

Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry

Newsletter March/April 2022

Changing Lives From the Inside Out

This month will be the beginning of the 36th year of this ministry!

It has been a wonderful time of serving the Lord with its ups and downs like not having the Jubilee in 2020 or the banquet last year. Those reading this newsletter have made sure to keep us supplied with enough finances to provide for all of our needs, God's riches in glory in Christ Jesus. We know behind any successful ministry, God's hand is there providing the human influence to see to what He wants to provide for us. We

have tried things that we thought God was calling us to do, only to find out God had other ideas. However, as God promised in Rom. 8:28 "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose." God allowed extra income through the pandemic by us renting out the house we bought for a Restoration House since we could not find anyone

to run it. That was a very wonderful blessing. We were able to provide a family with a rental with the option to buy. We again thank all of you who provided finances for the house and the hard work on the restoration. It was not work in vain. Although many of you like us were disappointed, we had to rent it out rather than keep it empty and let it run down. We feel sure this was God's plan all along.

Ministry Needs

We want to thank everyone who continues to pray for and support both Rehoboth Jail & Prison ministry and The Bible Readers Outreach Ministry. We covet your prayers and support. We are still in need of many more pen pals for both male and female inmates. Also some Hispanic vol-

unteers to those inmates. We could also use another Board Member and a Minister to go into the prisons to take over for Ron and take his place in the in-prison part of this ministry because of his failing health. You might think this seems to appear in every newsletter. Well, you are right since none

of these needs have been met, as of yet. If you contact Ron, he will be happy to share information for any of these needs. Time is growing short to serve the Lord before Jesus comes for His church. What are you going to say when you stand before Him? "I just did not have time!" That's no excuse to Him.

Board Chairman:

Tim Miller

Secretary/Treasurer:

Lisa Miller

Other Board Members:

Jon Freivald

Rhonda Via

Steve Via, Joe Faus

Ronald R. Baker

Founder/Chaplain

Executive

Director

Non- Board

Member Editors:

Lindsey Wydner

Phoebe King

Mary Kiser

Ministry Outreaches

Available:

In-Prison Ministry

After Care

Support Groups

Pen Pal

(letter writing)

Mentoring

Family Ministry

Youth Ministry

Ministry training seminars are available for local churches.

Holidays to be Celebrated in March & April

March 13th starts Daylight Savings Time and the clock are set 1 hour forward losing one hour. And on March 17th many people celebrate St. Patrick's Day. St. Patrick was a 5th-century missionary to Ireland and later served as bishop there. He is credited with bringing Christianity to parts of Ireland and was probably partly responsible for the Christianization of the Picts and Anglo-Saxons. He is one of the patron saints of Ireland.

Born in Roman Britain in the late 4th century, he was kidnapped at the age

of 16 and taken to Ireland as a slave. He escaped captivity after hearing a voice urging him to travel to a distant port where a ship would be waiting to take him back to Britain. On his way back to Britain, Patrick was captured again and spent 60 days in captivity in Tours, France. He returned about 432 AD to convert the Irish to Christianity.

The man who brought Christianity to Ireland is believed to have died in the small village of Saul in 461 AD, not far from the town of Downpatrick home to Down Cathedral, where he is

reportedly buried. Maewyn Succat was his real name, and he was not made a Saint by the Catholic Church.

At home in Ireland, St Patrick's Day was a modest day of religious observance, culminating in a feast. However, in the face of their ill treatment, Irish Catholics in America decided to throw huge, proud parties on the 17th of March to celebrate their heritage and show pride in who they are.

Easter or Pascha April 17th

The day of Easter falls on a Sunday based on the lunisolar (sun and moon) calendar, not a fixed date on the Gregorian or Julian calendar. Easter day each year has been determined to fall on the Sunday after the full moon following March 21 for Western Christians who use the Gregorian calendar (modern calendar). Easter, also called Pascha (Aramaic, Greek, Latin) or Resurrection Sunday, is a Christian festival and cultural holiday commemorating the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, described in the New Testament as having occurred on the third day after his burial following his crucifixion by the Romans at Calvary circa 30 AD. In 325 AD, the Council of Nicaea established

that Easter would be held on the first Sunday after the first full moon occurring on or after the vernal equinox. From that point forward, the Easter date depended on the ecclesiastical approximation of March 21 for the vernal equinox. Steven Engler, a professor in religious studies at Mount Royal University, says the basic reason the two differ is because Christmas is fixed to a solar calendar, near the winter solstice, and Easter is based on the lunar cycles of the Jewish calendar. ... "So Christians always had Easter right after Passover," he said. Jesus' death by crucifixion, marked by the Christian holiday Good Friday (the Friday before Easter), and subsequent resurrec-

tion three days later is said by the authors of the gospels to prove that he was the living son of God. "1 Peter 1:3: "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." 1 Corinthians 15:21: "For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man." Palm Sunday, also called Passion Sunday, in the Christian tradition, is the first day of Holy Week and the Sunday before Easter, commemorating Jesus Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

What kind of family activity do you plan for Holy Week?

