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New Leadership for the RJMN of Texas

At the October, 2012 Board Meeting, the leadership of the Restorative Justice Ministries Network of Texas underwent a change. The Board of Directors accepted the resignation of the current Executive Director Emmett Solomon and appointed the 10 year Ministry Assistant Bill Kleiber to take up the role of Executive Director on January 1, 2013.

Emmett cited health concerns as the primary reason for his resignation. He was one of the founders of the ministry and has been the Executive Director for 19 years. He wholeheartedly recommends Mr. Kleiber saying, "Bill has been carrying a large part of this ministry for the past 4 or 5 years. *Continued on Page 2*



Bill Kleiber

New employment video

One of the foremost challenges faced by formerly incarcerated offenders is finding a job following their release. The problem they encounter is that many employers automatically deny consideration to released offenders simply because they have a past criminal record.

In an effort to promote recognition of this social problem, the Criminal Justice Ministry of the Diocese of Austin in conjunction with the Travis County Commissioners Court has developed a video to encourage employers to consider interviewing formerly incarcerated persons for job openings that are available in their businesses.

The video entitled *Why Hire Ex-Offenders?*, which is just under 10 minutes in duration, can be viewed at this website: *Continued on page 3*

IN THIS ISSUE

RJMN new leadership	2
New film, Greatest Gift 2.0	2
Does RJ mean forgiveness?	3
Regional News	4
Collateral Consequences	5
R. J. Events	6
New work begun	7
Ministries Directory	8-14
Experiencing God Weekend	15
Dear Editor	16
Once Life Matters	17
2012 RJMN report	21
Solitary Confinement	20
Criminal justice reform	21

New leadership for the RJMN of Texas

Continued from page 1

At the same meeting long time Ministry Assistant Anita Parrish experienced a change in her job title. She will assume the role of Comptroller of Accounts for the ministry.

Bill and Anita will provide continuity within this ministry and hope that you will continue to partner with them in the service of our Lord during the coming years.

Over the course of the last 10 years our Lord has raised up Bill Kleiber to be one of His great ministers. He has touched many thousands of lives on behalf of God during the past 10 years. He currently: 1) Heads up the First Contact Ministry to the loved ones of prisoners on the day of release in front of the Walls Unit. 2) He leads the Bus Station Ministry in Huntsville which touches about 500 men each week. 3) Oversees the Recovery Center in Huntsville, a transitional facility primarily for parolees.

Anita Parrish is a great minister also. She not only manages the business end of this ministry, but on her days off she leads ministry at Burning Hope Baptist Church in Trinity, Texas where her husband Jim is the Pastor. Anita has overseen the development of our data base which now includes about 90,000 church people who have done or are interested in ministry within the Justice Arena. Together God has used Jim and Anita to build a church that is totally ministry focused. The church has a soup kitchen a couple of times a week to reach out to struggling people. It sponsors the Third Cross ministry aimed at people who are dealing with substance abuse issues. Burning Hope also sponsors the House of Hope, a transitional residence for women. She and Jim established the Trinity Food Bank some 15 years ago and turned it over to the Trinity Community to maintain.

You can see that this ministry is in the hands of experienced God Directed and Spirit Filled Ministers.

Emmett Solomon is still associated with RJMNT in his role as a Board Member.

New film, *The Greatest Gift 2.0*

by Steve Remppe

July 10, 2012

Prison Fellowship Newsletter

During the 11 years he spent in the Standish Correctional Facility in Michigan, DeWayne Wilkerson had a revelation. Realizing that poor decisions in his life had led him to where he was, Wilkerson committed to spreading the word that people have power over the choices they make in life.

After viewing an old recording of the George Burns movie *Oh God! You Devil* on a grainy black-and-white television in prison, Wilkerson decided the best way to spread this message was through filmmaking. With a copy of a book entitled *Screenwriting 101* as his guidebook, he began writing a story of good versus evil, where God walks the streets of the inner city, encouraging those he encounters to make good decisions.

The result is *The Greatest Gift 2.0*, a film that premiered at the Greater Grace Temple in Detroit on June 29.

"The greatest gift is the power to choose," says Wilkerson. "I'm trying to tell people the power is in their hands. I know, because I made the wrong decision."

The film was assembled on a shoestring budget. None of the actors appearing in the film were paid. Much of the funding came from Wilkerson's mother.

Continued on Page 19

Does restorative justice mean forgiveness?

By Lisa Rea
RJ Online, June 11, 2012

This is a pretty controversial topic: forgiveness and restorative justice. Do all crime victims who support restorative justice therefore forgive? Does one come then the other? I don't think so. I know many victims of violent crime who have forgiven. Many of their stories are at Restorative Justice Online (www.rjonline.org) and many stories I have told through Restorative Justice Online.

What is problematic to me is when advocates, experts, volunteers in the restorative justice field (or prison reform field) "expect" victims to forgive or worse they "urge" victims to forgive. To me, it is a journey that only the victim can make. Forgiveness can flow out of participating in a victim offender dialogue (i.e. a restorative justice meeting) but we cannot assume it will. It is rather presumptuous for anyone to expect of a victim of violent crime to forgive the offender. It's wonderful when it happens but it is not a necessary outcome of restorative justice.

It is very important that all crime victims feel they can explore restorative justice and find the value it provides them if they choose to participate. Experiencing restorative justice can mean participating in a victim offender dialogue but it can mean other things as well. Restitution is certainly an important part of restorative justice. RJ Online believes restitution is a key ingredient in paying back the victim or restoring the victim, as much as possible. The offender should pay that restitution directly if at all possible, even if the process takes a long period of time.

However, no victim of crime should turn away from what restorative justice could offer them because he/she has not forgiven the offender. There should be no blaming of the victim here. But at the same time, it is important to tell the stories of victims. Many of those stories include stories of grace—stories of forgiveness. I also think crime victims can benefit from hearing these stories.

All crime victims want to know they are not alone. When they hear the stories of other victims of violent crime who benefitted from restorative justice then they are more likely to explore it as well. Healing can come through restorative justice processes. That healing, on whatever level, and empowerment is available for all victims who choose restorative justice for themselves. What do you think?

New employment video

Continued from page 1

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pVLfWf0JyeY> .

Please consider showing this video to employers in your parish or city by either accessing the video's website or by requesting a DVD copy of the video through the Contact Us page of the Texas Catholic Correctional Ministers website, (http://www.txccm.org/Contact_Us.html). You may contact by phone either: Deacon Doots Dufour at 512-949-2462 or John Giluly at 512-949-2460, Diocese of Austin, Criminal Justice Ministry, 6225 Highway 290 East, Austin, TX 78723-1025.

Regional News by Richard Blake

The ingenuity of volunteers and prison officials continue to come up with unique new programs to help inmates creatively use their prison time in proactive ways for self-improvement and to reduce recidivism as the men and women return to their local communities. I have included several of these efforts recently initiated below.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS – Cook County Jail

Cook County Jail recently introduced a program offering guitar lessons to inmates. The program is designed to provide group lessons to ten detainees from among a pool of more than 300 minimum and medium security inmates. It is hoped that this will allow the participants to channel their feelings into a song instead of inciting a fight. Rock guitarist Wayne Kramer donated ten acoustic guitars for the program and Mike Vanier, a local musician, has volunteered to instruct the classes with the help of songwriter Steffen Keating.

IRVING, CALIFORNIA – Ridgeland Correctional Facility

A woodworking vocational trade program is credited with reshaping the lives of inmates at the Ridgeland Correctional Facility by shaping wood into useful products according to Al Tuten, head of the prison's vocational trade program. He reports that among the estimated 1,000 inmates who have completed the program the recidivism rate has dropped from approximately 70 percent to 30 or 35 percent.

Tuten has helped many students get woodworking jobs when they were released from prison, as a result of the skills they developed through the program.

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) released a report showing that the recidivism rate in California continued to decline in 2012 for the second straight year. The recidivism rate is 63.7 percent against 65.1 percent in 2011. CDCR secretary Matthew Cate attributes this improvement to the reforms undertaken in 2007 and 2008, including placement, supervision, and case management of offenders.

OTHER NEWS OUTSIDE OF SACRAMENTO

After six years of working closely with a federal reviewer to bring prison medical care into compliance with the U.S. Constitution, the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) is reclaiming responsibility for health care access and the building and running of new facilities.

ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA – Crisis Intervention

Last Month the fourth Department of Corrections Crisis Intervention Class graduated. The program provides the participants training tools, stratagems, and procedures that will allow corrections staff, behavioral health providers, and advocates to better facilitate interaction with the needs and services provided the mentally ill offenders during their period of incarceration.

