"WALKING IN THE LIGHT"

Kings Crossing Prison Ministries

A NEWS REVIEW & EDUCATIONAL TOOL OF JAIL-PRISON MINISTRIES IN CHURCHES OF CHRIST Buck Griffith, Editor

"Endeavoring to teach the Gospel to every person everywhere before Jesus returns"

"...and they reported all things that God had done with them..."

When Paul and his companions reached Jerusalem in their travels (Acts 15:4), they met with the leadership of the church there and began to relate all that God was accomplishing in reaching an entire world of Gentiles and many Jewish believers. The reaction? Encouragement and excitement! Wouldn't you have just loved to have been in the room to hear about the sheer volume of good news Paul had to share; churches planted in several towns, money raised to help the Jerusalem church in its poverty brought on by famine, Jews and Gentiles worshipping together... new and great opportunities were opening to them.



And, you just can't help but appreciate Paul's perspective on it. *It was what God had done with them!* Being available and ready for God to use us is the greatest requirement for success. God takes our abilities and efforts and does things with them more than we can imagine. Like the picture on the left, I am reminded of a little boy carrying his lunch with him the day he met Jesus. If we are willing to share with Him, God will take what we have and multiply it in marvelous ways. That is why we continue to seek your prayers and support!

What God Has Done With Us In 2022!

Bible correspondence efforts by mail with inmates in Texas and 41 other states continued throughout the COVID-19 shutdown. We began the year with approximately 30,000 students in English and 552 Spanish students. We ended 2022 with more than 40,000 English students and 9,100 Spanish students. That is 10,000 more English students and 8,548 more Spanish students in a year! Volunteers have been working hard to keep up. We are so grateful for the work of Merced Aguilar, Raquel Rivera, Pat and Glenda Watson and a host of volunteers.

Going into Prisons- COVID-19's grip finally began to be loosened in the late spring of 2022 and we began going back into prisons in the Coastal Bend area. Teams are going or are prepped to go into prisons in Edinburg, San Diego, Robstown, Beeville, and Cuero.

Locally, in the Nueces County Jails from May – December of 2022 our men and women's teams have recorded *538 baptisms and requests for baptism!*

<u>Little Angels</u> is what we call our efforts to help the children of incarcerated parents. During 2022, with your financial help, we were able to provide milk, basic food, diapers, and other essentials to 120 children!

Support Groups such as *Winners Circle*, *Relapse and Prevention*, and *CASA groups* began meeting once again in the spring of 2022. These groups range from 10-30 in each group and meet weekly throughout the Corpus Christi area. Several new group leaders were also trained and new groups are now meeting or starting up soon in Corsicana, Raymondville, Lake Dallas, Victoria and New Braunfels. In October we had a marvelous growth experience at our first CASA retreat in over a decade.

Toy Supplies Getting Low

One of the first things noticed when you enter the prison ministry office is a baby's playpen. We try to keep it full of new toys all the time. It is part of our "Little Angels" program. Adults with small children enter and as we work to evaluate their needs, the child is allowed to pick out a favorite toy. Since these children are from birth to pre-teen, toys are needed that are appropriate for that age range. If a sufficient number of toys are not donated, we go shopping (toy value averages \$10-\$12).

So, if you want to help by re-gifting that recent Christmas present or buy a gift for a little one or clean out your closet with toy that is not getting any use, we encourage YOU to go shopping and bring toys to us. Or, you can contribute a few bucks, and we will do the shopping for you. Either way - a bright smile will be brought to a child's face!



ANNUAL FUND DRIVE CONCLUDES

Our Annual Fund Drive ended December 31st. We are not yet able to report the amount, as at the time of this mailing we are still receiving gifts to be added to the total. If you have not yet given and still wish to do so. you can earmark your gift by designating it for the 2022 KCPM annual drive. You can also go online and give electronically at our website (www.kingscrossingprisonministries.org). We need your help. Year-end donations are a wonderful way to end the year and begin the new one with enthusiasm and a positive attitude. As you are aware. Karlene Underwood and I were added to our staff in the last portion of 2021. Thank you for your generosity.

Our Team Preparing for the Glossbrenner Unit at San Diego, TX



God continue to bring men and women who love the lord, love the lost, and have time, ability and opportunity to serve as teachers! Charles Barber (left) and Michael DeShazo (right) are preparing to teach at the TDCJ Glossbrenner unit. This prison unit specializes in rehabilitation of inmates suffering from addiction. We are excited to offer the NewLife Behavior curriculum, Christians Against Substance Abuse, as well as Dr. Don Umphrey's, 12 Steps to a Closer Walk with God. We recently met with the new chaplain (George Franco) at the unit. He encouraged us by stating he was ready to have our team come as soon as they

completed their volunteer training with TDCJ. We plan to begin sending this team in by the end of January 2023.



Gifts of Remembrance & Gratitude

Many ministry friends find this a meaningful way to remember loved ones and honor persons who have made a difference in their lives – living or not. Whether a person just passed away or died decades ago, it is a marvelous feeling to know that you or a loved one is remembered.

Received from:

M/M Tom Blackstone M/M Buck Griffith M/M Gary Thompson M/M Michael Brantley Carl Thomas Martha Clark

In Memory of:

Barbara Chandler Glenda Rhodes Taryn Brooks Richard Clark

Received from:

M/M Bob Wachtel M/M Frank Maxey Martha Clark Dr/M Dale Underwood Barbara Chandler M/M Gary Thompson

Received from:

Tishanne Carroll Kirby Kellogg M/M Dave Olson Vivian O'Neal

In Memory of:

Glenda Rhodes Glenda Rhodes Jerry Clark Ken Sparks

In Honor of:

Buck & Janet Griffith Legacy Fund Buck & Janet Griffith Legacy Fund Buck & Janet Griffith Legacy Fund Buck & Janet Griffith Legacy Fund

Received from: In Memory of:

M/M Buck Griffith Barbara Chandler Dr/M Dale Underwood Glenda Rhodes M/M Gary Thompson Tony Craig Dr/M Dale Underwood Carole Martin Dr/M Dale Underwood A. C. Stone, Jr.