

CHAPLAIN CHANGES AT YOUTH INTERVENTION CENTER

Support for Prison Ministries provides chaplains to the Lancaster County Youth Intervention Center (LCYIC).



Joel Bare, Marvin Reed, Katie Mininger
YIC Staff

This facility, located in the Sunnyside area of Lancaster, houses juvenile offenders (ages 10 – 17) and provides shelter care for non-criminal or minor offenders. YIC has a current census of about 60, with 40 in detention and 20 in the shelter care unit.

The Chaplains area includes a small chapel, library space and counseling office. Chaplains provide one-on-one counseling, group Bible studies, show Christian videos, distribute Bibles and inspirational books and build friendships with the residents. About 20 churches and several volunteer groups do regular worship services, visitation and constructive activities with the young people. Area pastors have access to visit young people from their congregations or neighborhoods.

THANKS TO CHARLIE HESS

Charlie served as a part-time chaplain for the past 2 years, and had many good times of sharing with the guys at YIC. Charlie will continue to be involved with various prison and evangelism outreaches through his church, The Lord's House of Prayer. Charlie and Wendy also are part of the Thursday evening EXIT group. **SFPM WISHES GOD'S BLESSINGS TO CHARLIE AND WENDY.**

WELCOME JOEL BARE

Joel began a part-time chaplain assignment in May. He lives in Bird-in-Hand, owns a cabinetmaking business, and is active at Keystone Evangelical Free Church.



Nelson Martin, Director,
welcomes Joel Bare on staff.

Come and See

by Joel Bare

In the beginning of the Gospel of John, Jesus makes a challenging statement at the time he was choosing disciples to follow Him. In response to a question about His life, he simply said, “Come and see” . . . short, sweet, and clear cut. That simple call revolutionized the lives of the disciples. Today we have the same call. We are to make disciples after we have become disciples. The only way to do that is to dare to answer YES to Jesus. . . to come and see if He forgives sins. . . come and see if He gives hope. . . come and see if He is still relevant to the needs and problems of today. My testimony is simple. I have asked if Jesus can still change lives. I know that He has changed mine. Through a godly family, I first experienced a love that nurtured and taught me. My earthly father showed the patience, grace and joy of our Father in heaven. My mother showed a tender passion for Jesus Christ. They taught, in a tangible way, the joy of hard work, good love and the benefits of a real and transparent life. Only now at 28 years old am I beginning to understand God's mercy and goodness in having those relationships. The love of Christ continues to mold me and give me a heart for those kids who haven't had the blessing of family that I experienced. Volunteering with multiple ALPHA courses at the Lancaster County Prison has been very important in my spiritual growth. When I was told about the position of a part-time chaplain at YIC, it made sense to get involved. I look forward to relating to the guys at YIC on a regular basis. Simply put, I am at YIC to heed Jesus' call to “come and see”.

A VISIT TO EXIT (Ex-Offenders in Transition)

By Nelson W. Martin, Director of Support for Prison Ministries

In some area towns, merchants are excitedly promoting special Friday night events, including music, entertainment, good food and sale prices. Recently, my wife and I attended another kind of special event that happens weekly on East Vine Street in Lancaster. Each Thursday evening, a group of ex-inmates and some family and friends gather at the Lord's House of Prayer fellowship hall. There was food, fellowship, anointed worship and prayer, and many friends who care. Sponsored by Spirit and Word Ministries, led by Chaplains Lenny Pelsinski and Karin White, EXIT brought about 60 persons together the night we visited.



The evening began with a tasty meal, followed by spirited singing of worship songs. Songs about “my best friend Jesus”, “God is stronger than my hardest fight” and “Oh break through, Lord, through all my pain, guilt and shame” seemed to speak about life that these persons were struggling with. A Bible teacher, Gary, began his sharing by asking a number of persons to give “30 second testimonies” of what God did since the previous Thursday get together. Many responded with enthusiastic sharing, followed by prayers and “praise the Lord’s” and hand claps of affirmation. Gary then asked several persons to stand and read various Scriptures. The theme of the verses showed how anyone can be part of the people of God by allowing Jesus to change them. The teacher said “Remember, your new redeemed life can be a trophy of God’s grace. And when your life changes, you also will want to serve and help others.”



WHY WE KEEP GOING TO EXIT

By Larry and Marian Harnly



While I (Marian) was visiting Sue in Lancaster County Prison, she talked about her need to have a “new beginning”, something that would help her stop the destructive cycle in her life. Upon Sue’s release, we took her to EXIT, not only because she needed transportation, but we also wanted to see what was going on there. EXIT provided many new beginnings for Sue; new activities, a new place to meet, new friends, new focus in life and new positive role models. We also experienced many new happenings as we were invited to come to EXIT every week and join the mentoring team.

It is now six years from the first time we took Sue to explore what EXIT was all about. We often say “there are certainly no two weeks the same”. This is no “church as usual” at EXIT. But God is meeting people and changing them. We provide transportation, food, teaching, prayers and friendships. We remind ourselves often that “when God is in control, nothing is out of control.”

Overheard in a Bible class at LCP...

A Bible Teacher told several men, who were preparing to be released from prison, the following quote: “If you have less than 5 godly men ready to stand with you when you get out, you will probably fail. Yes, God can change you instantly and powerfully, but we all need godly people to walk with, help and mentor us. You won’t make it on your own. So allow others to speak positively into your lives as soon as you are released.” Mentors, prayer warriors and helpers are always needed in reentry. Can you help?



**COME TO THE ANNUAL AUCTION
OCTOBER 24 & 25, 2008
FARMERSVILLE AUCTION GROUNDS**



**This year's auction is SFPM'S
SILVER ANNIVERSARY**

Friday Evening:

4-7 P.M. Chicken Barbeque (Eat in or take out)

5:00 P.M. Auction of quality merchandise, hardware, flowers, gift certificates, Winross trucks and collectible toys, and a big selection of meats and groceries.



