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NEWSLETTER

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Before I give my testimony, I'd like to ask you to clear your mind and heart the best you can, and ask God to bless you with "Eternal Peace." If you believe in God our Father, Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, and the Holy Spirit, chances are good you feel it.

I've been going to church off and on since I was about 8 years old. My family upbringing wasn't very religious, although my Mom at times would send me to church. Then in high school, I went on my own with friends to Sunday school and services, where we had teen fellowship groups. I found Jesus Christ and my path to God, and was baptized. But then there was another path to booze and drugs that came into the picture during my teens as well. During my twenties and early thirties that path seemed to take hold and was winning the battle. During those years like lots of people the only time I came to God and Jesus was when I was in need or trouble.

When I got arrested of the crime that put me in prison, I worshipped God, tried to strengthen my faith, but even then I wasn't willing to give my whole self to God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. I knew what I had to do; I knew that Jesus had died on the cross for my sins, "an unthinkable death" and that I had to repent of those sins, and that I needed to receive Him as my Lord and Savior. But I always had trouble with this next part, letting go of my life and giving it over to God. I always insisted on running my life my way. Needless to say it never worked; I always ended back at square one.

Then during Christmas 2004-2005 I had a rough bout. I hadn't come to God or Jesus for quite some time. It was a few days before Christmas and I hadn't had too much Christmas spirit in me. Something happened that had me overwhelmed and turned into complete

rage in my mind and heart. I got down on my knees and started to pray over and over asking God to give me peace of mind and heart. I did this for a very long time and eventually I realized the peace had come. I was so drained, I layed down and slept. When I woke up this peace stayed with me through the holidays and much longer. Though this last ten years has been a struggle, my peace hasn't been far away. God and Jesus Christ have always kept it right here for me, right with them. Even when I turn away, even for a while I declare today and every day forward that Jesus Christ died on the cross for my sins and I repent of those sins and recognize and receive Him as my Lord and Savior, and God as my Father and want nothing more than to serve and honor His kingdom.

It is now September 2015, just three weeks since arriving at Jesus is the Way and my release from prison. I have made some major adjustments in my life. But can honestly say they have been very positive ones. My days have been full with bible studies, programs on everything from reinforcement of character in Christian men, to volunteer programs helping people in need in various ways, such as supplying food, clothing and helping in spiritual direction with prayer. As well as programs for AA/NA, mental and emotional guidance and physical fitness (gym) available to us.

Most importantly their tools comprise mostly of love, compassion, understanding, and guidance to name a few. It's a beneficial experience you can't buy.

Thank you my Heavenly Father, Jesus Christ my Lord and Savior, and the Holy Spirit.

Timothy Fisher

Wake Up Call

I sought the Lord But to
no avail. I thought I was
free But landed in jail.

My freedom was lost;
So I looked to my thoughts.
With time on my hands
And no money to spend
I wondered if this is the way
It all would now end.

I tried to run
As fast as I could,
But there before me
An elephant stood.

His trunk was large
And his tusks were, too.
Was I in a jail,
Or was it a zoo?

Tigers and lions
Came into the scene,
And all I could think of is
I've just got to scream.

I cried out to the Lord
And had to believe
That all that had happened
Was just in a dream.

There were lions and tigers
Eating at my soul,
And the torments of Hell
Was taking its toll.

My life has now changed
Since that dream woke me up
Into a new life
Which is centered on Christ.

*Jerry Bargren
August 2015*

Prayer Warriors

Can you pray for Jesus is the Way Prison Ministry for five, ten or twenty minutes a day?

We believe in the power of prayer and the staff recently has committed to pray on a daily basis with the residents in the aftercare program.

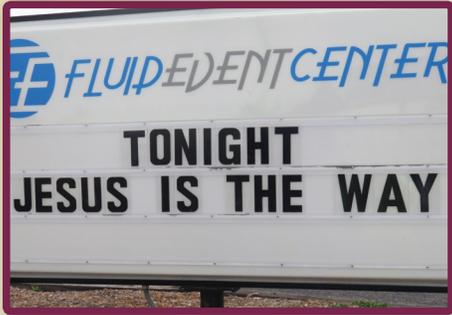
Now, we are seeking others who are willing to commit to pray for Jesus is the Way (Board of Directors, Staff, Volunteers, residents of the aftercare program, and the incarcerated.) on a daily basis. We need all of your prayers, now more than ever. We believe that with the constant, incessant roar of our collective prayers, we can bring in the lost and hurting into the kingdom of God and change hearts in these last days.

Jesus is the Way Prison Ministry Needs

***Dish Soap
Paper Towels
Toilet Bowl Cleaner
Electric Stapler***

***Praise the Lord!
We received the weed eater
and also a gas can full of the gas
and oil mixture. God is so good!***

Lowin' Life Celebration Banquet



Jesus is the Way at the Fluid Event Center



Champaign County Officer of the Year, Corey Pankow



Guest Speaker, Pete Leonard



Jeffrey (resident of JITWPM) sharing his testimony



Dennis Daniel, Executive Director, with Eric (resident of aftercare), sharing his testimony



Scott Krile - Staff with former and current residents



David Nisbet receiving the John Henderson volunteer chaplain award



Some of the residents and staff during the banquet



Don McCall, Recovery Home Operator, sharing information about our program

Founder
Jesse Mathes (1942-2008)



Executive Director
Dennis Daniel

Recovery Home Operator
Don McCall C.A.D.C.

Prison Services Coordinator
John Henderson

Jail Service Coordinators
Darrel Dunnigan
David Nisbet
Women's Division
MaryAnn Bridges

Case Manager
Kathy Mayberry

Support Staff
Edith Mathes

Rantoul Staff
Brenda Krile
Scott Krile
Vicki Schoonover

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OR CURRENT RESIDENT

Thank You!

This is a picture of the finished room addition off of the kitchen.

We want to thank 1st Presbyterian Church in Champaign again for all of the hard work in the heat to tear down, rebuild and finish this room.

We appreciate all of your hard work. It looks great inside and out!

