

# Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry

July / August 2008  
Editor: Artis Mules

## Inmate's voice!

## Inmates speak out for the need for a Restoration Program.

Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry, in an effort to better explain the need for a Restoration House Program, recently asked inmates to give some reasons. In the next several newsletters we will share some of these letters. Here is the first one *just as it was written*.

Being in prison for 17 plus years you will hear a lot of stories about what a person is going to do and what they have waiting on them once released.

Those that have a short time will usually have some one waiting for them. And those that are waiting will be able to provide support for them.

But then you have ones that have been in long time. Although some or most come in with support, as the years pass by that support fades away.

Those that have parent usually one or both will not be there in the end. Your sibling (s) slowly drift away and maybe receiving a letter or two a year and/or a Christmas card. It is like the world stands still for those in here. Those on the outside are greatly influenced by it. It is like waking up to a new world. We are in a different world in here where nothing seems to change except your sheets and your hair turns gray.

The outside support ages different because they grow and have their lives being in the world with all the world's problems. Being in here you don't have that kind of problem. If there are children, they too are out there chasing the American dream.

Remember those close friends you had in high school or 15-20 years ago. where are they now? Some friends stay together but most separate and

lose contact. there is like a wall that separates us.

Think about those that didn't have that support team at first. They only had one parent and they're gone, one or no sibling who have distance themselves or the children that was young who don't know you as a father or dad?

If these men were released with no support they have a greater chance to fail, and reentering the system creating a greater burden for the tax payers.. With a Halfway or Restoration House their chances of failure is a lot less or, you could say the pendulum would swing back the other way. This would truly benefit everyone. If you would please give me another minute or two of your time, let me explain in brief what a Restoration House would provide for these men.

1) first is financial assistance; NO!! money will be given them let me explain. Once they come to the House their room, food would be provided. But they have to earn their keep at first by working around the House until other work is found for them. Once they are working they will pay a certain percentage to the House for their keep. The House also will help in finding a job, help with transportation, clothing, etc. Also the House will provide classes in how to manage their money.

Please note I'm only giving you a very brief description of what is totally involved in each subject mention here. I'm only trying to give you a taste what is required or need for a person to survive once they are released. 2) Adjustment period: We are by nature creatures of habit and to

change a prison lifestyle does take time. This adjustment isn't bad but the longer a person does time the harder it will take to change that habit. Our biological clock within us must also be changed or reset. This House will not push someone into something that they are not ready for. Each person will be look at as an individual bases. By pushing someone would only end up in failure.

3) the emotional and mental support: This House will develop a close relationship and have moral support for these men in their adjustment period. There will be daily counseling. In this they will discuss their daily activities. In doing this it will let them express their feeling without the fear of someone of bringing a rod of iron upon them Allowing these issues to be brought out in the open will help to stop any trouble that might arise. The House will provide guidance and insight in how to handle any situation that might arise. The House staff and those staying at the house will be a part of this process.

4) I believe or I know that the greatest support comes from the Spiritual realm. This House will provide that Spiritual need for each individual. That Spiritual need not only will come from the examples that they see from the staff but also from what they are being taught from the Holy WORD. Please let me reintegrate, this is only a very brief description of each these issues that was cover. Prayerfully this will give you a taste of what is needed for these men.

Let's teach these men how to fish .

Thank you for listening.

A concern Inmate.

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Ronald R. Baker

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

### 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.



Sharing the needs of this ministry in a the local church and explaining how they can partner with us.



## 21st Day of Jubilee Celebration Sept. 27, 2008

Last year we had the 20th annual celebration of the Day of Jubilee and we had a wonderful turnout, but this year we are praying that more of the men we have ministered to and are out of prison will attend. (See other pictures in this newsletter.) We welcome anyone who is interested in knowing about the prison ministry and its outreaches to come and see firsthand all the joy we have serving the Lord through Rehoboth



Cooking on the grill on a beautiful day adds to the outdoor activities of the

*Rom.10: 13-15 13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. 14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? 15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent?*



Good food and wonder fellowship is just a part of the yearly celebration of the Day of Jubilee.

Jail & Prison Ministry. Ex-inmates are invited to come and bring their families and share in this time of worship, praise, and thanksgiving. It is a funny thing, we never know how many people are coming, and we never have run out of food, and it has been a beautiful day each time for the last 20

years; praise the Lord! After all it is His day so He provides the weather. Everyone has a chance to give a testimony of how they were saved, or what the Lord is doing in their lives, or just to take a moment to give thanks to God for all He does for us each and every day. We sometime play some horseshoes or other games, but we always praise the Lord along with what everything else we are doing. Come this year and see how much fun Christians have as they

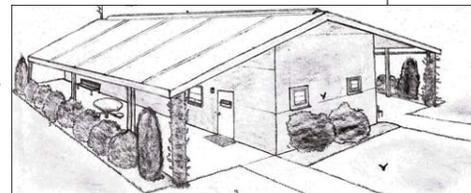
serve the Lord with gladness. Contact me at the e-mail address, address, or number on this newsletter for directions, and see for yourself.

