



Freedom Focus

A Newsletter with information for your partnering with us in

Volume 21
Number 82
Fall 2020

“Proclaiming Freedom for Prisoners”



BENEFIT AUCTION CANCELED FOR OCTOBER 2020

The Support for Prison Ministries auction, held each October, has been described often as a prison family reunion. Great food, laughter and fellowship all taking place with the backdrop of auctioneer’s chatter. This year, though, we are sad to announce that due to Covid-19 restrictions, the board of SFPM has made the decision to cancel our annual auction event. We realized there was no way we could conduct an inside auction and be in compliance with the states social distancing guidelines.

This would have been our 37th Auction. Since the auction began, over \$2.8 million in proceeds have been given to prison ministries. One of the original founders of the SFPM auction is Glenn Hoover, who still contributes an active role in the auction today. He commented, “I was very disappointed to see it be canceled this year, but understand why and I am already looking forward to the October 22 to 23, 2021 auction.”

Nelson Martin, retired SFPM Director, is still active as auction coordinator. He says, “This would have been my 21st auction. It takes a lot of planning and work, but it was always a highlight of the year. Sorry for the cancellation.”

WILL YOU HELP US COVER THE SHORTFALL?

This will obviously bring a shortfall to our Support For Prison Ministries budget. We are asking that you consider a special gift this fall to help cover the losses from not having the auction. Our staff at Lancaster County Prison and Youth Intervention Center have been faithfully serving the entire time during this virus. Thank you in advance for your generosity during this time of COVID-19 uncertainties.

To make a donation to help cover the shortfall please send a check in the enclosed envelope. Or for those who receive this digitally you can mail a check to SFPM, PO Box 727, Brownstown, PA 17508-0727. On line donations are also welcome. Go to our website: www.supportforprisonministries.com and click on the Donate button.

Thank you for your support!!

**And our Friday night chicken dinner is still happening.
See the next page for all the details!!!**





TAKE OUT CHICKEN DINNER

We are still having our Chicken BBQ Dinner on Friday night, October 23!

Available at three locations for your convenience!

**From 4 PM to 7PM
(or until dinners run out)**

Meal includes:



Delicious chicken
Cheesy potatoes
Green beans
Coleslaw
Applesauce
Dinner roll
Whoopie pie
Drink



Suggested Donation: \$12/meal

Available for pick up at the following places:

Mellinger Mennonite Church

1916 Lincoln Hwy E, Lancaster

Martin's Country Market

1717 W Main St, Ephrata

Good's Store

1338 Main St, Blue Ball

For questions or more information:

sfpmdb@gmail.com

717-859-5519



Marvin "Chap" Reed

Well done, good and faithful servant!



Support for Prison Ministries is sad to announce that on June 7, 2020, our dear brother, Marvin Reed, always known as "Chap" left this earth and moved in with Jesus. Marvin spent 31 years serving in the Lancaster County Prison on our Chaplain staff. He also served on our staff at the Youth Intervention Center. Just a few weeks before his passing, he was talking on the phone with the chaplain's office and saying how much he wishes he could still be coming in to minister but his body will not allow it. Right up until the end his heart was in prison ministry! Chap, we will miss you!

Congratulations!

On Saturday, May 30, Jeryl & Bethany Zimmerman married in the midst of Covid restrictions. Jeryl is the Chaplaincy Coordinator for SFPM at the Youth Intervention Center. While the wedding was not what they had originally planned...they felt God's blessing as they were surrounded by a small group of friends and family. Congratulations!!!



SFPM Welcomes Jason McKinney to the Youth Intervention staff. Jason will be working part time as a chaplain, working with the young people at YIC. Jason lives in Lancaster with his wife, Nicole, and their daughter, Nayliana.

Jason graduated from McCaskey High School and attended HACC. He worked for Teen Haven for 9 years and the School District of Lancaster for 3 years. Jason and Nicole are the leaders of **DIVE**, **D**isciples of **C**hrist whose **I**dentify is rooted in Christ that experience **V**ictory in Christ and are **E**mpowered to fulfill their calling through Christ.

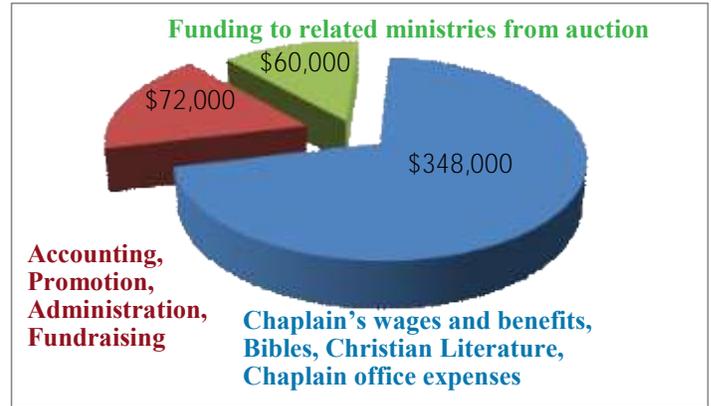
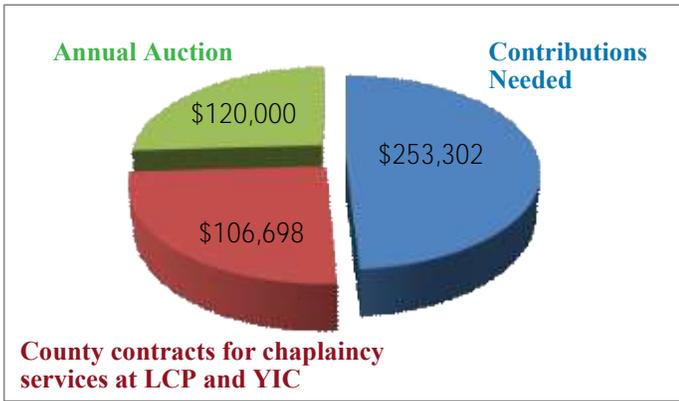
The McKinneys attend a home church called Activ8 ITLM. They love trying new restaurants together and his favorite verse is 2 Corinthians 5:20, *"We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God."* **Welcome Jason!**

Focus On Finances

Income

2020 Budget: \$480,000

Expenses



You can also make a donation on line through our website.

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

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

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Support for Prison Ministries

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: GOD IS NOT SURPRISED

By Del Burkholder, SFPM Director

Several weeks ago, I received a phone call from another prison director. He asked how my day was going. I replied, "Well, our prison office at Lancaster just flooded over the weekend from a broken pipe above the office." His reply was, "Yes, that kind of describes the year in prison ministry doesn't it?"

To say that it has been a challenging year is an understatement. While COVID-19 has been a surprise to most of the human race, it has not been a surprise to God. Just remember wherever there is a flood God will put an Ark and a remnant that looks toward him for deliverance and safety.

God has been richly growing us all through Christ during this year. Great and mighty things are happening through our ministry in prison as our chaplains continue to work daily in a challenging environment.

Thank you for your prayers and support during this time.