Saturday:

6 A.M. Delicious Pancake and Sausage Breakfast

8:30 A.M. Auction begins with quality merchandise for home, farm, and business, including framed pictures, quilts, hand-crafted items, pedal tractors, and theme baskets.

Our auction goal is to clear \$90,000 after expenses, to be shared with LANCASTER COUNTY PRISON and YOUTH CENTER CHAPLAINCY PROGRAMS, EXIT (Ex-Offenders in Transition), FREEDOM GATE, TRANSITION TO COMMUNITY and WE CARE PROGRAMS.



Handmade wooden & leather items made by inmates and paintings done by inmates will be sold throughout the auction

Donations of quality merchandise, theme baskets and gift certificates are needed. Volunteers needed to help prepare for and work on Auction Day. Attention Quilters: We have tops to be quilted if you can help. For more information, call: Nelson Martin (717) 625-0232, Glenn Hoover (717) 569-2475 or Cliff Martin (717) 336-6411.



Delicious homemade foods and baked goods Friday and Saturday



Brand New Farmall Super H tractor

MANY VALUABLE GIFT CERTIFICATES

From area businesses for food, lodging, professional and home services.



NEW & ORIGINAL WOODEN 3-D PICTURE BY LORRAINE REIFF. PHOTO WILL BE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE IN OCTOBER.

Since the SFPM annual auction began in 1984, over \$1.4 million has been contributed to prison ministries.

Check our website's Annual Auction Pages for more information at www.supportforprisonministries.org

A time to say Thank You

Seed, Time and Harvest Appreciation Banquet for Prison Ministry Volunteers

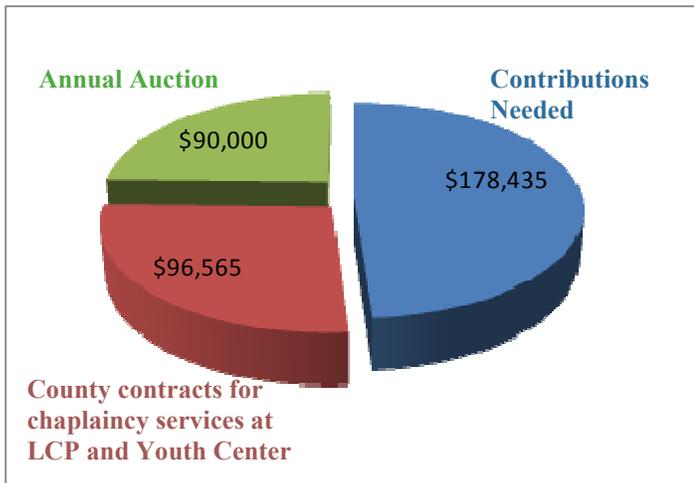
About 100 persons enjoyed a free dinner (donated by Tom and Helen Zeager from Hershey Farm Restaurant) and an evening of encouragement on June 3. The banquet was a time to show appreciation for various persons involved, both inside Lancaster County Prison and aftercare/reentry work. Several county officials brought greetings and persons who were helped by prison ministry programs shared their stories. A new organization (Christian Alliance for Prison Aftercare – CAPA) was also introduced as a way for various Lancaster area faith based ministries to work together.

Check out our website for updated photos and information: www.supportforprisonministries.org

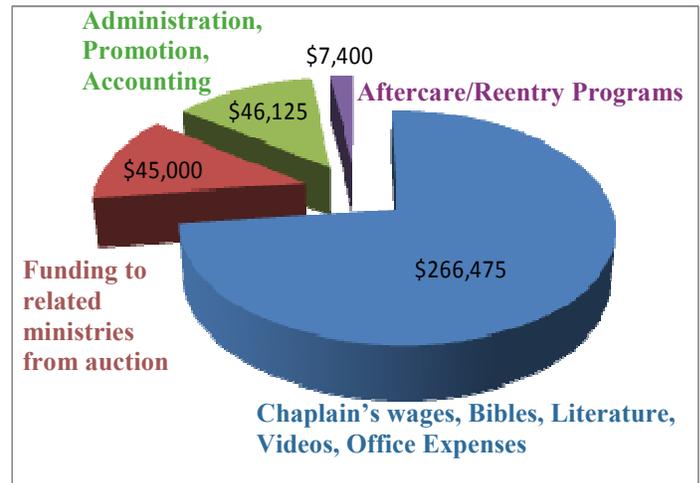
Focus On Finances

2008 Budget: \$365,000

Income



Expenses



A self-addressed envelope is enclosed for your gift to partner with SFPM.

Director's Report: GOD BEGAN A GOOD WORK . . . IN YOU !

by Nelson W. Martin



Recently I was impressed with how the same Scripture can speak in different situations. Paul wrote in Philippians 1:6 "Being confident that he (God) who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion at the day of Christ Jesus". One evening I used that verse to challenge a group of pastors and church leaders, both to know who they are in Christ and to call others to Christian maturity. Just a few days later, I used the same Scripture as I brought greetings to those just getting out of prison (see EXIT article on page 2). If God did indeed start a new life in us when we came to Jesus, then we are all special persons for Him. God loves us and has a plan for our lives. Each one of us is created to honor God and serve others. You may not be a pastor or church leader. You may not be an ex-inmate or recovering addict. **BUT WHEREVER YOU ARE IN LIFE, YOU CAN CLAIM THIS VERSE. LET GOD, WHO BEGAN THE GOOD WORK IN YOU, CONTINUE IT IN YOUR JOURNEY OF FAITH.**