



# Missionary Evangelism To Corrections

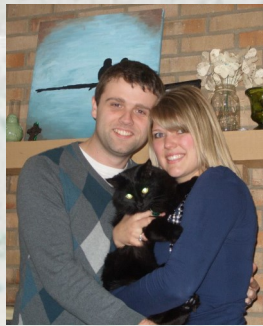
Sharing the gospel & Christ's love with those in corrections since 1982

## November 30th Newsletter

# Happy Thanksgiving

### **Thankfulness in Christ** by Michele Nelson

Thanksgiving is a time for families to come together and be thankful for the blessings in our lives. As a child, I have to admit that I would try and come up with a creative unique answer and thought it was silly or boring when others would say for a house, food, family etc. But honestly those can be some of the biggest blessings which we can take for granted.



There are so many opportunities and always time in life for self satisfying activities and those which distract us from the blessings in this world. At Thanksgiving we stop and reflect on all God has done, and will hopefully do for us. Let's take it to the next level and instead of being grateful or saying out loud our thankfulness on one day, let's be thankful daily. If we start being sorry for ourselves,

**Thankfulness in Christ continues to Pg. 2**

*We are extremely grateful for the blessing of having Michelle work with us for two years. She helps the process of bringing in & training new volunteers and communicating with all, go more smoothly. She consistently brings fresh formatting to the newsletter, started us on facebook and contributes fellowship, humor and a variety of music to the office. It is with regret we see her go and joy that we send our blessings as she begins her new job.*



*We are Thankful for:*

### MEC Spotlight

#### **Volunteer & Inmate Praises!!!**

**Dan Bradley & Steve Culley:** Praise for the new Church service that is started on Sunday Mornings at the Stepping Stones Homeless Shelter. Dan was praying for direction to continue what he was doing or start a new venture, when two homeless men biked up. They began to discuss spiritual issues and agreed to meet with Dan the next week. Kevin Martineau, who held a Motorcycle run for MEC and FCA a few years ago, is the director of the newly expanded Stepping Stones. Prayers were answered when God opened up space and time for voluntary programing. Others came alongside to help and now Homeless men are being encouraged in Worship and the Word each week.

**James** - is a young man who wants to know the Lord in a closer and a more applicable way. He wants to be a father of integrity to his 2 children.

**Spotlight continues to Pg. 2**

## NOVEMBER 2013 HIGHLIGHTS

- ~ Thankfulness in Christ Pg. 1 & 2
- ~ Spotlight: Praise Reports Pg. 1 & 2
- ~ Book Donation Thank Yous Pg. 2
- ~ Network Links Pg. 2
- ~ History of Thanksgiving Pg. 3



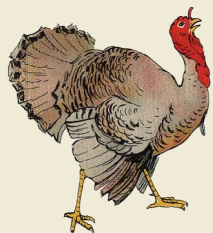
### Thankful-

#### Thankfulness in Christ From Pg. 1

just remember all we do have and all that we could lose. God is our provider, protector, savior, creator and we should be faithful in our thanking Him for these blessings.

We should even thank Him during and for the trials in life. As a parent strengthens a child through discipline and encouragement to finish hard tasks to build character so God does to us.

Let's come together and put all our desires and wants for Christmas and life aside daily to thank God for all areas in life that He has blessed. "Thank you God for all the trails and hardship as well as for the blessings."



### Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

#### Network Links

We know that we are not alone in Kingdom work. In this month we would like to salute

#### Connected Families

<http://connectedfamilies.com/>

&

#### Glorybound Ministries

<http://www.gloryboundmn.org/>

See our website below for more resources

#### David - *MEC Spotlight* ← Spotlight From Pg. 1

(the Palestinian Christian) was not deported back to Israel, but will be allowed to stay in this country. He wants prayer however, for his children and that he will be reconciled with his wife.

**Sarah** - Pray that God will enlighten my mind and strengthen my heart that I will continue to do His will. Pray that others in here will hear His word and accept it. Also pray that I will endure and have patience during this time in my life.

**Sherri** – Praise for a successful surgery and for the truth that there is no cancer! Prayers for her decision about volunteering.

**Karen Selby for my cousin's wife Sheri Hill** - She received a new heart (from transplant) on November 21st. Praise God for successful surgery and prayers for a speedy recovery.

**Michelle Nelson** – Praise God!!! God has provided an apartment for Jon and I in Lindstrom, a new full time job for me & Jon received a very good raise all in ONE WEEK!!!! Amazing!!

**Kellie Christescu** – Praise!! What a great day in the bible study today. There were 4 women. All 4 did bible studies together and had lead their quad mate to the Lord 2 weeks ago. She was one of the 4. GOD is working within the walls of the jails and prisons in a strong way. How exciting to see!!!

Thank you God for all your work in these inmates & volunteers heart & lives. **Thank you!!**

Thank you to authors K. Ketola, T.J. Addington, D. Mix & R. Rinke, who donated books for the inmates. Approximately 228 books were sent to 10 different jail facilities all over the state of MN.

Since October the inmates have been enjoying, Cradle My Heart by K. Ketola, When life Come Undone by T.J. Addington, God did Not Call the Equipped, He Equipped those Who He Called by D. Mix. & The Making of a Princess by R. Rinke

The generosity of your time & heart's have already affected so many. Thank you!

## Thanksgiving Holiday

On Thanksgiving we join together with loved ones to enjoy a hearty meal and fellowship, giving thanks for the blessing of the harvest & express gratitude for blessings we received during the year.

The history of the Thanksgiving tradition is traced to a poorly documented 1621 celebration at Plymouth in present-day Massachusetts. At the heart of Thanksgiving exist a gestures of genuine friendship where the Wampanoag Native American's assistance and friendship was extended to a struggling people in dire need.

The Pilgrims, not the Puritans landed at Cape Cod in 1620. They were known as Separatists. Christians who had separated themselves from the Church of England over religious differences. They believed the Church was corrupt and oppressive, violated the biblical foundations and was not truly Christian. Most Separatists were common people who valued peace and their spiritual comfort above any other riches. The Separatists first fled to Holland in the early 1600s before deciding to migrate to North America to freely worship God as they preferred.

After 11 weeks at sea in high winds, 102 men, women, and children crammed into the Mayflower along with a crew of about 36 sailors as well as various live farm animals for their settlement they arrived far north of their intended destination at an abandoned village of Pautuxet (now Plymouth, MA).

They arrived in the dead of winter. Food supplies were low, and they had no shelter from the harsh weather. In two or three months, half of the colonists died from winter exposure, scurvy and other diseases. It was the majority of the women and children who had stayed aboard the Mayflower who died due to the unsanitary and disease-bearing conditions on the ship.

By March, the Wampanoag Indians made contact with the struggling survivors. Through Samoset, who had previously learned some English from British explorers, and then Tisquantum (Squanto), who spoke better English (after being enslaved & rescued in England, was taught English and the Christian faith), the Pilgrims met Massasoit, the Grand Sachem. By spring circumstances had improved, and the survivors began regaining their health.

It was that help from Squanto that prompted the Pilgrims to invite the three Wampanoags leaders to a simple meal to express thanks on behalf of the Pilgrims. In actuality, 90 Indians showed up, providing most of the food, and turned the gathering into a real celebration. The goodwill and kindness given to the Pilgrims gave them a bit of hope for their future survival in such a rugged foreign land.

As we gather together on Thursday let's remember to show some kindness to others and thank God for the blessings He has provided for us.

**Have a Happy Thanksgiving.**

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