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Spring Into Action

Once again, Spring is in the air, reminding us of new beginnings. Exiting the prison system and transitioning back into the world, in Christ, is a new beginning that we are overjoyed to experience. Pictured are Christopher Carter and Eddie Elliot. They met at the Reception and Medical West Unit in the Principles and Applications for Life (PAL) program, where Christopher teaches men a better way at life. After learning the Gospel, Eddie joined the body of Christ on February 7, 2023. After completing a year in the PAL program, Eddie graduated and transferred to Marion C.I., where he would serve the remainder of his sentence. Marion C.I. is one of many institutions where we work, so Christopher and Eddie continued to meet for mentorship and spiritual counsel. Eddie was released in late January and joined our transition house. He spent seven years incarcerated and is now working at a steel fabrication plant. However, Eddie is a skilled auto body technician and seeks employment in this field. If you know someone in Clay County who needs a reliable autobody technician, we have your man!



Spreading the word in Tennessee!

The Florida Department of Corrections is the nation's third-largest prison system. We are thankful for all who support bringing Christ into Florida prisons, especially those in other states who see the value in what we do. In February, we traveled to Tennessee with John Burke and Robert Howe, where we had a prison ministry blitz, speaking at four congregations over the weekend. Robert and John took time off work to share with the brethren in Tennessee how their love and support have changed their lives. These two men will soon graduate from our transition house program and are examples of the Christians we all should strive to be. If you want to see them speak, please check out our Facebook post from 2/10/2025.



Special Request

We are working to assist a brother for his upcoming release to our transition house. He needs a car with a breathalyzer installed. The vehicles available at the transition house cannot accommodate this addition due to the insurance and liability. We need a car we can put in his name with his insurance. If you or anyone you know has a vehicle you want to donate, please let us know as soon as possible.



51st National Jail & Prison Ministry Workshop June 11-13, 2025

The next workshop will be sponsored by the Midwest Church of Christ 2115 Garland Avenue, Louisville, KY 40211. Please get in touch with them at midwestchurchofchrist@aol.com for registration information.



Prison Ministry Spotlight

We are thankful to all who labor and bring the lost to Christ. This Spring, we especially thank Mr. Lawrence Ciolkosz, aka "LJ," for his countless hours and endless effort laboring in the prison fields. A previous Lancaster C.I. Volunteer of the Year, LJ selflessly devotes his time and energy to the inmates and staff at Lancaster C.I. every week. He is a mentor in the Faith and Character Based Dorm, an instructor in its core curriculum, and a religious studies teacher.

In addition to Lancaster C.I. Main Unit and Work Camp, LJ also serves at Cross City C.I. Main Unit and Work Camp, contributing a total of 30 monthly hours at these four institutions. He provides mentor classes, coordinates weekly worship services, and holds Bible studies. LJ also initiated all the religious activities at Cross City C.I. for our brethren to participate in. LJ tells us, "The emphasis in my teaching is understanding the church of the Bible, its patterns, and the plan of salvation." LJ's success in encouraging others to volunteer is a testament to his leadership. He has inspired two other men to join him in this noble cause.



We are incredibly grateful for LJ! He understands the need to help troubled souls in prison and stretches himself beyond expectations. At Lancaster alone last year, his efforts led to 46 baptisms.

Our Vision

The Reception and Medical Center (RMC) is a central hub where we have a heavy presence, and for good reason. It is one of four institutions where every inmate coming into the Florida Department of Corrections comes to intake. These four intake institutions are strategically placed in the North West, North Central (RMC), Central, and South Florida regions. At RMC, we see an ever-revolving door of individuals who need teaching, convicting, correction, and instruction. Here, we teach foundational Christianity, including new birth, walking in new life, and the church. Then, inmates leave us and go to another institution. We must have brethren in these areas of Florida willing to go to prison in their local area and continue mentoring these men as they come. This is one need we have for volunteers across the state. Secondly, imagine what we could accomplish if we had brethren at all four intake institutions. Our vision is to have solid foundational Christian teaching at all four intake institutions and brethren who can continue to mentor and counsel these men at other institutions. We are making good progress and witnessing lives changed, and we are hopeful for more positive change. But there is more to do, and we need help. Please consider inviting us to your congregation to share this Florida mission that **ALL** can participate in.

Inmate Tablets (WVBS on Pando & Edovo)

Our Pando channel, where our Bible videos reach every prisoner, has surpassed 2,000,000 views. We are also pleased to announce that our partner, World Video Bible School, is now on a second platform on prison tablets. On this platform called Edovo, inmates can take the WVBS Bible courses—these are phenomenal tools that aid our mission to change lives!