Continued on page 22

State by state database of collateral consequences

From Grits for Breakfast Blog
Tuesday, September 25, 2012

A reader informs me of a new national inventory of collateral consequences * resulting from criminal convictions, from employment to government benefits to education to civic participation, with state-by state specifics. The website was created by the American Bar Association and the National Institute of Justice. Here's an interesting excerpt from the Project Description articulating why the project was undertaken:

Persons convicted of crime are subject to a wide variety of legal and regulatory sanctions and restrictions in addition to the sentence imposed by the court. These so-called "collateral consequences" of conviction have been promulgated with little coordination in disparate sections of state and federal codes, which makes it difficult for anyone to identify all of the penalties and disabilities that are triggered by conviction of a particular offense. While collateral consequences have been a familiar feature of the American justice system since colonial times, they have become more important and more problematic in the past 20 years for three reasons: they are more numerous and more severe, they affect more people, and they are harder to avoid or mitigate. As a result, millions of Americans are consigned to a kind of legal limbo because at one point in their past they committed a crime.

Some collateral consequences serve an important and legitimate public safety or regulatory function, such as keeping firearms out of the hands of violent offenders, protecting children or the elderly from persons with a history of abuse, or barring people convicted of fraud from positions of public trust. Others are directly related to the particular crime, such as registration requirements for sex offenders, driver's license restrictions for those convicted of serious traffic offenses, or debarment of those convicted of procurement fraud. But many others apply across the board to people convicted of crimes, without regard to any relationship between crime and consequence, and frequently without consideration of how long ago the crime occurred or what the individual has managed to accomplish since. Many consist of nothing more than a direction to conduct a criminal background check, and an unspoken warning that it is safest to reject anyone with a record. When convicted persons are limited in their ability to support themselves and to participate in the political process, this has both economic and public safety implications. When society is discouraged from recognizing and rewarding genuine rehabilitation, this has moral and social implications as well. When particular restrictions have no apparent regulatory rationale, and cannot be avoided or mitigated, they function as additional punishment, though without due process protections.

Of particular relevance in the present context is the fact that collateral consequences are scattered throughout the code-books and frequently unknown even to those responsible for their administration and enforcement. The Supreme Court has recognized that when a person considering a guilty plea is unaware of severe consequences that will inexorably follow, this raises questions of fairness and implicates the constitutional right to effective assistance of counsel. See *Padilla v. Kentucky*, 130 S. Ct. 1473 (2010). When the obligations and restrictions imposed as a result of conviction are unknown to those individuals directly affected by them, it invites noncompliance with the law. When legislatures and executive officials are unaware of the full range of penalties and disabilities imposed by law on convicted individuals, it is unlikely that they will take the opportunity to reconsider them, in whole or in part.

As an example of how vast the number of collateral consequences are in practice, go to Texas and search on "Employment" and "Any Misdemeanor," and 116 different state and federal statutory and regulatory restrictions are listed.

* national inventory of collateral consequences <http://www.abacollateralconsequences.org/>

Restorative Justice Ministry Events Calendar

February 20-22, 2013, 5th Annual National Prisoner's Family Conference

Hilton Houston Southwest, Houston, TX

Early Bird Registration Deadline: December 15, 2012

Registration form and conference information: www.prisonersfamilyconference.org

March 6-8, 2013, West Coast Regional Conference

Santa Clarita, CA (LA area)

For information contact COPE office at office@copeconnections.org

May 30-June 1, 2013, Serving Together Conference

Billy Graham Center at Wheaton College, Illinois

For information: email at ipm@wheaton.edu and www.bgcpisonministries.org

Let us place your restorative justice events on the Events Calendar!

Send information to: R.J.NEWS@restorativejusticeneeds.net

The work has begun!



Telford Prison Ministries, Inc.
October , 2012 e-Newsletter Volume 3, Issue 4

Behind the controls of the bulldozer is Ben Conditt. Richard Thompson is in the foreground. Both are part of the beginning of the new Overnight Stay Facility near the Telford Prison Unit, New Boston, Texas! Some trees had to be removed two weeks ago, but the ground work on the concrete pad began on October 12, 2012!!

We have been waiting for this day for years!!

When Hospitality Director Edna Walker was informed the ground-work would begin today, she said, **"Whoo Hoo!"** I think that's how most of us feel. Thanks to the generosity of many interested folks, the great project was able to go forward.

At the annual volunteer appreciation banquet the Executive Committee approved the bids obtained by Jerry O'Rear, building superintendent. This approval allowed construction to begin!! The new building should be completed in six months.

This facility is needed because the Samaritan House is old and in constant need of repairs. Plus, we are down to three rooms at the Samaritan House. The new facility will double our space available for overnight guests.

We will soon need help in obtaining furnishing and equipment for the interior. Donations are still needed to obtain beds, tables and appliances. For information contact Telford Prison Ministries, Inc. 106 South Davis Street, Apt. #1C, New Boston, TX 75570.

Ministry Resources from Restorative Justice Ministries Network
1229 Avenue J, Huntsville TX 77340

Order online at: <http://rjmn.net/resources.html>

Recommended for ministry people:

- Challenging the Impossible: Discovering Beautiful Trophies for Jesus- Joe Fauss** \$13.00 _____
 The inspirational story of Joe and Charlotte Fauss, who have spent the past 31 years reaching out to prisoners.
- The Real World of Restorative Justice Ministry- Pastor Dave Umfreville** \$13.00 _____
 Timeless principles in a restorative justice ministry arena. Dedicated to those who labor in this field.
- Families on the Gallows of Criminal Justice - Roger Hollar** \$35.00 _____
 This is a complete manual for churches on doing ministry with at-risk families and children of inmates.
- Ministry Action Awareness Clinic - Roger Hollar** \$13.00 _____
 Develops awareness of the at-risk nature of families & children of inmates. Introduces the Mercy Heart model for ministry.

Recommended for ministry & offenders:

- Serving Time, Serving Others - Tom & Laura Lagana** \$18.00 _____
 Acts of kindness by inmates, prison staff, victims, and volunteers
- Chicken Soup for the Volunteer's Soul -Canfield,Hensen,Oberst,Boal,Lagana** \$18.00 _____
 Stories to celebrate the spirit of courage, caring and community
- Chicken Soup for the Prisoner's Soul -Canfield, Hensen, Lagana** \$18.00 _____
 Stories to celebrate the spirit of courage, caring and community
- Karla Faye Tucker SET FREE-Linda Strom** \$12.00 _____
 Her Death-Row transformation captured the world's attention. Uplifting, good read
Spanish version also available \$12.00 _____
- Restoring Peace Using Lessons from Prison to Mend Broken Relationships - Kirk Blackard** \$13.00 _____
 Forward by John Sage, Founder, Bridges To Life A book about how to really restore any broken relationship.

Recommended for offender's families and friends:

- What Is Jail, Mommy? - Jackie A. Stanglin** \$13.00 _____
 It is the author's firm belief that it is incumbent on each of us to provide age-appropriate facts to young inquiring minds. To do otherwise will be evident in future generations. *Spanish version also available* \$13.00 _____
- Family Arrested: How to Survive the Incarceration of a Loved One - Ann Edenfiel** \$16.00 _____
 Ann Edenfield is Executive Director of Wings Ministry, a ministry to families of inmates.
Audio tape book also available \$23.00 _____
- An Inmate's Daughter - Jan Walker** \$11.00 _____
 Jan Walker taught parenting and family relationships to adult felons for eighteen years. She used her background and success with incarcerated dads to create this 'true fiction' novel
- Recommended for offenders:**
- Man, I Need a Job- Ned Rollo** \$11.00 _____
 Provides offenders the insights and skills they need to find and keep a job following release
- 99 Days and a Get Up - Ned Rollo** \$13.00 _____
 A guide to success following release for inmates and their loved ones.
- Life Without A Crutch - Ingraham, Bell, Rollo** \$11.00 _____
 An introduction to recovery from addiction
- The Ex-offender's Re-Entry Success Guide - Drs. Ron & Caryl Krannich** \$10.00 _____
 Smart choices for making it on the outside for good! Insights, advice, self-tests, examples and exercises.
- Total** \$ _____

All prices include shipping and handling. We can mail books to prisoners on your behalf.