Some people may go to church on Good Friday, Palm Sunday, and Easter, but what are you sharing at home about the very important week with your children? It seems many churches are not having the celebration that used to be held on Maundy Thursday and many churches have cut out the Good Friday and Sunrise service on Easter Sunday morning. You might say "why?" I say in many cases it is the lack of participation from the congregation. Just like many churches no

longer have a prayer night or Bible study on Wednesday in the middle of the week to keep people sharp in serving the Lord. I am no longer an early riser even though I always used to enjoy a sunrise service and breakfast and fellowship during the meal, I understand getting up at sunrise and standing outside for even a short service is no longer as inviting as it used to be to me. But this is a problem I can not make an excuse for. If you love the Lord, why not take time to also cele-

brate Holy Week at home starting on Palm Sunday and reading the Scriptures pertaining to it on Sunday and then reading what happened on each of the following days of the Holy Week with your family discussing how that benefits your family? "We just do not have time!" you may say. What if the next time you need the Lord, he says "I do not have time"? He won't say that though!

What is your main focus on Holy /Passion Week? Luke 19:28-23:56

According to Christians, Palm Sunday is a celebration for honoring Jesus Christ's victorious entry into Jerusalem. While this was a joyful, special occasion for his followers, this event took place towards the end of his days on Earth before being crucified. (Luke 19:28-40).

The word Maundy comes from the Latin, 'mandatum', or 'command' which refers to the instructions Jesus gave his disciples at the Last Supper. In many countries, the day is known as Holy Thursday and is a public holiday. Maundy Thursday is part of Holy Week and is always the last Thursday before Easter. Maundy Thursday or Holy Thursday is the day during Holy Week that commemorates the Washing of the Feet and Last Supper of Jesus Christ with the Apostles, as described in the gospels. It is the fifth day of Holy Week, preceded by Holy Wednesday and followed by Good Friday. (Luke 22:7-53)

Many Christians around the world observe Good Friday on the Friday before Easter Sunday. It commemorates Jesus Christ's passion, crucifixion and death, which is told in the Chris-

tian Bible. Many Christians spend Good Friday in fasting, prayer, repentance, and meditation on the agony and suffering of Christ.

(Luke 22:54-23:56) "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed." (*Spiritual healing*) Important verse "Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. (1 Pet.2:24)

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¹Now on the first *day* of the week, very early in the morning, they, and certain *other women* with them, came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared. ²But they found the stone rolled away from the tomb.

³Then they went in and did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴And it happened, as they were greatly perplexed about this, that behold, two men stood by them in shining garments. ⁵Then, as they were afraid and bowed *their* faces to the earth, they said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? ⁶"He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, ⁷"saying, '**The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.**' " ⁸And they remembered His words. ⁹Then they returned from the tomb and told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary *the mother* of James, and the other *women* with them, who told these things to the apostles. ¹¹And their words seemed to them like idle tales, and they did not believe them. ¹²But Peter arose and ran to the tomb; and stooping down, he saw the linen cloths lying by themselves; and he departed, marveling to himself at what had happened." (Luke 24:1-12)

The Controversy over the Name Easter or Resurrection Sunday

The naming of the celebration as "Easter" is said to go back to the name of a pre-Christian goddess in England, Eostre, who was celebrated at the beginning of spring. However the only reference to this goddess comes from the writings of the Venerable Bede, a British monk who lived in the late seventh and early eighth century. As religious studies scholar, Bruce Forbes, summarizes: "Bede wrote that the month in which English Christians were celebrating the resurrection of Jesus had been called Eosturmonath in Old English, referring to a goddess named Eostre. And even though Christians had begun affirming the Christian meaning of the celebration, they continued to use the name of the month to designate the season." Even though there might be some question as to the origin of the word Easter,

this holiday was established because Jesus Christ, our Lord, died and rose again three days later. It is a day to thank Him for His great sacrifice and to rejoice with other believers, and that is something we should never stop observing. However, those who agree we should not call it Easter should then not celebrate that day with decorating eggs and have egg hunts for the children which has absolutely nothing to do with Jesus' resurrection. I am not so concerned about whether we call it Easter or Resurrection Sunday as long as we are celebrating it with the right thought in mind; yes Jesus died, but He rose to fulfill His promise for the redemption of mankind.

