

## CHANGED LIVES IN PRISON

Chaplain Michael Booth teaches a weekly third floor Bible study group at Lancaster County Prison (LCP). Recently several men from this class wrote about things they've learned.



**Enrique T:** God has given me strength and a new focus. When I get depressed thinking about my case and the things I've done, I read the Bible. I know God is listening to me when I pray. I realize that when I was living in the street that it was not good. I have a desire today to live for Jesus. It feels good knowing God loves me and is living in me.

**Leonard Y:** Getting saved and going to Bible study helped me to discover God's word. God has given me new insight into who I am as a man. I also have the gift of writing to express my feelings. This is my poem.

*I was a diamond in the rough, treasure in the trash.  
I had a filthy crack addiction and I could not get enough,  
I had good qualities in me, but kicking crack was tough.  
I was enveloped by obsessions and compulsions, trapped by selfish desires.  
In a love relationship with a drug. The drug had always been a liar.  
And in fact I was no longer getting high, the high got me.  
I thought myself to be fulfilling a thrill, but the only thing fulfilled was misery.  
I was dancing in darkness with the devil.  
He seduced me with a drug that I thought I loved,  
I was a puppet and a rebel.  
But now I can see my darkness fading away, with my true light shining.  
I praise God He has washed that sin away.  
I'm so clean now my glows almost blinding.  
So now I repent and I refuse to let the darkness invade my light.  
I see addiction as spiritual warfare, and my spirit won't let me lose without a fight.  
I've been transformed from the inside out.  
My sinful nature had become transformed to spiritual,  
So spirituality is what I'm about.  
My life has been reformed, I'm a miracle.  
Friends and family had given up on me, but I never gave up on myself.  
I'm going to go and be all I can be. I'll be a better man if they ever come to me.  
The old me is gone and the new man has come.  
So let it be written, so let it be done.  
I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.  
This is my testimony, writing for recovery is my ministry  
Yes, I am a member of the recovering community.  
But I am also a resident in the kingdom of God.  
I know I need God to beat the odds.  
Many people say that I'll go back to the filthy pleasures of my past.  
But the word of God says that I have deliverance from my past.  
And now I'm a son, formerly treasure in the trash.*

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# Meet our Prison Staff



Lancaster County Prison Staff  
 Back row:  
 Marvin Reed, Al Huber,  
 Michael Booth, Isaias Maldonado  
 Front row:  
 Katie Mininger, Diane Fulmer,  
 Faye Stauffer



Youth Intervention Center Staff  
 Katie Mininger, Marvin Reed, Joel Bare



Addictions Counselors  
 David Hain and Steve Martin

Mark your calendar!!

## COME TO THE ANNUAL AUCTION OCTOBER 22 & 23, 2010 FARMERSVILLE AUCTION GROUNDS

Delicious homemade foods and baked goods available Friday evening and Saturday

Original 3-D Handcarved Picture by Lorraine Reiff



Framed pictures  
 Some pictures  
 made by inmates



Pedal Tractors



Theme Baskets

Many Valuable Gift  
 Certificates from area  
 businesses for food,  
 lodging, professional  
 and home services.



Quilts, afghans,  
 wall hangings

Auction services provided by Kline, Kreider and Good Auctioneers

Since the SFPM annual auction began in 1984, almost \$1.6 million has been contributed to prison ministries.

Check our website's Annual Auction Pages for more information at [www.supportforprisonministries.org](http://www.supportforprisonministries.org)

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### **Reynaldo R.**

I enjoy Bible study with the chaplains at LCP. God is teaching me to memorize scriptures, pray and forgive other people. Spanish is my first tongue so my English is not very good but studying scriptures is helping my English. I love reading His word. God is changing my life in many ways. I am learning how to manage my anger instead of having my anger manage me. Even though I am in prison and away from my family, God has shown me that He can take care of them.

### **Gordon B.**

Coming to Bible study in the mornings is helping me with my situation. I realize that I am going upstate to penitentiary but it's ok. I know that God is not done with me yet. Jeremiah 29:11 says He still has a plan for my life. I am seeking the Lord now and believe that when I return to my family that I will be a better man for them.

## **WANTED: MORE CHURCHES, BUSINESSES AND INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS TO PARTNER WITH EXCITING LOCAL PROGRAMS OF PRISON MINISTRY.**

Here are some ways you can help bring God's love and hope to men and women behind bars.

### **A. Prayer**

Foundational to the success of our programs. We print a monthly prayer listing – can be mailed, emailed or read on our website.

### **B. Giving**

Annual budget is \$390,000, almost \$200,000 needed from contributions. Churches, businesses and many persons make regular contributions.

**C. Distribute** quarterly newsletters, monthly prayer lists, and other prison literature to a wider circle of persons.

**D. Invite Resource Speakers.** Nelson Martin, director, and staff chaplains can preach, teach classes, meet with mission committees, men's prayer breakfasts, community organizations, etc. to help educate the public about opportunities for local mission with those behind bars, persons being released and their families. We also have a 6 X 8' furnished model prison cell that is a very effective visual aid.

**E. Get involved in aftercare/transitional ministries.** SFPM networks with a number of faith based agencies that help inmates when released, both men and women's facilities.