SEND BOOK(S) TO:

INSTITUTION: _____ **INMATE #:** _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

PURCHASER: _____ **PHONE:** _____

Use this Ministry ID Key to locate Ministry Emphasis:

*1=Prison *2=Non-residential Aftercare *3=Victim *4=Professionals *5=Juvenile Offenders *6=Family
*7=Resources for other RJMs *8=Residential Aftercare *9=Jails *10=By Mail

*CANADA

- 1,2,3,6,7,9** **Bridges to New Life Society**
Rob Baskin
1197 Sutherland Ave
Kelowna
BC V1V 5Y2
1-250-448-6975
1-250-448-6977 Fax
hope@bridgestnl.org
www.bridgesTNL.org
- 1,7** **Restorative Justice Ministry
Network of Canada**
Darryl McCullough
89 Kimberley Avenue
Bracebridge on P1L 2A4
705-646-2657
705-646-5828 Fax
darryl.mccullough@sympatico.ca
- Canadian School of Peacebuilding.
Canadian Mennonite University**
500 Shaftesbury Blvd
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3P2N2
204-487-2200

*SCOTLAND

- 1** **Christian Prison Ministries
Scotland**
Colin Cuthbert
PO Box 8806
Carluke ML8 4RJ
015-557-71157

ALABAMA

- 7** **Mothers Against Methamphetamine**
Mary Holley, M.D.
PO Box 8
Arab 35016-0008
256-498-6262
256-498-6263 Fax
drholley@mamasite.net
www.mamasite.net
- 10** **Anti-drug Correspondence Course**

ARKANSAS

- 9** **Cornerstone Baptist Jail
Chaplaincy**
Ron Faught
PO Box 93
Cave City 72521
ronfaught3@aol.com

CALIFORNIA

- 1,5,9,10** **Follow up Ministries**
Glenn L Morrison
PO Box 2514
Castro Valley 94546-0514
510-881-1178
510-881-8043 Fax
Fumi2000@msn.com
www.followupministries.org

COLORADO

- 5** **Youth Transformation Center**
Jeannette Holtham
PO Box 38074
Colorado Springs 80937
719-440-1983
www.youthtransformationcenter.org
- 4** **Desert Waters**
Ventline for Correctional Staff &
Families
PO Box 355
Florence 81226
866-968-8368
youvent@desertwaters.com
www.desertwaters.com

FLORIDA

- 1,4,9,10** **Christ To Inmates**
Rev Perry Davis
PO Box 309
DeLand 32721
386-734-4383
christtoinmates@cfl.rr.com

- 8(M)** **Prisoners of Christ**
Daniel O Palmer
PO Box 28159
Jacksonville 32226-8159
904-358-8866
904-358-8829 Fax

- 1,2,6,10** **Set My Way Free Ministries**
James Gossaid
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904-355-4195 FAX
setmywayfree87@gmail.com
http://sites.google.com/site/setmywayfr
eeministries

- 1,8(M),10** **Matthew 25 Ministries Inc**
PO Box 5690
Lake Worth 33466
561-432-9072
dickwitherow@comcast.net
www.matthew25ministries.org

- 1** **Diocese of Palm Beach**
Sr Betty Francino OSF
PO Box 109650
Palm Beach Gardens 33410-9650
561-775-9543

- 1** **Horizon Communities Inc.**
Ike Griffin, President
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Tallahassee 32301
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407-252-6123 Mobile
Administrative Office
405 El Camino Real Ste
Menlo Park CA 94025
Ike@horizoncommunities.org

www.horizoncommunities.org
Blog: http://ikegriffin.blogspot.com

ILLINOIS

- 8** **Koinonia House National
Ministry for families**
Manny Mill
PO Box 1415
Wheaton 60189-1415
630-221-9930
630-221-9932
info@koinoniahouse.org
www.koinoniahouse.org

INDIANA

- 8** **Wings Of Hope**
Linda Kluczinske, Exec Dir
2720 Fairfield Ave
Fort Wayne 46807
260-745-1005
bhldthLamb@aol.com
www.wingsofhopeprisonministry.org

IOWA

- 7,10** **ECS Ministries**
Alan Stoltz
PO Box 1028
Dubuque 52004-1028
563-585-2070
563-585-1660 Fax
astoltz@ecsministries.org
www.ecsministries.org

LOUISIANA

- 1,2** **Moore Life Institute**
Katherine M Spears
PO Box 6433
Bossier City 71171-6433
318-742-9304
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kmoorelife@aol.com
www.moorelifeinstitute.com

MASSACHUSETTS

- 2** **Scotland Congregational Church**
Rev Peter Barclay
1000 Pleasant St
Bridgewater 02324-2211
508-697-7402
prbarclay@aol.com

- 8** **The Bridge House, NEAM INC**
Tom Stevens, Exec Director
PO Box 136
Framingham 01704-0136
508-872-6194
toms@bridgehouseneam.org
www.bridgehouseneam.org
Jean Sullivan, Intake Coordinator
jeans@bridgehouseneam.org

MAINE

2,3,6, 7,9 **Set Free in Maine**
Kenneth Stephens
249 Cushnoc Rd
Vassalboro 04989
207-622-4709
207-512-2010 **Fax**

2,3,6, 7,9 **Northeast Dream Center**
Pastor Ken Stevens
18 Lithgow St
Winslow 04901-7149
207-692-2128

MICHIGAN

6 **Crossroad Bible Institute**
Dr David Schuringa
PO Box 900
Grand Rapids 49509-0900
616-530-1300
616-530-1302 **Fax**
david@cbi.fm

MISSOURI

1,2,6,8 **Mission Gate Prison Ministry**
Rick Mathes
PO Box 6644
Chesterfield 63006
636-391-5860
636-391-6611 **Fax**
MissionGateMinistry@msn.com
www.MissionGateMinistry.org

1,2,3,5, 7,,9 **Lutheran Prison Ministry/
Al Hanson Prison Ministry**
Chaplain Allen Hanson
PO Box 168
Concordia 64020-0168
660-463-7596
alhanson@ylm.org
http://www.ylm.org/prisonministry

1,2,3,7 **Beyond the Fences Ministries
of Restorative Justice**
Rev. Harold Johnson
4120 SW James Younger Dr
Lee's Summit 64082
816-537-5696
hmjohnso@sbcglobal.net
www.morjc.org

NEBRASKA

1,2,7 **Released and Restored**
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PO Box 94633
Lincoln 68509
402-806-0565
ruth@releasedandrestored.org
www.releasedandrestored.org

NEW MEXICO

1,6 **Wings Ministry**
Ann Edenfield Sweet
2270 D Wyoming Blvd. NE #130
Albuquerque 87112
505-291-6412
505-291-6418 **FAX**
AnnEdenfield@WingsMinistry.org
www.WingsMinistry.org
Author: Family Arrested: How to Sur-
vive the Incarceration of a Loved One

NEW YORK

1,9 **Volunteers In Corrections
Assemblies of God Prison/Jail
Ministries**
Chaplain Don Snyder
12111 Ridge Rd
Medina 14103
dsnyder01@rochester.rr.com

1,2 **New Beginnings for Women**
Karen Lafina Alo
1350 Five Mile Line Rd
Penfield 14526
585-746-7730
newbeginnings@rochester.rr.com

1,2,3,4, 5,6,7,9 **Pastor Dave's Prison Ministry**
Dave Umfreville
5140 Main St Suite 303-139
Williamsville 14221
716-867-6737
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NORTH CAROLINA

10 **Ruff Edge Ministries**
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5164 Old Lexington Rd
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OHIO

1,7 **Restorative Justice Min. of Ohio**
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OKLAHOMA

1,3,4,5, 7,9,10 **Institutional Restorative Justice
Ministries**
Charles Holybee
PO Box 123
Eufaula 74432-0123
918-689-4903
918-478-5539 **Fax**
cholybee@hotmail.com

10 **Letters for the Lord**
c/o Linda Odell
PO Box 593
Harrah 73045-0593
godell5@cox.net

1,2,5, 6,8(B) **Criminal Justice & Mercy
Ministry OK Methodist Conf.**
Stan Basler
1501 NW 24th
Oklahoma City 73106
405-530-2015
sbasler@okumc.org

10 **Christian Motorsports Ministries
Prison Victory Magazine**
Roland Osborne
1006 W Taft #225
Sapulpa 74066
607-742-3407
roland@christianmotorsports.com
www.christianmotorsports.com

PENNSYLVANIA

10 **PrisonMail.org**
Earl Garber
PO Box 1602
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814-742-7500
info@prisonmail.org
www.prisonmail.org

1 **Narrow Path Prison Ministries**
Rev Gordon Coppersmith
240 E 4th St
Emporium 15834
nppm4him@cameroncounty.org
http://prisonministry.net/nppm