The story of the Easter Bunny is thought to have become common in the 19th Century. Rabbits usually give birth to a

big litter of babies (called kittens), so they became a symbol of new life. Legend has it that the Easter Bunny lays, decorates, and hides eggs as they are also a symbol of new life. In fact, the rabbit was the symbol of Eostra—the pagan Germanic goddess of spring and fertility. In other words, the Christian holiday of Easter, which was meant to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, later became superimposed on pagan traditions that celebrated rebirth and fertility. This happened over time. These rituals were later introduced but certainly did not have anything to do with Jesus' resurrection, even though there were tries to introduce them as similarities to the meaning of the resurrection. How much do you want to confuse the children between the tooth fairy, Santa and the Easter Bunny?

**This is the update for Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry and Bible Readers Outreach Ministry
for the months of December 2021/January 2022**

Bible Readers Outreach Ministry:

In Dec. 2021, we mailed out 298 Bible lessons, enrolled 26 new students, mailed 12 Bibles at \$333.98, 6 Bible dictionaries/concordances at \$104.05, misc. office materials (paper, envelopes, ink, cardstock) at \$258.43, and stamps at \$772. for a grand total of **\$1468.46**

In Jan. 2022, we mailed out 271 Bible lessons, enrolled 32 new students, mailed 7 Bibles cost of \$168.90, 9 Bible dictionaries/Concordances at \$153.74 misc. office materials (paper, envelopes, ink, cardstock) at 0, and stamps at \$390.98 for a grand total of **\$713.52**

Bible Readers Outreach Ministry yearly totals: Lessons sent 3,476 new enrollees 444. Bibles 136 totaling \$3304.53 Dictionaries/concordances 83 totaling \$1487 Cardstock and envelopes \$2798.28 stamps \$5917.06 totaling \$13,446.87

Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry Pen Pal Outreach:

In Dec. 2021, I wrote 117 letter and received 30 new request during that month for volunteer pen pal. New volunteers to write inmates - 3 one took 10 inmates

In Jan. 2022, I wrote 78 letter and received 22 new request during that month for volunteer pen pal. New volunteers - 2.

Please keep both divisions of this ministry in your prayers. We could still use some people to respond to the Hispanic inmates.

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.

All donations of any kind are tax deductible under United States Code Section 170(c)(2). All giving constitutes your express agreement to relinquish control in accordance with IRS regulation. Donations will be used to further the Jail & Prison Ministry. Checks can be made payable to:

Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry

Ronald R. Baker, Chaplain
6166 Helens Way, Schuyler, VA 22969-9607

Donations for the Bible Reading Outreach Ministry can be made payable to: **Bible Reading Outreach Ministry**
Barbara Holmes

Questions and Answers to Quiz

Answers for Jan/Feb

- 1.) Five fish and two loaves of bread (Matt. 14:17)
- 2.) Twelve baskets (Matt. 14:20)
- 3.) Dawn/fourth watch (Matt. 14:25)
- 4.) A ghost (Matt. 14:26)
- 5.) Peter (Matt. 14:28)
- 6.) The wind (Matt. 14:30)
- 7.) The edge of His cloak (Matt. 14:36)
- 8.) The Pharisees (Matt. 15:12)
- 9.) Pits (Matt. 15:14)
- 10.) Demon possession

Questions for March/ April

- (Matt. 15:22)
1. Jesus told the Canaanite woman that it was not right to take the children's bread and toss it to what?
 2. What did the Canaanite woman say the dogs would

- eat when it fell off the table?
3. How many days were the people with Jesus without food before He decided to feed the 4,000?
 4. How many loaves of bread did Jesus start with to feed the 4,000?
 5. How many basketfuls of bread were left over at the feeding of the 4,000?
 6. Jesus told the Pharisees that they understood how to interpret the sky when it was what color?
 7. When talking about yeast and bread, Jesus was guarding the people against the teachings of what two groups?
 8. When Jesus said, "Who do people say that I am," which three prophets did the apostles name?
 9. What substance did Jesus tell Peter He would

Poems or Testimonies from Inmates

build His church on?
10. Jesus said the gates of what would not overcome His church?

**"These day's"
shared by one of our
pen pals**

I see People afraid to speak their own mind because someone will believe they're different & therefore disloyal, and I also see America identify More & more with material things and less with spiritual "standard" and I Feel like we're drifting away from the Christian "Faith" and acting more as an arrogant, selfish, greedy Nation... interested only in Gun, Money and Power & not in our People hope to become better...and that's not the only thing I see! If

you really think about it, we're moving Backward " & not Forward" and we need to stop that and start Focusing on winning and not losing...because only me & you can make a difference, but only when we **Start believing in God** and Loving ourselves more, are we going to be able to make a change, in this beautiful Place.

We do not make a lot of changes to the work sent in. Many of the men are much better educated than me and they do not need anything changed. Others are limited in their education but what they are sharing is from their heart, so when you read their articles, read it for their heart felt story as they see it rather a poem or a testimony.