

Freedom Focus

A Newsletter with information for your partnering with us in

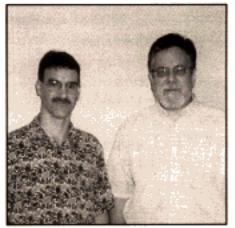
"Proclaiming Freedom for Prisoners"

Volume 5 Number 18 Fall 2004

Matters of the Heart

Prison ministry consists of carrying out Jesus' mandate in Luke 4 "The Spirit of the Lord has anointed me (us) to preach good news . . . to proclaim freedom for prisoners . . . to release the oppressed." This ministry is not primarily an external ministry, but rather speaks to and deals with matters of the heart.

Support for Prison Ministries is highlighting HEART MATTERS in a two-part series, with input by SFPM chaplains Al Huber and J.R. Fisher. In this issue, the focus will be HEART OF THE CHAPLAINS. In our next Freedom Focus issue we'll examine the HEART OF THE INMATE.



J. R. Fisher and Al Huber

THE HEART OF THE CHAPLAINS

Q. What is your motivation as a chaplain? Why do you go to prison everyday?

A. Increasingly, our motivation is the Father's love. Our desire to help inmates actually grows, as God continues to shed his love abroad in our own hearts.

So many persons we work with have never experienced unconditional love from any source, (parents, family, or friends). This makes it very difficult for them to believe that God is a loving Father. When someone discovers and respond to God's unconditional love, the changes are drastic and obvious. This is a great motivator, both for the inmate to experience a changed life and to encourage us as chaplains.

Q. Tell us about your vision for the chaplains at Lancaster County Prison(LCP).

A. We feel the first priority for a chaplain is to help an inmate deal with the mind-set that brought him/her into the prison in the first place. Many would tell you they were "rescued" by coming to prison; therefore, our first thought is not to get them out. God can use this period of time to bring about some changes and adjustments. We see men and women that are caught in a web of drugs, alcohol, money, and sexual perversion. Most are convinced if they could just stop the drinking etc. they would be home free. They've never looked at "why" they are doing these things. So our over-all desire is to help them find the driving force behind their destructive habits and to create a "safe place" where they can be honest and real with a chaplain. The result is seeing them be set free, in the inner life (heart) which results in great changes in all of their life.

Q. Could you explain the role of the chaplain's office at LCP?

A. The chaplain's office is a resource, not only for those who are incarcerated, but for their families as well. Inmates can request Bible correspondence studies, group teaching sessions, religious books and magazines, minister visits, and Christian teaching via video. Families can be encouraged when they call to know their family member is in a safe place and are advised of what we have to offer.

The chaplain's office is the point of contact during times of emergency, such as sickness, death, etc. This can be a very sad and stressful time, and (in some cases) gives us an opportunity to minister to both the inmate and his/her family. The birth of a child can be exciting news (for obvious rea-

(Continued on page 3)

WE'LL BE LOOKING FOR YOU
AT OUR BENEFIT AUCTION

October 22 & 23

See more details on back page And on our web site:

www.supportforprisonministries.org

The Spoils of Victory

By Marta Estrada

Marta is an author and church pioneer from Medellin, Columbia, South America. She has God's anointing on her life, and gives testimony to God's transformation at work in her own life.

In First Samuel 30 we read about David's exciting experience with the spoils of victory. David and his exhausted army found out that their hometown, Ziklag, had been invaded and destroyed by the enemy Amelakites. In spite of this tragic happening, David's wise leadership leads to an amazing victory.

While two hundred tired soldiers stayed behind, David and others faithful to him won a victory and brought back the spoils of war. Then David distributed the spoils to everyone equally, even though some of the army grumbled. David realized what the other men did not; that it takes everyone to make the kingdom work. The parable in Matthew 20 is another example. Many workers participated in the harvest, beginning at varying times of the day. In the end, all were paid the same wage from a generous master, who realized all were needed to bring the harvest safely in.

I currently have an exciting opportunity in Lancaster, PA to do the Lord's work with drug addicts, inmates and prostitutes. After establishing a program that rehabilitates young teen prostitutes in Medellin, Colombia, South America, I moved to Lancaster. I am part of the Petra Christian Fellowship and believe God is calling me to establish a similar program in Lancaster.

My desire is to open an intake house to help troubled women for a period of three to six months. It is during this phase that they must make a firm decision to turn



Marta with young girls she ministered to in Columbia, South America

away from the old lifestyle and get ready to move on to the next two phases. Successful completion of each phase leads to graduation from the program. We will be linked with New Life for Girls, a non-profit Christian discipleship program, that is committed to meeting emotional, physical and spiritual needs of troubled girls and women.

God's Word and Holy Spirit are working with drug addicts and prostitutes in the city of Lancaster. Now is the time to come against the work of Satan that kills and destroys. Now is the time to receive the spoils of victory. I will only be able to do this ministry if pastors and leaders of the region bless and stand with me. Your prayers and support are important.



More information is available from Marta Estrada 117 N. Broad St. Lancaster, PA 17602 (717) 299-0429

Year-to-Date - January - August

\$190,000

\$134,320

\$189,473

Budget -

Expenses -

Income -



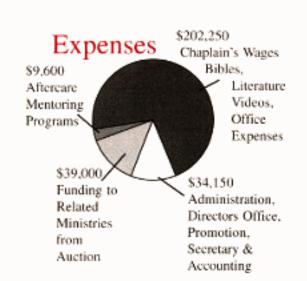
Focus On Finances

The budget for 2004 year totals \$285,000. Of this total, about \$135,000 is needed from contributions. About 12% of our total expenses go for administration and promotion, leaving 88% of all income for direct chaplain wages, programs, and services.