1,3,7,8 **Justice & Mercy Inc**
Rev John Rush, MCL
PO Box 223
Reading 19607
610-777-2222
rushjoes@aol.com
www.justicemercy.org

1 **The Yokefellowship Prison Ministry
(YPM)**
8 **New Person Center**
Rev John L Rush, Executive Director
PO Box 223
Reading 19607
610-777-2222
info@yokefellowship.org
www.yokefellowship.org

SOUTH CAROLINA

5,10 **Epiphany Ministry Inc**
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843-248-3677
843-248-8835 **Fax**
pnew@epiphanyministry.org
www.epiphanyministry.org

1,9,10 **Justice Ministries/
Prison Evangelism Outreach**
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SOUTH DAKOTA

1,2,3,10 **Prison Lighthouse**
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605-363-3784
sdpchaplains@juno.com

1,2,8(M) **Prison Congregations of America Inc**
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605-990-8330
mary@prisoncongregations.org
www.prisoncongregations.org

Use this Ministry ID Key to locate Ministry Emphasis:

*1=Prison *2=Non-residential Aftercare *3=Victim *4=Professionals *5=Juvenile Offenders *6=Family
*7=Resources for other RJMs *8=Residential Aftercare *9=Jails *10=By Mail

<p>6 Family Connection/Children's Connection Dawn Brende 303 N Minnesota Ave Sioux Falls 57104-6012 605-357-0777 605-357-0780 Fax familyconnect@hotmail.com</p>	<p>1 St Theresa Catholic Church Prison Ministry Rev. Justin Udomah 4311 Small Dr Austin 78731 512-451-5121 frjustin@sttaustin.org</p>	<p>409-832-7224 FAX info@iifbc.com www.iifbc.com</p>
<p><i>TEXAS</i></p> <p>6 Eunice Chambless Hospitality House 13378 Fm 3522 Abilene 79601-8770 325-548-2180 325-675-5414 Fax echhdir@netscape.com</p>	<p>3 Victim Services Division-TDCJ Angie McCown, Director PO Box 13401 Austin 78711-3401 800-848-4284 512-406-5417 Fax</p>	<p>6 Shepherd's Inn Gaspard Center Mary Green PO Box 20618 Beaumont 77720-0618 409-898-8797 409-892-9534 Fax mary@gtba.org www.gtba.org</p>
<p>1,2,7,9,10 TAX - Abilene Corrine Hansen 2657 Rountree Dr Abilene 79601-2034 325-676-5741</p>	<p>1,3,5,8,9 Wheless Lane Christian Brothers Restorative Ministry Robert Mitchell/Robert Sephus 2702 Wheless Ln Austin 78723 512-926-2988 c-mitchell@webtv.net www.whelesscoc.org</p>	<p>3,4,5,6,7,9,10 J.A.I.L. Ministry Inc Steve Cannon PO Box 634 Belton 76513-0634 254-933-8506 254-933-7569 Fax jailmin@vvm.com</p>
<p>2 Mission Arlington 210 W South St Arlington 76010 817-277-6620</p>	<p>6 Christian Life Crisis Intervention Dion Ainsworth PO Box 20618 Beaumont 77720-0618 409-898-8797 409-736-3983 Fax dion@gtba.org www.gtba.org</p>	<p>2 Manasseh Ministries Muriel C. Roger 6705 FM 279 Ben Wheeler 75754-5205 903-852-4402 manassehministries7@juno.com</p>
<p>1 Good Hope Prison Ministries The God of Hope Ministries Robert Dorrough 4220 Monterey Oaks Blvd Austin 78749 512-891-1649 rdorrough@TheGodofHope.org</p> <p>Linda Dueker—Women's Director ldueker@TheGodofHope.org</p>	<p>2,3 Compassion Christian Counseling Vande Derrick 1297B Calder Beaumont 77701 409-832-5772 409832-7224 Fax</p>	<p>1 Holy Ground Prison Ministry Johnny T Horan PO Box 2526 Brenham 77833 979-836-6328 daphne@gcfchurch.us</p>
<p>1,2,8(M) Prison Congregations of America Inc Mary Mortenson PO Box 1132 Mitchell 57301 605-990-8330 mary@prisoncongregations.org www.prisoncongregations.org</p>	<p>1,2,3,4, 5, 6,7,8,9,10 Criminal Justice Ministry/Diocese of Beaumont Deacon Harry Davis PO Box 3948 Beaumont 77701-2802 409-924-4300 409-838-4511 Fax criminaljustice@dioceseofbmt.org www.dioceseofbmt.org</p>	<p>1 St John Baptist Church Rev R Michael Stromille 1508 S Broadway Dr Carrollton 75006 972-242-9194 SJBC@saintjohncarrollton.com www.saintjohncarrollton.com</p>
<p>1,2,4, 6,8,10 Restorative Christian Outreach Min. Mack Bailey 7506 Ed Bluestein Blvd Austin 78723 512-926-2431 midway3060@yahoo.com</p>	<p>1 6 Golden Triangle Baptist Assoc. Dion Ainsworth PO Box 7728 Beaumont 77726 409-898-8797 dion@gtba.org www.gtba.org</p>	<p>1,9,10 Redeemed Ministries Betty G Oates PO Box 891 Chico 76431-0891 940-644-5237 940-644-2982 Fax RedeemedMinistry@hotmail.com</p>
<p>1,6,7, 9,10 Light for New Life Min Inc Rev Don Domeracki PO Box 170501 Arlington 76003-0501 817-572-5305 ddmeracki@tx.rr.com www.lightfornewlifeministries.org</p>	<p>1,3,4 International Institute of Faith Based Counseling Debbie Marcantel PO Box 20723 Beaumont 77720 409-832-9060</p>	<p>1,2,3,5, 6,7,9,10 Newlife Behavior Ministries Buck Griffith 3833 S Staples Ste S-101 Corpus Christi 78472-2188 361-855-3372 361-855-7469 Fax nlbcasa@yahoo.com www.nlbm.org</p>

1,9	Prayer-Life Seminars Inc Hugh White 630 Meadowbrook Dr Corpus Christi 78412-3019 361-993-7651 361-985-8615 Fax hughlwhite@aol.com www.prayer-lifeseminars.org	1,2,3,9	R O D Ministires Dale Truitt PO Box 710385 Dallas 75371-0385 214-827-8555 214-824-5355 Fax ddtruitt@hotmail.com www.rodministries.org	1,2,5,9,10	Deep In The Word Prison Ministry Partner in Christ, James Guerra PO Box 4752 Fort Worth 76164 214-883-3601 jguerra789@aol.com
1	The Ministry Church, Inc Therapon, Belief Therapy® & Prisoners of Hope® Dr Paul Carlin, President PO Box 1168 Crockett 75835 936-544-5400 theraponinst@earthlink.net www.theministrychurch.org	1,2,3,4,5, 6,7,9,10	St Francis Anglican Church Fr William Conner PO Box 140182 Dallas, 75201 972-900-7298 frwilliam@catholic.org www.angelfire.com/tx5/holycross	1,2,6,7,9	Mercy Heart State Office Roger Hollar, Director Pastor PO Box 163783 Fort Worth 76161 817-514-0290 Office 817-281-7413 Fax info@mercyheart.org www.mercyheart.org
1,7,9	Care Center Ministries Mel Gipson PO Box 171059 Dallas 75217 214-824-9852 214-824-3499 pastormelvin@yahoo.com	1,3,6, 7,9,10	Texas Baptist Men Don Gibson 5351 Catron Dr Dallas 75227-9927 214-828-5353 214-232-1856 Don.gibson@texasbaptistmen.org www.texasbaptistmen.org	1,6,7	Parents and Children Together (PACT) Rev Suzanne Boeglin 2836 Hemphill St Fort Worth 76110-3214 817-924-7776 pact1924@sbcglobal.net
1	Christian Fellowship Enrichment Jim Lang PO Box 700023 Dallas TX 75370 972-283-7871 jimlang41@aol.com	1,7,8,9, 10	The Salvation Army 6500 Harry Hines Blvd Dallas 75235 214-956-6276 214-956-6059 Fax www.salvationarmytexas.org	10	Write-way Prison Ministries Inc Rodger Turley PO Box 461582 Garland 75046-1582 972-840-9798 972-864-9692 Fax writewaypm@verizon.net www.writewaypm.org
1,2,4,5, 7,9,10	First Baptist Dallas Prison Min. Jerry Bedison 1707 San Jacinto St Dallas 75201 214-969-7746 214-969-7720 Fax jbedison@firstdallas.org www.firstdallas.org	1,2,4,7	Worldwide Voice in the Wilderness Johnny Moffitt PO Box 740273 Dallas 75374 972-234-6009 972-234-6050 Fax info@wviw.com www.wviw.com	1,2,4,6,7, 8(F),9,10	Cross Prison Ministries Inc Carole Ross PO Box 412 Gatesville 76528-0412 254-865-5163 crossprisonministry@earthlink.net www.liferow.org
1,7,9, 10	Freedom Outreach Ministries Mel Gipson PO Box 180941 Dallas 75218 214-325-9583 214-824-3499 Fax pastormelvin@yahoo.com	5,6,	Air Chapel Terry Dyer 320 King Ave Denison 75020 903-786-5899 tdyer@mail.airchapel.org www.airchapel.org	1,7,9	Discipleship Unlimited Terry Strom PO Box 145 Gatesville 76528 254-831-0016 terjean@msn.com www.discipleshipunlimited.org
1,7	Inmate Discipler Fellowship/TX Baptist Men Mark Hollis 5351 Catron Drive Dallas 75227-9927 214-828-5347 Mark.hollis@texasbaptistmen.org www.inmatedisciplerfellowship.org	1	Prison Fellowship Ministries—TX Mercury Bynum PO Box 602 Desoto 75123 469-232-8013 682-222-7385 FAX Mercury_bynum@pfm.org	1,2,4,6,7, 8(F),9,10	Cross Prison Ministries Inc Carole Ross PO Box 412 Gatesville 76528-0412 254-865-5163 crossprisonministry@earthlink.net www.liferow.org
1,5,6,7	Ministry to Ministries Jim Lang PO Box 700023 Dallas 75370 214-215-6226 972-283-7871 jimlang41!@aol.com	7	COPE Fauhn Schierer 1001 W Eules Blvd Ste 212 Eules 76040-5032 817-684-7870 682-292-0836 Fax office@copeconnections.org www.copeconnections.org	1,2,3,4, 5,6,9,10	Morning Star Jail/Prison Ministry Rev Robert L Buchanan 2251 El Paso Grand Prairie 75051 972-647-1445 setatliberty1@aol.com www.morningstar-baptist.org

