



Missionary Evangelism To Corrections

Sharing the gospel & Christ's love with those in corrections since 1982

October 12, 2012 Newsletter



MEC Spotlight

Background of Al Banks Testimony~

"Mom died when I was six months old and Dad died when I was 3 years old. I started drinking and got drunk when I was ten and thirteen. I was a father at 15. After 35 years of bad choices, I experienced the worst of the worst. When grandma passed away the family helped me to buy the house that I grew up in.

My girlfriend moved in with 2 kids and my 17 year old stepdaughter was killed in a car accident in 2007. Mary lost her job. My first felony was for dumpster diving in 06 and in 09 I was caught in a drug raid in a semi-trailer. Eventually being incarcerated 9 times from August to November.

He was homeless for most of 10 years and the last two years he had a system worked out. He and acquaintances referred to his mini storage unit as his bedroom and the rest area as his dining room. You can only be so long in one place without attracting attention so rotating between these and the Wal-Mart parking lot kept him safer. A power drill and pump hooked up to his truck provided him with showers and he knew when SA, Holiday, and other places would have sandwiches in the dumpsters.

"During my last incarceration, I thought it a big deal when the officer let me fingerprint myself. Then I realized how pathetic that was." Al started reading the Bible to put himself to sleep.

Al shared how after years of drug use and incarceration he started paying attention to the Lord and how the Victory Over Addictions class helped him to see the thinking and beliefs he held were deceptive. VOAC uses a puppet which voices the deceptive thoughts that many addicts have.

"Today, attending meetings & church, as well as family friends are more important to me than cars and trucks. Some things are still really hard, but I have someone to talk to and someone to fall back on. Friends from the AA and NA programs think it is a temporary interest in Christ, but I know how much I need it. After 20 years of trying to quit smoking I tried a hypnotist and the folks at Abundant Life showed me that was not a good idea. I have an apartment and a job as well attending, serving and receiving the support of two churches."



DON'T MISS OUT!

MEC is offering a limited edition of the 2012 Banquet **CD** or **MP3** recordings.

Make sure you get a copy for yourself by calling us at **651-408-1300** or e-mailing us at mec@usfamily.net

MEC Basic Orientation

October 29th
6:30PM-9:00PM

MEC Mentor Orientation

November 17th
9:00AM-12:00PM

Join Us in Prayer

Don't forget to send us prayer requests for our upcoming Prayer Initiative for your city, county, sheriff's department, and local corrections settings.

Ongoing Intercessors receive about 180 requests per month but the 15-30 Days of Prayer Initiative will be special requests open to all.

To remove your name from our mailing list, please email us with REMOVE in the subject line.

Email us at mec@usfamily.net, call 651-408-1300 or write PO542, Wyoming MN 55092.

Please visit our website to see how you can support MEC. Donate through PayPal or help by doing some of your shopping by through links on the website without spending any extra. Visit —mecjailministry.com

Saul Selby Director, Karen Assistant D, Sandy Hanson and Michelle Nelson Office Administration



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MEC's 2012 Fall Banquet



The Fall Banquet was a joyful success.

Sheriff Richard Stanek's talk was very informative and inspirational. We were so blessed to have Sheriff Stanek speak at our Banquet and are so grateful for the support from him and his staff at Hennepin County Jail.

The music by Steve Gamble was moving and uplifting. He shared what he thought might be the last of his concerts due to his struggle with Parkinson's. He sang "Living for Jesus is Gonna be the Death of Me" & "My Jesus Thou Art Everything to Me. Many were disappointed to hear that he was going to be retiring soon and had expressed that they were very happy that they were able to hear him perform one last time.

It was so impactful hearing the testimonies given by Chris Sprosty, Gina Evans, Al Banks and Nicole Rasmussen.

Nicole shared that she has been sober for 4 years and it was the volunteers who came to Chisago County jail brought hope when she could not see any. One volunteer encouraged her to surrender her life to the Lord and she was given a Bible which she still uses. She completed & worked at Teen Challenge and assisted the Hills in creating women's sober housing with Serenity Villa.

Mary Crouse, office volunteer says, "Hearing testimonies was so powerful!" They remind us of how lost we would be without God and how He can use any of us to do his work. We would like to thank everyone who helped in the office, set up, shared their MEC testimonies & experiences and all who attended this annual event. **by Michelle Nelson**

MEC receives the Hennepin County Sheriff's Award



David Whiteford Good News J&PM, HCACD Chaplain, Saul & Karen Selby, & Sheriff Richard Stanek at Sherriff Stanek's office.

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