S65,000 Annual Auction \$86,808 County Contracts for Chaplaincy Services, LCP & Youth Center

2004 Annual Budget -\$285,000

- An envelope is enclosed for you to send a gift to partner with us.
- Remember SFPM in your estate planning and long-term gift giving.
 Counsel is available to help you with will preparation, asset distribution and tax savings.



Matters of the Heart...

(Continued from page 1)

sons), but also depressing because of an inmate parent not being able to be there. This can also provide opportunity for further ministry.

Q. How are you organized? How are you funded?

A. Currently we have 7 paid staff and 13 regular volunteers who serve in the chaplain's office at LCP. We are employed by Support for Prison Ministries, who has a contract with LCP to provide chaplaincy services. SFPM handles all finances and accounting. About 1/4 of our LCP chaplain's operating budget comes from a County chaplaincy contract. The remainder comes from donations by churches, businesses and interested Individuals.

Freedom Focus is published 4 times a year, providing news and updates to friends and supporters of prison ministries. Support for Prison Ministries is an inter-denominational, multi-faceted ministry that provides prison chaplaincy services, raises funds for other prison related programs, networks with several reentry/aftercare ministries, and provides educational programs and training for local churches and community.

A Prayer Request List is published monthly and an up to date web site is maintained at www.supportforprisonministries.org

Contact us at:

SUPPORT FOR PRISON MINISTRIES P. O. Box 134, Lititz, PA 17543

NOTE NEW PHONE & FAX # (717) 625-0232

Email: sfpm@4safe.com

Board Chair: Leon Roy Martin Director: Nelson W. Martin



Paid Chaplain Staff at Lancaster County Prison (l-r) Isaias Maldonado, Diane Fulmer, Marvin Reed, Faye Stauffer, Al Huber, Katie Mininger and J.R. Fisher

Overheard in LCP Bible class 15 guys were attentively listening recently to their Bible teacher. At one point, the teacher got rather animated and said, "Remember, our purpose in life is to please God supremely!!" That statement was followed by many positive head nods and several vocal expressions of YES! Later, the instructor again said, "Our purpose in life is also to glorify God at all times, right here now and in the future when you get out." Again there was much positive body language. The Holy Spirit was moving. Lives were being challenged and changed.

Paid Chaplain Staff at Lancaster County Youth Intervention Center (l - r) Lee Stauffer, Marvin Reed, Katie Mininger



Comforters, Wall hangings and more Quilts.

Call Judy Hoover 733-7301

or Louise Weaver 336-6042

DIRECTOR'S REPORT



Did you ever catch yourself singing a well-known hymn, and not really thinking about the words you were singing? Recently I was singing "Heart With Loving Heart United", an old Moravian hymn written in 1723. I was already at the third verse when the message hit me:

"Since, O Lord, you have demanded that our lives your love should show, so we wait to be commanded forth into your world to go."

I was moved as I thought about many prison chaplains and volunteers I work with who embody this principle. Because of the great love and mercy of Jesus at work in their lives, they willingly sacrifice and go forth into a world of dysfunctional and very needy persons. That world is not far away; it may be on the same pew in church, it may be the family around the corner or to the prison or juvenile center in the nearest town. . . BUT THEY GO WITH THE GOOD NEWS OF FREEDOM AND HOPE IN JESUS.

by Nelson W. Martin

Support For Prison Ministries P.O. Box 134 Lititz, PA 17543 (717) 625-0232

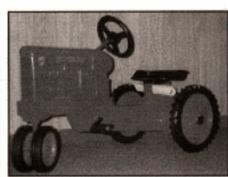
Email: sfpm@4safe.com

Nonprofit Org. U.S. POSTAGE PAID Permit #1746 Lancaster, PA 17604

COME TO THE AUCTION

Friday, October 22 & Saturday, October 23, 2004





Food, fun, and fellowship while providing funds to be shared with ministries that are dedicated to prisoners, Aftercare programs, and prisoners families.

Specialty Items to be Sold

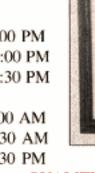
- *Hand-carved 3-D Picture, by Lorraine Reiff "The Blacksmith Shop"
- *Pedal Tractors
- *Framed Paintings & Hand-crafted Items (some done by inmates)
- *Beautiful Quilts and Wall Hangings
- *Valuable Gift Certificates from area businesses
- *Tools, hardware, farm and home items *Food items, groceries, produce, fruit and meat
- *Beautiful gift and theme baskets
- *Deluxe 36" stainless steel gas grill

Located at the Farmersville Auction Grounds, Farmersville (Northwest of New Holland, Lancaster County) PA

Schedule of Activities



Friday, October 22 Chicken Barbeque4:00 - 7:00 PM Sale of Hardware, groceries, meats and crafts5:30 - 9:00 PM Winross and Collectible Toy Sale7:30 - 8:30 PM Saturday, October 23 Pancake and Sausage Breakfast6:00 AM Benefit Auction begins8:30 AM Quilt Auction1:30 PM







OUR GOAL THIS YEAR IS TO NET \$65,000 TO GIVE TO SIX MINISTRIES THAT ARE SHARING HOPE AND HEALING TO PRISONERS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

QUALITY MERCHANDISE AND GIFT CERTIFICATES ARE STILL NEEDED FOR THIS AUCTION. If you have donations, call Nelson Martin 625-0232 or Glenn Hoover 733-7301 or Cliff Martin 336-6411.