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10	Encouraging Word Ministries Margaret Hackler PO Box 5148 Gun Barrel City 75147	1,2,5,7,8	Newgate UMC/Onesimus Journey Rev. Marvin Hood 3827 Broadway @I-45S Houston 77017 832-567-0758 marvelous272003@yahoo.com	1,2,6	Covenant Fellowship Rev David Valentine PO Box 10769 Huntsville 77340 936-435-0993 dbhvalentine@suddenlink.net www.cfhuntsville.org
10	Open Arms Ministry Steve & Diana Moore PO Box 529 Hillsboro 76645 254-580-2935 mrst24dbt@aol.com	1,7,9	Oil of Joy for Mourning Rev Rhonda Arias PO Box 720768 Houston 77272-0768 713-419-1214 oilofjoy@sbcglobal.net www.oilofjoyformourning.org	1	Director of Chaplaincy Support Richard Lopez 1060 St Hwy 190 E Huntsville 77340 936-437-4973 936-437-4988 Richard.lopez@tdcj.state.tx.us www.tdcj.state.tx.us
1,3,	Bridges To Life John Sage PO Box 19039 Houston 77224 713-463-7200 jsage1@aol.com www.bridgestolife.org	1,2,6, 9,10	Path to Freedom Ministry St. John's Downtown UMC Jonathan Chism 2019 Crawford Street Houston 77002 713-659-3237 ext 4020 713-659-2236 Fax jchism@stjohnsdowntown.org www.stjohnspathtofreedom.org	1	Elkins Lake Baptist Church Rev Ken Huggins 206 State Highway 19 Huntsville 77340-7152 936-295-7694 936-295-3388 Fax www.elbc.org
1,9	Crossover USA Gary R Nichols 911 Westmont Houston 77015 713-545-7991 713-455-7060 Fax gnichols@crossoverusa.com	1,2,3,5, 7,9,10	Restored to Christ Harold Travis 14147 Ivy Bluff Ct Houston 77062 281-488-5110 281-488-8218 Fax harold@clearlakemethodist.org	1,2,3	Episcopal Diocese of TX RJM Edwin Davis 2003 Avenue P Huntsville 77340-5029 936-291-3153 edsalpc@yahoo.com
1,3,4,5, 8,9,10	Epiphany Ministries of Texas Chuck Talbot PO Box 590578 Houston 77259 chucktal@msn.com www.texasepiphany.com	1,3,4, 6,9,10	Servants of Christ Prison Ministry Sibble Knight PO Box 111275 Houston 77293-0275 281-449-2703	1,2 God	Faith Temple Holiness Church of in Christ 2614 Montgomery Rd Huntsville 77340 936-438-8750
5,7,10	Initiatives for America's Youth Boone Vastine 15153 Kimberley Ct Houston 77079-5130 281-493-4556 layjjm@aol.com	1	Skills for Life Inc James Arnold PO Box 38553 Suite 113 Houston 77238 281-733-1223 arnojl@msn.com www.skillsforlifepm.com	1,2,3,	First Baptist Church First Contact Family Ministry 1229 Avenue J Huntsville 77340-4698 936-291-3441 www.fbchuntsville.org
9	Jail Chaplaincy Ministry Freddie Wier PO Box 30262 Houston 77249-0262 713-569-2929	8	Spirit Key Inc Allen Rice 13617 Kaltenbrun Rd Houston 77086 281-971-0014 office@spiritkey.org www.spiritkey.org	1,2,4	First Baptist Church Welcome Back Ministry 1229 Avenue J Huntsville 77340-4698 936-291-3441 www.fbchuntsville.org Bill Kleiber 800-998-3004 kleiber@sbcglobal.net www.thewelcomeback.org
1,2,3,4,5, 6,9,10	Morning Star Baptist Church 5110 Crane ST Houston 77026-3908 713-674-7170	2	Vision City Church Pastor Rick Vasquez 4300 W. Bellfort Houston 77035 Español /English 713-270-9434 visionchurch2011@gmail.com www.visionchurchhouston.com www.rickvasquez.org	6	Hospitality House Debra McCammon 912 10th St Huntsville 77320-3937 936-291-6196 www.thehospitalityhouse.org
6	Newgate Connection Wesley Stevens PO Box 96333 Houston 77213-9633 281-452-2352 wfstevens1@pdq.net				

