



FALL 2019 Newsletter

# 2019 Western Ministry Tour UPDATES

We as a family are grateful for the opportunity to travel and minister the good news in song and preaching of the word. Traveling always brings excitement to each of the children and look forward to meeting new faces and making new friends along the way.

The 2019 Ministry tour has been 7 ½ weeks, and 8,000 plus miles traveled. It gave opportunity for us to minister the message of Hope in prisons, churches and communities and to encourage Christians to walk in the light as He (Jesus) is in the light in these latter days. Witnessing the Holy Spirit working in hearts of people as well in our own lives was worth every mile that we traveled. We are so grateful for the open doors and opportunities that God has given us. Thank you to the Executive Board and to our home church for their support they have shown to us as a family. Thank you all for your support.

Amos Stoltzfus Family  
Executive Director / Evangelistic Team

Look inside for more updates!

## Prisons - Churches - Communities







# 2019 Western Ministry Tour UPDATES

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While holding a service in one of the dorms with our children at a South Carolina Prisons, one of the inmates face just lit up when we as a family walked into the dorm to have a service. While the children were singing, I notice that he had something on his mind to tell me. After the services in the dorms we went back to the gym to have a worship service with the men. When the men came out to the gym for the service, the man that I mention earlier walked up to me and said, "Mr. Stoltzfus, today your family came to our block and ministered to us in song and testimony. As you started to minister to us, I remembered your family from three years ago when you came to the lock-up dorm where I was staying at here at Perry Correctional Institution.

There is something that I need you to know about what happen when you ministered to us in our dorm. I share this with you to encourage you in your calling. One of the men that was in the same dorm that I told you about, his name is Joe, an inmate who wore a scowl on his face and was as likely to curse at you as hit you? God gave me a heart for Joe, but no matter how I approached him there was no getting through. Then Joe's mother died.



Over the years I've seen men here close-up, disengage, and drift aimlessly downstream like a large log. Joe's scowl turned colder, more indifferent, and I feared we had lost him for good. Then one day the Amos Stoltzfus family visited our prison and came to our dorm (lock-up) sharing their hearts in song, testimony, and the Spirit of God moved throughout our dorm.

The next day Joe knocked on my cell door (which he had never done before) and asked, "why did that family come? Why did those children sing?" I nearly launched into a sermon on God's call to minister to the least of these. Instead, by God's mercy, I replied, "They care, Joe. They came and sang because they cared."

Have you ever seen a stone melt? That week we saw a transformation in Joe which no scientist, psychologist, or unbeliever could explain. The last I heard Joe was leading at least two weekly Bible studies and now is as likely to cry with you as hug you."

At Leath Correctional Institution we as a family had the privilege to partner with five other volunteers from Abbeville SC. There were approximately 100+ ladies that came out for the service. The Holy Spirit visited us and ministered to the needs of the Ladies. My wife took the opportunity to minister to the ladies by testifying the goodness of God through His word and spoke into the heart of the mothers. At the end of the service 5 ladies got born again and many others came to Christ confessing their needs to Him. Praise God for He is good, His mercy endureth forever.

~ The Stoltzfus Family



**As I look back** at our most recent tour, I am continuously amazed at God's provision of grace throughout our trip. As we went to different communities, we were able to see the work of God's hand in many people's lives. We as a family were also able to minister to inmates at several prisons in North and South Carolina. Thank you all for your prayers and support for our family.

~ Ben Stoltzfus



**I cannot thank you and your family enough** for ministering to us in such a powerful way. Each of you is remarkably talented, but you know that. What you could not have known was how much your testimonies and

songs have encouraged me in this season of my life. Eight years ago my wife gave birth to our triplets, and ten days later I was arrested. I ruined everything and in her pain she refuses to hear me repentance.

In fact today marks seven years since I have heard from her. I've never spoken to my kids who barely know I exist. But they are beginning to ask questions about who I am, and why I'm not part of the family, and where, in all of this mess, is forgiveness. I long for the opportunity to repent to them, to show them all how much I love them, and to speak into their lives.

Amos, you remind me that I must not let my past define who I will be. Ben, you remind me that God is right on time. Kaitlyn, that I always have someone to talk to. Josh, that I am standing in the need of prayer and I need to know that\_ please, will you pray for me?

Thank you all- Linda and little Sophia, Ethan, Elissa, Alayna, and mighty Isaiah- I am filled and overflowing because of your kindness. May God our Father continue to bless, anoint, and protect you and grant you sweet rest after eight weeks on tour.

Always remember you have a prayer warrior here at Perry Correctional Institution.

*~In love with Christ, Carter*



**Pennsylvania • Ohio • Illinois • Wisconsin  
Minnesota • Iowa • Nebraska • Kansas  
Colorado • Texas • Georgia • South Carolina  
Virginia • North Carolina • Tennessee**

# Prisons - C



Leath Chapel hosted Light of Hope Ministry with the Stoltzfus family on Wednesday July 17, 2019,. It was a night of celebration with singing and testimony of Mr. Amos Stoltzfus. In his testimony, in which he identified with us through his self-disclosure and vulnerability, he gave hope to those who saw their situations as hopeless and others also accepted the fact that some situations can be helpless but they are not hopeless to the God of hope when we place our trust in him. Over one hundred inmates attended and clapped along to the Southern Gospel music.