## Needs of the Ministry

One of the main needs of this ministry is land and finances for a building a Restoration House in order to begin a 12-month program for men who have been incarcerated for a long period of time. Since we would like to be able to add to the buildings, we are asking God for 100 acres or more to begin. The program will basically begin with a building which will hold 14 to 20 men and these men will live there for 12 months or until the staff feels he is ready to re-enter society, but not until he has paid off his restitution, court costs, and fines. We will teach him and his family to budget their finances, if this was a problem for them in the past. Church, Bible study, and devotional time will be mandatory and there will be detailed records kept as to the residents'

attitude, work habits, and how well he interacts with the other men at the house and the staff. When this program has proved itself to be successful and a benefit to the residents and society, we want to then build another building for women. It will be staffed by women volunteers and one paid Director of Operations. Later on as these two programs become self supporting, we want to build a church on this land. This church will also act as a Christian school during the week and will be a place for a food and clothing ministry where the needs of the community will be met as well as a place to help disaster victims and actually house families who have lost their home to a disaster until something can be done to get them back into permanent homes. I have

been praying for this dream for 21 years and I continue to receive negative responses from some people; however, I have not heard a no from God yet. Perhaps I will hear a yes from Him soon, perhaps through someone who reads this newsletter. In the next several newsletters, we will be sharing rough drawings and even some blueprints of the buildings and property. Pray for this to become a reality to help a dream come true.



We have someone working on an actual professional drawing and blue print of the Restoration House when it is complete we will share it with all interested parties. Then we he will work on a blue print of the church we

# Pen Pal Outreach

Recently, as I was giving a presentation of the outreaches of this ministry, I had a lady ask about the Pen Pal outreach and she said she would be willing to try to write someone and see if she could share God's good news with a fellow Christian. I am in the process of getting her a Pen Pal. Over the years I have set up many people with Pen Pals and most of them have worked out very well. especially once I explain to both the

inmate and the Pen Pal the rules of writing letters, and more importantly, the purpose and restrictions. It really hurts me when I think an inmate is an earnest child of God, and I get him or her together with a Pen Pal, and they try to get money sent to them. This does not happen often, but it has happened, so I try to address it regularly. I also suggest to the inmate and the volunteer that they do not get involved with the expensive phone

calls and that they stick to letters, after all that is what a Pen Pal outreach is all about. If the volunteer decides to visit, I feel as a family group it is an excellent move, especially if the inmate plans on moving to the same area as the Pen Pal and become a member of that church. Anytime you try to do something good someone will try to use it for the wrong purpose so be careful and remember God knows your heart.



A board member, Joe, and his wife Miriam enjoy a good meal as part of the beautiful day of celebrating the Day of Jubilee.

## Youth Ministry: even if they are not troubled youth.

If you are an inmate and you want someone to help mentor a child of yours, someone in the local church could be an excellent mentor for a youth who has one parent incarcerated. As I have said before, each outreach leads to others and youth ministry leads to a mentoring ministry and into family ministry as well. If

your wife needs a Christian friend, she needs to begin attending a local church and find someone friendly who has time to spend with them. If you are incarcerated and growing in the Lord, you need to be sure your mate is seeking the same walk so that you will be more equally yoked when you go home. Youth

who have a good youth program in their church seem to be less prone to do things that would cause them to get into trouble and follow in the footsteps of the parent who is incarcerated. It can be very lonely for the mate left on the street, and Godly friends can help one not to do anything that might destroy their marriage.

## Churches: Open Your Doors to the Lost

I want to thank so many of the church who support this ministry for being such a wonderful influence to the men and women I am sending to your congregations. I wish I could set each inmate up with a loving church much like the ones I am speaking about here, but some of them already have a church, others say they

do but for some reason never begin attending after they are released. Since the pastors are so busy, I am seeking a member who I might have as a contact person to forward information which that member can see to it that the pastor gets. This person could also see to it that the newsletter is posted somewhere

where everyone can get a chance to read it, and if more couples are needed they would be welcome to make as many as needed. If you want to be this contact person contact this ministry. God bless you and thanks for showing God's love to my brothers.

**This ministry provides:**  
**Christian Counseling in Marriage, Alcohol, Troubled Youth, Christian Living**  
**Ministry Address:**  
 Donations can be sent to:  
**Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry**  
**Ronald R. Baker, Chaplain**  
**6166 Helens Way Schuyler, VA**  
**22969-9607**  
 E-mail: [rrbak@juno.com](mailto:rrbak@juno.com)  
 Phone: (434) 831-2593

**Jan. 6, 2002** In the morning when I awake, before I open my eyes, let the first thought of my day be in gratitude of the blessings of the Lord. Let me always be thankful for His love, mercy, and grace toward me - a sinner saved by His loving grace.

2 Chr. 7:14 - If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

# JULY 2008

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

### What is the topic for the Bible study we are studying?

1. The Title of the Bible study is, "What Does Jesus Say About Salvation?"
2. Through the help of John MacArthur's book, "The Gospel According to Jesus" I have gone through the Bible and we are studying what Jesus says one needs to do to be saved and how a saved person responds to God.
3. I have about 2/3 of the study ready and it is about 20 pages back and front typed, so it promised to be the longest study so far by the time it is completed.
4. We started this study at DCC March 26th and at BCC on April 28th.

The initials BCC stands for Buckingham Correctional;  
 Monday and Wednesday services are Bible Studies  
 DCC stands for Dillwyn Corrections Center  
 RJPM stands for Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry;  
 PF stands for Prison Fellowship  
 Sunday service and 5th Monday services are usually a Worship service.  
 DCC services are held at 6:00 till 7:30 PM  
 BCC services at held 6:30 till 7:45 PM

Trying to help the men in all ways possible has opened up a new possibility for communication.

5. I am also responding to many questions now by letter since we do not have time before and after the study.
6. Several men who recently got released (one from BCC and one from DCC) called me several days after they were released and both are doing well. One is in NC and the other close enough to visit my church and give a testimony soon.
7. I have a 6-page prayer list that is growing very fast as I pray for these people every morning during my devotional time.
8. Please remember my family, this ministry, and me in your prayers as well.
9. We have someone working on a professional blueprint of Restoration House that should be available very soon.
10. Pray for the men who are going up for parole every year; for mercy from the parole board.

# AUGUST 2008

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