7	<p>Restorative Justice Ministries Network Emmett Solomon, Exec Director 1229 Avenue J Huntsville 77340 936-291-2156 esolomon@sbcglobal.net esolomon@rjmnTexas.net www.rjmn.net www.restorativejusticeneews.net</p> <p>Anita Parrish, Ministry Assistant arparrish@sbcglobal.net</p>	1,6,10	<p>Texas HOPE Literacy Inc Lucy Smith PO Box 905 Hurst 76053-0905 817-919-3161 hopeliteracy@sbcglobal.net www.hopelit.com</p>	214-477-2610 sedwards@hopeforhealingministries.org www.hopeforhealingministries.org	
2,6,7	<p>Bill Kleiber 800-998-3004 kleiber@sbcglobal.net www.thewelcomeback.org</p>	1	<p>The Brotherhood of St Andrew Oliver Osborn PO Box 537 Lake Jackson 77566-0537 979-297-6217</p>	1	<p>P.T.C. Prison Ministry Bobby Griffin PO Box 633741 Nacogdoches 75963 936-559-0070 ptcm_griffith@hotmail.com</p>
1	<p>TDCJ Chaplaincy Operations Bill Pierce, Director 1060 State Hwy 190 E Huntsville 77340 936-437-4975 936-437-4988 Fax billy.pierce@tdcj.state.tx.us www.tdcj.state.tx.us</p>	1,2,7,100	<p>Freedom in Jesus Ministries Don Castleberry PO Box 939 Levelland 79336 806-778-3923 806-897-0730 Fax fijm@nts-online.net</p>	2,5,7,8(M) 9,10	<p>Freedom House Discipleship Jami Butts 1517 Custer Odessa 79761 432-661-9503 freedomhouse05@gmail.com www.odessadreamcenter.com</p>
3	<p>TDCJ Victim Services Jim Brazzil PO Box 949 Huntsville 77432 936-437-4941 jim.brazzil@tdcj.state.tx.us</p>	1,2,3,7, 8(B),9,10	<p>Calvary Commission Joe Fauss PO Box 100 Lindale 75771-0100 903-882-5501 903-882-7282 joefauss@calvarycommission.org www.calvarycommission.org</p>	2,6,9,10	<p>Loops (Loved Ones of Prisoners) Leland & Linda Maples PO Box 14953 Odessa 79768-4953 432-580-5667 432-580-8299 Fax leland@loopsministries.com www.loopsministries.com</p>
1,7	<p>The Old Time Religion Hour Inc Rev George Lupo PO Box 1225 Huntsville 73342 936-293-8000</p>	2,7,10	<p>Cristo Es La Roca Prison Ministry 6504 Quaker Ave #305A Lubbock 79413 512-709-9454 paulinagmz@yahoo.com</p>	1,2,3, 6,7,10	<p>Operation Oasis Michael Lee 302 Centennial Blvd Richardson 75081-5057 972-437-3801 972-437-3139 Fax mlee@operation-oasis.org www.operation-oasis.org</p>
1,5	<p>University Heights Baptist Church Bro Richard Rogers 2400 Sycamore Ave Huntsville 77340-6120 936-295-2996 office@uhbc.net www.uhbc.net</p>	10	<p>Exodus Prison Ministry Joyce Hargis 4243 34th Street Lubbock 79410 806-791-3673 806-780-9780 Fax joyce@exodusprisonministry.org www.exodusprisonministry.org</p>	2	<p>One Man's Treasure Clothes Closet Annette Jenkins 519 E I-30 #211 Rockwall 75087 888-433-9826 onemanstr@yahoo.com www.onemanstr.org</p>
2,5	<p>Winner's Circle Juvenile Program Kent Lucas 550 Elkins Lake Huntsville 77340 936-436-9467 winnerscircletexas@sbcglobal.net</p>	2	<p>Harvesting International Ministry Center 560 Easy Dr Mansfield 76063 817-453-3663</p>	1,10	<p>Joy Prison Ministry Ura White PO Box 7324 Spring 77387-7324 281-253-8342</p>
3,4,5,6, 7,10	<p>Mercy Heart@ Christ Memorial Stephen Drake 241 W Bedford-Euleess Rd Hurst 76053 817-285-1671 cmcc1999@sbcglobal.net www.CMCCfamily.org</p>	2	<p>Marshall Re-Entry Ministries 1900 Olive St Marshall 75670 9030472-2762 Tandrus26@gmail.com</p>	1,2,3,4,5, 6,7,8,9,10	<p>C. J. Ministry Archdiocese of San Antonio Deacon Bob Leibrecht Good Shepherd Catholic Church 1065 E Live Oak Rd Schertz 78154 210-658-4350 210-658-7051 FAX leibrecht@sbcglobal.net http://www.archsa.org</p>
1,6,7	<p>Prison Fellowship Ministries Kelly Purselley PO Box 54987 Hurst 76054 Kelly_purselley@pfm.org www.prisonfellowship.org</p>	3	<p>Lee P Brown C. J. Institute Dr. Tracy Andrus, Director Wiley College 711 Wiley Ave Marshall 75670 903-923-2420 tandrus@wileyc.edu</p>	3	<p>Hope For Healing Ministries Inc Susan Edwards PO Box 9331 Midland 79708</p>

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<p>1,2 Trinity RJM Galynn Ferris 3919 Snag Ln Spring 77388 281-352-3913 galynn@trinityrjm.com www.trinityrjmn.com</p>	<p>2,3,6 7,10 Bridging The Gap Ministries Deb Chachere PO Box 131747 Tyler 75713-1747 903-539-6797 bridgingthegap@flash.net www.bridgingthegap.freesevers.com</p>	<p>1,7,9, 10 Cornerstone Prison Ministry Chaplain Al Gibbons PO Box 1672 Wylie 75098-1672 972-896-7081 cspmin@clearsail.net</p>
<p>1 Accepting Grace Ministries Inc Joe / Betty Waggoner PO Box 983 Stamford 79553-0983 325-773-2248 bettyj@camalott.com</p>	<p>1,2,7 Christian Men's Job Corps of Tyler Charles Smith 200 N Beckham Ave Tyler 75702 903-593-8827 903-312-7298 Cell info@cmjc-tyler.org www.cmjc-tyler.org</p>	<p>VIRGINIA 1,5,9, 10 Good News Jail & Prison Ministry Dr Tom Beckner PO Box 9760 Richmond 23228-0760 804-553-4090 804-553-4144 Fax info@goodnewsjail.org www.goodnewsjail.org</p>
<p>1,4,6 Houston Trinity Prison Ministry Romeo Pena PO Box 1411 Sugar Land 77487-1411 713-906-3407 r.pena@ssss.com</p>	<p>8 House Where Jesus Shines Pastor Nilsa Latimer 18320 Gholson Rd Waco 76705-5823 254-829-2100 254-829-0252 Fax thwjs@msn.com www.opendoorwaco.org</p>	<p>8 (M&F) Loudoun Aftercare Program Debora Lavin, President 44180 Riverside Parkway Lansdowne 20176 703-554-8469 703-737-3017 FAX www.loudounaftercare.org</p>
<p>1,9 Fruitful Harvest Prison Ministry Charles Sickles P.O. Box 1130 Sulphur Springs 75483-1130 903-885-1424 903-348-6415 fruitfulharvest@verizon.net</p>	<p>8(Deaf Men) Healing Hands Ranch Johnny McCollum PO Box 1455 Willis 77378 936-890-8562 www.deafprison.org www.healinghandsranch.org</p>	<p>WASHINGTON 1,4 His Sufficient Grace Ministries Larry Groom 2424 130th Pl SE Everett 98208-6708 425-357-8596 ldgroom@comcast.net</p>
<p>3,4,7,10 The Faith Based Counselor Training Institute Dr. Michael Haynes PO Box 5253 Temple 76502-5253 254-231-4334 254-231-4336 Fax FBCTI@aol.com www.FaithBasedCounseling.com</p>	<p>1,3,4,6,7, 9 RJM Family Service and Mediation Center Urbano Gonzalez PO Box 581 Woodville 75979 409-283-2877 rjmfsc1@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p>1 Prisoners for Christ Outreach Ministry Greg Von Tobel PO Box 1530 Woodville 98072-1503 425-483-4151 425-467-1680 Fax gvt@pfcom.org www.pfcom.org</p>
<p>1,2,7 Christian Restorative Justice Mentors Assoc Murray Batt PO Box 131412 The Woodlands 77393-1412 281-292-0442 mail@crjma.org www.crjma.org</p>	<p>1,7,9, 10 Woodville Church of Christ Prison Ministry PO Box 276 Woodville 75979-0276 409-283-5977 woodvillecoc@sbcglobal.net</p>	

**Would you like to have your ministry listed in the Ministries Directory and
on the RJMN website www.rjmn.net?
Contact Anita Parrish at arparrish@sbcglobal.net**

Experiencing God Weekend



Participants and leaders, Experiencing God Weekend, Diboll Correctional Center, Texas

Thirty seven men from the Diboll Correctional Center, Diboll, Texas, participated in an *Experiencing God Weekend* September 21st and 22nd. Seven volunteers representing the Texas Baptist Men of the Baptist General Convention of Texas conducted the weekend seminar which is designed to assist participants to better know and do the will of God. Participants learned the seven realities of knowing and doing the will of God:

1. God is always at work around you.
2. God pursues a continuing love relationship with you that is real and personal.
3. God invites you to become involved with Him in His work.
4. God speaks by the Holy Spirit through the Bible, prayer, circumstances, and the church to reveal Himself, His purpose, and His ways.
5. God's invitation for you to work with Him always leads you to a crisis of belief that requires faith and action.
6. You must make major adjustments in your life to join God in what he is doing.
7. You come to know God by experience as you obey Him and He accomplishes His work through you.



Twenty-nine men signed up to take the more extensive Experiencing God class that will sharpen their ability to know and do the will of God. The knowledge this training imparts will enable each participant to be successful in his life inside and outside prison.

Thanks to Tommy Malone, the President of Texas Baptist Men, who coordinated the weekend and Pastor Ricky Moore of Garden Villas Baptist Church of Houston, James Barnwell, Lane Grayson, Chad Russell, David Stewart and Wayne Stewart who taught, testified and prayed. They also gave the

correctional staff cookies and candy on Friday as an expression of appreciation for the jobs they do to make our State and communities safer places. A special thanks to Warden David Driskell who made this weekend possible at Diboll and Mark Hollis of Inmate Discippler Fellowship for his untiring efforts to bring Good News into Texas prisons.