**F. Have approval for LCP/YIC visitation.** Almost 4,000 one-on-one pastor (or other representatives of congregations) visits happen each year. Prior approval for visiting is needed. Guidelines and forms are available on line.

[www.supportforprisonministries.org](http://www.supportforprisonministries.org)

### **FACTS AND FIGURES 2009 Lancaster County Prison**

- **Number of visits made by area pastors to inmates: 3,675**
- **Number of Bibles distributed to inmates : About 1,700**
- **Number of Bible study courses completed by inmates: 2,377**
- **Number of inmate requests/contacts handled by the chaplain's office 12,700**

### **CHAPLAIN'S NOTES FROM PRISON**

**Note received from male inmate:** "I was a serious addict. I knew that Jesus Christ loved me, but I always tried to live in my own strength. All that got me was more trouble. Again and again I would really mess up. Now I have recommitted my life to Jesus and I intend to live from now on for God."

**Received from a female inmate:** "I can't stop thinking about how much you care about me. I see you as the mother figure I never had growing up. You even cried with me. I pray that I can make you proud of me someday. I've never opened up to Christians before for fear of judgment, but you make me feel comfortable while trying to help me. Thanks for renewing my hope and faith, enough to keep me going."

**Written comments from "Every Man's Battle" study class:** "Thanks (Support for Prison Ministries) for providing the books and teaching materials for this great class. Thanks (Bud Roda) for teaching the inmates the truth of God's Word about sexual purity and moral strength. If it wasn't for this class, I would still be struggling with my sexual immoralities."

Check out our website for updated photos and information: [www.supportforprisonministries.org](http://www.supportforprisonministries.org)

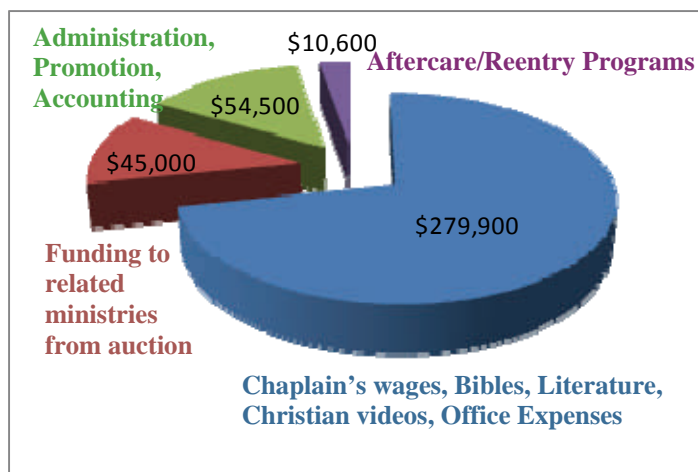
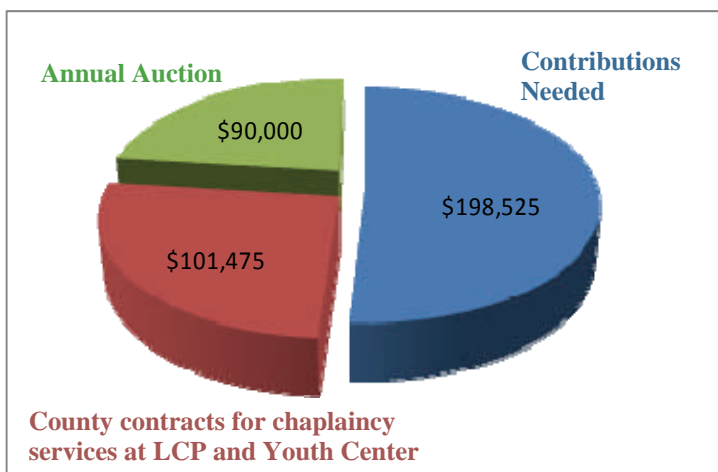
## Focus On Finances

In addition to cash contributions, we can receive gifts in other ways: donations of stock, real estate, life income plans, bequests and charitable designations from wills.

Income

**2010 Budget: \$390,000**

Expenses



**A self-addressed envelope is enclosed for your gift to partner with SFPM.  
THANKS FOR YOUR CONTINUED STRONG CONTRIBUTIONS**

### HEARTBREAK RIDGE AND NEW HOPE ROAD DIRECTOR'S REPORT By Nelson W. Martin



I recently was listening to a tape while driving. One song reminded me about the tasks our faithful chaplains and prison ministry volunteers do on a regular basis. The song told of a "faithful preacher who pitched his tent and preached to anyone who would listen. Into the service came a man deep in sin, lost and hopeless. The troubled man heard the gospel and new life came when God touched his life. His testimony: I am a new man because I heard the gospel at the corner of Heartbreak Ridge and New Hope Road."

Our chaplains don't pitch tents, but they use many tools, such as God's Word, listening, caring, praying for and speaking truth, to many troubled and hopeless inmates. Some have desperate needs. Many come from dysfunctional backgrounds. Sin and wrong choices have wrecked their lives. But praise God, some find the truth, put their faith in God and find renewed hope and healing. They may have lived on Heartbreak Ridge, but now changed their residence to New Hope Road.