



Missionary Evangelism to Corrections

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

I was in prison and you came to visit me. Matthew 25:36b

December 30, 2011 Newsletter 2011 Review

- Ω *Supported 225 current volunteers who provide 90 Church Services, Bible Studies, Individual Spiritual Counseling sessions & Outreach Classes weekly.*
- Ω **Trained 37 new volunteers**
- Ω *Said goodbye to Sheree working in the office –she and John are still part of our support team*
- Ω **Welcomed, hired & are training Michelle Nelson in office administration**
- Ω *Initiated re-entry program in Chisago County jail and Roseville Volunteers of America correctional facility. A few volunteers are meeting with inmates providing re-entry resource information, helping them to prepare for re-entry*
- Ω **Expanded General Resources and specific requested resources to inmates.**
- Ω *Set goals and are developing formal Mentor Training*
- Ω **Contracted to provide an internship for Angela Brandt to complete her master's program at the University of Minnesota.**
- Ω *Sent approximately 1900 prayer requests to 100 intercessors.*
- Ω **Responded to family members of inmates requesting prayer, resources and information.**
- Ω *Distributed hundreds of Bibles donated by International Bible Givers to those in or connected to Corrections.*
- Ω **Distributed 150 Daily Breads quarterly to inmates**
- Ω *Began affiliate donation programs with Brink's market in Chisago, and Wades BP in Lindstrom MN*
- Ω **Began affiliate program with Christian Book Distributors allowing customers the use of MEC as a coupon - 5% of any purchase will be donated to MEC and free shipping if order is over 25.**
- Ω *Hosted Spring Concert at lakes Free Church in Lindstrom & annual fall banquet at North Heights Church in Arden Hills.*

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*"The Spirit of the Lord is on Me, because
He has anointed Me to preach good news to the poor.
He has sent Me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and
recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." Luke 4:18-19*

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MEC Spotlight on an Ex-Inmate

In 2008 Lisa had just been released from a 3 month stay at a half-way house, one week before Christmas. This year she is praying for her name change and wrapping Christmas presents with her new husband for family and grandkids'. Because of her probation she needs court approval for the name change that usually comes with a wedding.

Lisa came into Lino Lakes ACMS on her birthday in March of 08. She had been arrested on new drug charges, which also violated her parole; she was slow to make contact with others. Coming off meth and angry, she just wanted to die.

We started talking and I invited her to the MEC Bible study. As we got to know each other better, we started to meet daily for a Bible study of our own.

Major thrusts of Lisa's prayers were her two adult children. She was very concerned and contrite about the effects of her drug use and criminal actions on them. She was also praying to avoid prison, find treatment that would work, and to be back with her children so she could become the mother God intended her to be. She spent a lot of time in the Bible reading and would frequently find new verses that struck home with her.

God was working all things for the benefit of Lisa who loves Him. In July she was allowed a furlough to treatment at New Beginnings at Waverly, which was on the MEC resource list and was the specific treatment center that Lisa wanted. Before going she said that what she really wanted was a big t-shirt to sleep in and a pair of pink "granny" underwear. New Beginnings provided the big t-shirt and Lisa's new roommate asked her if she could use a new pair of underwear someone had given her, pink, granny ones"

"Praise God," Lisa wrote to me. "He takes care of even the littlest details, how can I not love and thank God?"

Successfully completing treatment, Lisa was released back to jail. Instead of prison, her public defender plead for and secured continued probation, credit for time served, and extended treatment for 3 months when released. She was baptized at Southtown Baptist, where she joined, is attending college and married her fiancé Jason on September 29, 2010.

by Sandy Hanson



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