Dear Editor

Editors note: some letters have been edited due to space consideration

My New Life NOW (No Other Way)

I would like to introduce myself. My name is Christine Collier. I am the author and Director of My New Life NOW (No Other Way) Recovery Groups. MNLN is a curriculum style course for implementing a four month long Christ centered recovery/mentorship group in churches, correction facilities, recovery/halfway programs.

MNLN had its first group in 2003 at Resurrection Life Church in Picayune, Ms... where it continues on today under the covering of Pastor Allen Hickman. In 2008 MNLN held its first group in the Pearl River County Corrections System where it continues to minister and change lives today.

The mission of MNLN is to facilitate the opening of the doors to the church to those who would usually not enter, bringing the light, love, hope, freedom and redeeming grace of Christ to those who are bound.

You can see the whole MNLN course at <http://www.rlministry.org/mnln.html>.

If your church, correction or rehabilitation ministry is interested in beginning a recovery outreach, you can order materials at above web address. Please contact me with any questions at newlifeinchristnow@yahoo.com.

With the Blessed Love Of Christ, Christine L. Collier

New website and new educational primer

I wanted to share with you that I've accepted a position with the Texas Criminal Justice Coalition, and that I hope we can work together in the future to address some of our common goals.

I also wanted to let you know that our new website is up, and we're happy to list your organization as a resource in our new website, <http://www.texascjc.org/>. You'll find it listed here, under Issue Experts on both our Solutions for Safely Reducing Incarceration page and our Solutions for Confinement and Reentry page.

There are a number of resources on our website that you will find helpful. Just today, we released a report on what counties are doing to improve their juvenile justice efforts, Community Solutions for Youth in Trouble. Separately, I think you may find the Texas County Resources page particularly helpful; it offers a one-stop, searchable shop with information about county-level programs and services, spanning pretrial through reentry. You may also find our Tools for System-Involved Youth page and Tools for System-Involved Adults page to be useful, especially given the tremendous amount of interest the Restorative Justice Ministries receives from the public; these pages offer resources to assist system-involved individuals and their loved ones as they navigate Texas' justice systems.

Lastly, I wanted to call your attention to an educational primer entitled, Cost-Saving & Public Safety-Driven Strategies for Texas' Criminal and Juvenile Justice Systems 2012, (<http://www.texascjc.org/sites/default/files/uploads/Cost-Saving%20Pub%20Safety-Driven%20Strategies%20for%20TX%20CJ%20JJ%20Systems%20%28Oct%202012%29.pdf>).

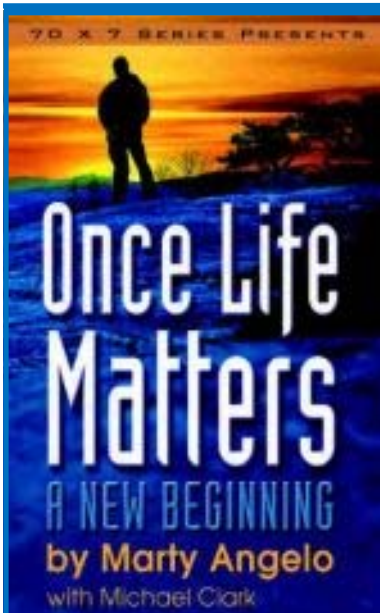
The primer outlines six criminal and juvenile justice areas in need of improvement, with realistic reform solutions in each area.

Jorge Antonio Renaud, MSSW
Texas Criminal Justice Coalition, Policy Analyst
Office: (512) 441-8123 Ext. 104

Continued on Page 21

Once Life Matters by Marty Angelo

Review written by Richard R. Blake for Reader Views (5/07)*



Authored by Marty Angelo
Impact Publishing (2006)
ISBN 0961895446

While on a roller-coaster ride of self-destruction, Marty Angelo experienced the thrills and pinnacles of success and the despair and depression of the pits of personal failure. For fifteen years he pursued a career as a music business entrepreneur.

“Once Life Matters: A New Beginning” is his life-changing memoir. Such well-known celebrities from the music industry as Jimi Hendrix, George Harrison, John Lennon, Janis Joplin, and Rob Grill all had a part in Marty’s rise to success as a manager and promoter.

Although outwardly successful, Angelo was searching for more, for meaning. During this fifteen-year journey he experienced the powerful hold of drugs, alcohol, and rock/disco music on his life.

In March of 1981 Angelo had reached rock bottom. It was at this point that Marty experienced a dramatic and powerful life-changing conversion to Christianity. Since that time, he has become a strong witness of God’s saving grace, mercy, and forgiveness.

In Marty’s own words, “It took me thirty-five years, but I finally found peace through Jesus Christ. The decades of the wild life I led, along with the few times when I was close to finding the right path, weave an amazing story. I’m not proud of the many problems I created for myself--the incredibly stupid things I did--but I’m not running from them or trying to cover them up either. In fact, by telling my story here, I hope you, dear reader, can learn the lessons I learned without going through the trials and dangers I faced.”

Since his conversion in 1981, Marty has served significant roles in full-time ministry with Chuck Colson’s Prison Fellowship, as a counselor with Teen Challenge, and as director of evangelism and court liaison with the Faith Farm Ministries.

Angelo’s writing is engaging, entertaining, informational, and inspiring. He made himself vulnerable, exposing his weaknesses as well as his strengths. I appreciated the no-holds-barred approach in telling his story, balancing the message of his newfound life as a follower of Christ with his experiences in the music industry as well as a glimpse into his life while serving time in the Federal prison in Lexington, Kentucky.

Marty views this book as a ministry. It is his prayer that readers will discover the truth of God’s Word and be motivated and encouraged to take a stand for God. This is a book that will challenge hearts, offer hope, and I believe it will change lives, which is, I am sure, exactly what Marty intended it to do. I feel confident that “Once Life Matters” has that kind of potential.

*You can now read Richard’s blog at <http://richardrblake.wordpress.com/>

Richard is a regular contributor to the R. J. NEWS as the author of *Regional News by Richard Blake*, seen on page 4 of this issue.

2012 Report to volunteers and supporters of the RJMN

By Emmett Solomon, Executive Director

I am so glad to report to you that our Lord showered blessings on the RJMN this past year. We are so very blessed to finally have churches which contribute to this ministry on a regular basis. This is a ministry of the Church and we try to be responsible to the congregations which see fit to support this ministry.

We have a fine **Board of Directors**:

1) **Dr. Ed Davis** is a retired professor from Sam Houston State University and former teacher of Restorative Justice at that school. Ed is the Restorative Justice Ministry Coordinator for the Episcopal Diocese of Texas.

2) **Roger Hollar** is a Baptist Minister in Fort Worth and is leader of the Mercy Heart Ministry in Northeast Fort Worth. Mercy Heart is a ministry to the families of prisoners and former prisoners.

3) **Mark Hollis** is employed by Texas Baptist Men to lead their Restorative Justice Ministry effort and is the Executive Director of the Inmate Discipler Fellowship.

4) **Richard Lopez** is the Director of Chaplaincy Support at the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ). He gives oversight to religious volunteers in the prisons and also oversees and encourages the development of Faith Based Dorms in each state prison in Texas.

5) **Mark Pickett** is the Associate Minister at the First United Methodist Church in Huntsville. Before his current ministry, Mark was a correctional chaplain and then a Regional Chaplain within TDCJ. He is also the Coordinator of Restorative Justice Ministry for the Texas Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Our Staff:

1) **Anita Parrish** is a Ministry Assistant. The Lord sent her to volunteer here way back in 1994 when this organization was less than 6 months old. It was not long before she became an employee. She has been the glue which holds things together around here for almost 19 years.

2) **Bill Kleiber** is a Ministry Assistant. Soon after his last incarceration, Bill began to volunteer here. He did such a great job counseling the men who were being released from the prison at the bus station that he soon became the second employee. He leads several ministry efforts around town as well as giving leadership to the daily ministry to ex-offenders and their families here in Huntsville. He also directs such ministry at release points around the state.

3) **Ronny Goodwin** is not an employee, but functions in a similar role. He is the In House Ministry Leader at the Recovery Center in Huntsville. Ronny is an excellent teacher and has the courage to hold the men who have been recently released from prison accountable for their behavior. He models good decision making for them and encourages them to progress in a positive direction.

4) Our 20 **regular volunteers** and many more occasional volunteers are God's hands and feet. We praise Him for guiding and empowering them in this ministry.

