that bills are paid. They will inter-

act with the residents more regularly than other board members since they have direct authority with all the details of the programs and what the needs of the house and residents are first hand. We encourage readers to search their hearts and see if God might be calling you to one of these board positions or even the director's position. Pray for us as we pray for you all.

Future endeavors for Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry

We have many plans for the men who would be living in the Restoration House, but these plans will need to be put on hold if we do not get a Director. I am writing this article on December 6 and as of today, we do not have a Director. I have decided to rent the house out if we do not have a director by the first of the year. We want everyone who has either donated funds or done so much work on the House to see we have not been slack in seeking a director from all of the churches who are affiliated with us. Unless we

find an alternative to renting the house out this will likely be our next step. We will rent the house for a time and save the money so when we do find someone willing to be a director we can start him out with a salary. Having funds available to offer as salary might generate interest that has not been available just offering room and food to begin with, until we have residents actually living in the house. We have tried working with a husband and wife from Lynchburg to move into and rent the house. They needed

to change locations, but did not have transportation and there were not jobs available in Schuyler, and no bus service from Schuyler to Charlottesville where either of them might find a job. When the House is in full swing with residents, and some finances are coming in, we plan to have a vehicle to get the residents to and from work. So keep praying! We know God is still at work for us, and He has a plan which He has not fully revealed to us yet.



This is one of my fears traveling up and down the highway to the prisons in Buckingham after hitting 6 in the past.

Plans for the new year.

We want to have all of our residents from Restoration House involved in community activities. It might be hard at first, since the being labeled as ex-inmates might scare people off from receiving our help. Certainly the wood cutting ministry could use some help from any residents physically able and willing to help. I would like to find other local projects to help older people on a fixed income to do repairs and help

where help is needed. Of course even though the men will be screened thoroughly just one man messing up at an elderly couple's house with ruin the entire program. One thing missing, even if none of the men are guilty, will still shut down the program. We are trusting in God to make it possible for us to show the community Restoration House is not a flop house and that the residents are truly born-again Christians

who are an asset to society. We will have to deal with the local parole officer which we do not see a problem with at this point, since I have spoke to him about the possible future program many months ago. We are reverently seeking any new direction God has for us. We know sometimes God has a much better direction for us that where we started to go, we are open to that.

My thought for Dec. 1, 2003

The season dictates a time of celebration, but those who celebrate refuse to acknowledge the One whom the celebration should be directed toward.

Would you like to add a poem or write an article with around 300 words?

My editors are very busy ladies and do not have time to write any articles for the newsletter at this point; however, we used to have articles from some of our readers, or puzzles or poems. We have not had any for a while. I do not have any problem filling the newsletters but I know the readers appreciate a fresh approach to articles. I mentioned this from time to time but at present no one has

responded. I remember we used to have 10 Bible questions in the newsletter and the next month there would be 10 more and the answers to the previous month's questions. I do not have time for that but some of the inmates enjoyed that. We used to have a couple of men who wrote lots of short stories and poems and they were enjoyed as well. So if you have a

talent and want to share it with the readers of this newsletter feel free to contact us with a sample. Remember it should be of a Christian nature and a spiritual blessing as well. The newsletter goes out to inmates and church members as well so it is a mixed audience.

We can also still use some pen pals for male inmates. I seem to have the number of men I am writing growing daily. Praise God.



God has blessed me with such a beautiful place to live.

JANUARY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

FEBRUARY 2017

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

Red numbers on Mondays, Wednesdays and Sunday are days I minister at Dillwyn and Buckingham prisons. The orange numbers are the days I preach at another church. Sometime this is last minute and it does not get posted in time. Blue numbers are the days Living Word Christian Fellowship has the Outreach Meal at our church.

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 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

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

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Phone: (434) 831-2593

Web site: www.jailandprisonministries.org

Here are some of the improvements on Restoration House



Here is a picture of the new windows on the back porch leading

into the laundry room. Next is a picture of the windows with the siding. Next we see the new deck which is on the side of the house and leads to the laundry room.



Do not forget the roof was the first thing

we replaced and then the siding and gutters. "The

siding, gutters, and windows have not only added to the beauty of the house, but insulation was added before the siding was done. I am not showing the old



pictures. You all have seen them already many



times. These are the pictures we want you to remember. We will

need to keep the grass cut and we will continue to pray for a Christian Director so we can start moving in residents. Please pray for the Director's position to be filled soon. We continue to thank all



of you who gave and worked on this house."