5) **Emmett Solomon** was one of the founders of this organization and has been Executive Director for 19 years now. Previously he spent 20 years as a correctional chaplain and 10 years as the Director of Chaplains. It was his hope to develop an active network to assist ministry in the justice arena. Presently there are 89,000 addresses in our data base. Most of these people have done ministry within prisons or with victims of crime, law enforcement employees or their families. *Continued on page 19*

2012 Report to volunteers and supporters of the RJMN

Continued from page 18

Last year the Lord enabled us:

- 1) To lead and participate in **3 Restorative Justice Ministry Conferences** in Houston, Fort Worth and Waco.
- 2) organize and manage our first annual **Ex-Offender Faith Based Celebration**, held at the Prison Museum in Huntsville. The program was planned and managed by formerly incarcerated persons who were impacted by the Faith Based programs inside the prisons.
- 3) minister to more than **15,000 releasees**. We provided contact information to receiving churches; information about social services and, if they gave us their destination contact information, we sent that information to someone in our network near to where they live and asked them to "Welcome them Back."
- 4) make available to releasing prisoners a **free cell phone**.
- 5) in cooperation with the Covenant Fellowship Church and TDCJ, the **Front Door Ministry** was developed. This network receives family contact information from willing prisoners who are just entering prison. This year we have emailed some 6,000 messages to people in our network regarding prisoner families living in their neighborhoods.

It is doubtful that we could have accomplished all of this without the First Baptist Church in Huntsville so generously providing us **free offices** in their facilities. We sit only one block from the Walls Unit, Huntsville, Texas, where most of this ministry takes place. First Baptist also furnishes many of the volunteers who carry this ministry forward.

We thank each of you whom God has led to provide support for RJMN. Of course, we need continued support. We see no indication that the ministry will be diminished during the coming year. The Lord has grown RJMN from a fledgling to a thriving efficient ministry to people all around Texas and beyond.

Our websites are: www.rjmn.net; www.rjmntexas.net; www.rjweek.com and www.restorativejusticenews.net. These sites provide additional information about the ministry.

Editor's note: See related article entitled *New Leadership for the RJMN of Texas* on page 1 of this issue.

New film, *The Greatest Gift 2.0*

Continued from Page 2

Wilkerson contacted Captive 8 Productions to pitch his idea. "He said, 'We don't know what we're doing, we don't know how to hold a camera, but we got this script,'" says Captive 8 founder Brion Dodson. "He was totally honest. I could tell he was a straight-up guy." With Dodson's help, Wilkerson was able to produce the 70-minute film at a much lower rate than the \$300,000 such a film would usually cost.

Wilkerson is planning to take the film to church groups in cities throughout the country to spread the message. He hopes that this will eventually lead to a career in filmmaking.

"I'm the impossible," Wilkerson told the premiere audience. "I've got six felonies ... In my mind, I'm the success that society says can't happen."

Solitary confinement reform needed

From Grits for Breakfast Blog
Thursday, September 06, 2012

The title of this post, *solitary confinement reform needed*, is the headline to an Austin Statesman staff editorial* arguing to reform solitary confinement ("ad seg") policies and procedures to reduce recidivism and prepare prisoners kept in isolation for reentry when their prison terms are up. Here's an effective excerpt:

The fact that hundreds of convicts deemed by prison officials to be too dangerous for the general prison population are going from solitary to release, Ward reported, seemed to stun members of the Senate Criminal Justice Committee during a hearing Tuesday at the Capitol.

The state senators called on prison officials to develop programs for inmates in solitary.

"Why not give them some life-skills or some faith-based programs or something that can prepare them for when they get out, rather than just turning them loose," state Sen. John Whitmire, the Houston Democrat who chairs the Criminal Justice Committee, asked prison officials.

Inmates in solitary confinement typically spend 23 hours of each day in their cells. They are let out for an hour to exercise and shower.

A Texas inmate shipped off to solitary can find himself in isolation for an indefinite stay. The average is 3.2 years. Some inmates are locked away alone for a decade or more.

Texas prison officials said that most Texas inmates kept segregated from the general inmate population — about 60 percent — are gang members, Ward reported.

No doubt there is a small group of inmates who truly need to be separated from the general prison population, but the experience elsewhere, according to various reports, is that most inmates in solitary confinement are there for relatively minor reasons. They are not among "the worst of the worst" — the common assumption regarding prisoners in solitary confinement — and do not need to be kept isolated for sustained periods of time.

* www.statesman.com/news/news/opinion/solitary-confinement-reform-needed/nR7tm/

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Or you are welcome to make your donation online at

<http://www.rjmn.net/donate/htm>



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TX may be national leader in criminal justice reform

From Texas Criminal Justice Coalition:
Russ Jones - OneNewsNow
7/11/2012 3:55:00 AM

Texas Department of Public Safety announced the state's crime rate fell 8.3 % in 2011

The state of Texas has seen a significant drop in its crime rate, and some conservative policy initiatives are getting the credit.

The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) announced the state's crime rate fell 8.3 percent in 2011 -- a year when the state's incarceration rate dropped 1.45 percent. Some contend the Lone Star State has emerged as a national leader in criminal justice reform, strengthening alternatives to incarceration by using conservative principles such as limited government and accountability.

Marc Levin, director of the Center for Effective Justice at the Texas Public Policy Foundation and senior policy adviser for Right on Crime, says while any amount of crime is too much if you are the victim, the falling crime rate is a step in the right direction for Texas neighborhoods.

"It really indicates the benefits of kind of separating the wheat from the chaff, [and] to identify the non-violent offenders who have a drug problem -- people that if they turn their lives around and follow a different path can be productive, taxpaying citizens," he explains.

Levin encourages Texas lawmakers to continue implementing what he calls "smart on crime" policies, and he urges other states to look to Texas as a model for prioritizing prison space for violent and dangerous offenders. The state has also strengthened alternatives to incarceration in order to more cost-effectively hold nonviolent offenders accountable and to protect public safety.

"I think that the fact that our crime and incarceration rates have both declined, not just this past year but also the other years leading up to that, shows what other states can do by following the Texas model," he tells OneNewsNow.

Levin notes conservative governors in states like Georgia, Kansas and Ohio have implemented similar reforms and that those states have seen a decline in crime as well.

Dear Editor

Continued from Page 16

Networking opportunity in Lubbock, TX

Every Wednesday, 12:00 noon to 1:30pm, come and go or stay at Keepers of the Flame Church, 5278 34th Street, Lubbock, TX. Ministry Support Fellowship Meeting, open to all. Sponsored by Freedom in Jesus Ministries.

A better approach

A better approach to Improving Public Safety: Criminal enhancements, which increase the penalties for certain offenses, do not deter criminal behavior. Making illegal behavior more illegal does nothing to address the underlying reasons for such behavior. Proven programming and treatment are a more appropriate response to certain offenses.

Texas Criminal Justice Coalition.

Regional News by Richard Blake

Continued from page 4

KEARNY, NEW JERSEY – Hurricane Sandy Impact

Flooding at Hudson County jail in Kearny reached as high as two feet as a result of Hurricane Sandy; corrections officers moved some inmates into upper floors of the facility, according to officials. Flood damage also impacted electronic equipment and the jail's computer system. A dedicated staff pitched in to maintain a smooth running operation during the crisis created by the storm.

RIKERS ISLAND JAIL, NEW YORK – Hurricane Sandy Evacuation Plan

Riker's Island Jail houses an average of 12,000 inmates daily who are awaiting trial and cannot afford bail. Many are in transit on the way to a longer-term facility or jail. There are an additional 7,000 staff members on the island. New York's Department of Corrections issued a statement that they were prepared to evacuate the island if it were necessary. Although these steps were not needed, many family members and friends expressed concern about the reality of evacuation plans and the attitude of prison and public officials in their statements and the availability of contact with the prisoners.

Emmett Solomon, Publisher
Anita Parrish, Ministry Assistant
Shirley Orr Smith, Editor

The Restorative Justice News (R. J. News) e-newsletter is published periodically throughout the year by Restorative Justice Ministries Network of Texas, Inc. The RJM Network is an information resource for Restorative Justice Ministries. Inquiries about any kind of Restorative Justice Ministry are welcome. Currently there is no subscription fee for the R. J. News. The publication cost is being subsidized by the Episcopal Diocese of Texas, the Texas Baptists and reader donations.

The board of the non-profit corporation includes: Ed Davis, Richard Lopez, Roger Hollar, Mark Hollis, and Mark Pickett. Emmett Solomon is Executive Director of RJMN Texas.

Comments, questions and news articles may be sent to Emmett Solomon, Executive Director at esolomon@rjmn.net. Articles are subject to space available.

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