Eight of the nine Stoltzfus' children were present and when their turn came to sing, it was all smiles in the audience and not many dry eyes. The youngest children sat off to the side coloring pictures which they left for us here at the institution and are now displayed in the chapel library. Within female institutions, it is important to display the value of family and parenting. We often compartmentalize our thoughts and emotions being separated from our children, forgetting often that we are still responsible and capable, even from prison, of sharing our love and the unconditional love of Jesus with them.

Having Light of Hope here reminded us that family is still an important priority and Christ can bridge the gap that these fences create. Mr. Stoltzfus and his wife spoke blessings upon all the mothers in attendance and offered the altar as a place to pray for our children and family with some of the volunteers in attendance such as Ms. Susie Fehr and Ms. Donna Wagler. Five inmates gave their life to Christ that night and all left with something they did not come in with...a smile and a future full of hope in Christ Jesus.

"Let the children come to me, for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as them. Don't send them away!" – Mark 10:14

*~Chaplain Jefferson Kwamina*





# Churches ~ Communities



**The church at Osceola Christian Fellowship**, in Texas, looked forward with anticipation to have the Stoltzfus family for an evening of worship and praise. The church house filled up and all heaven descended as the luster of song filled the auditorium. Those parents did a good job of teaching and inspiring their children the gift of singing!

The congregation worshiped with them throughout the evening. Hearing the little ones sing captured our hearts. As Brother Amos shared his testimony of freedom from the chains of sin, we wept tears of joy!! When the alter call was given many fell to their faces at the front of the church house. Gods spirit was evident throughout the evening and we're a better people because of it.

Thank you for coming and blessings as you continue to present Jesus in song and word.

*~Juan Miller*



## 2019 Banquet UPDATE

### 1 Corinthians 12:12

Praise the Lord for His faithfulness and for blessing us with another ministry banquets at Shady Maple. It was encouraging to see the body of Christ from different churches and communities come together to help support Light of Hope Evangelistic Prison Ministry. A big thank you to all who sponsored and hosted tables for the banquets. The singing and testimonies really inspired my faith in Christ.

What a blessing is was, to see so many people come together for same cause and one purpose, Jesus who is the reason for our mission. Wish all the Lord's Blessings.

*~Alvin Smucker/Banquet Committee*





# Some Words About 2019 Softball MINISTRY



**I was very blessed** to be a part of the 2019 SCI Laurel Highlands softball outreach. We had a great team of guys that stuck together and played the game well, like the pros that they are!

One thing the inmates kept saying to us was; "Thank you so much for coming! This means so much to us!" To me their thankful hearts have always made the trip well worth the time and effort!

*~Levi Smucker*

**Our most recent trip** to SCI Laurel Highlands, for the softball outreach, was one of the most impacting prison weekends of my life. I was blessed to be a part of a wonderful group of volunteers. We played softball with the inmates and then had a service on Sunday afternoon. I praise God for another wonderful opportunity to serve him and spread light and hope to the least of these in prison. To God be the Glory!!!

*~ John Allan Lapp*

**I went along with a group** to SCI GREENE. We had a great time with the guys playing softball and just being their friends. We won both games. The men enjoyed the competition.

A few of us stayed up for the Sunday evening service. The Lord was moving there as well. I was encouraged with the church in there. It seemed authentic.

I was again amazed, when we walk thru a door that God has opened. We arrived at the prison on Sunday evening for the service, and the chaplain that was scheduled to be there was not able to make it due to a death in the family. The staff on duty did not know we were coming, and could not find the paperwork to clear us.

By the grace of God, we were able to go in. The captain in charge was very helpful, and did all he could to get us in. Praise the Lord! It was a reminder that when God says go, we go in faith, and he makes a way!!

For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

*~Jonathan Fisher*





# Opportunity to Help Further GOD'S KINGDOM

New  
Location

## Lewisburg, Pa Chicken BBQ Supper & GOSPEL SINGING

We thank God for His provision with the funds that we already have received by so many generous donors. We were able to purchase 6 acres of land in Middleburg Pennsylvania to build the new office. Paper work for the Land Development and all Engineering & Surveying Services has been submitted, and all permits for the building could be ready as soon as 9-12 months. However, we have made the decision not to move forward with the building until we have the sufficient funds.

The New Office Building will provide a larger space that will allow us to expand and give us the ability to utilize more staff when needed. It will provide a larger storage area which is greatly needed to be able to stock up on bibles, ministry and discipleship materials for prisoners as well as office supplies.

We as a ministry are sharing our need and giving you the opportunity to help us in this way.

Goal  
\$225,000

Currently  
\$95,000

Friday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
BMC Outreach Center

(Buffalo Mennonite Church)  
4445 Hoffa Mill Rd., Lewisburg, PA  
Supper: 4:30 PM • Music: 6:00 PM

*This fundraiser will benefit  
Light of Hope's new office building*

For details and information  
on the Chicken BBQ supper call: 570.217.6170  
on the Singspiration call: 570.412.5532



Amos Stoltzfus Family  
Unspoken  
Daniel Glick Band  
Anchored Quartet



Join us for an evening of supper and singing

## Ministry Schedule



Amos Stoltzfus Family  
EVANGELISTIC TEAM

Fri. September 27..... CCI Northumberland \*

Fri. October 11..... Chicken BBQ & Singspiration Fundraiser, Lewisburg, PA

Sun. October 20..... CI Camp Hill \*

October 25-27 ..... Prison Discipleship Seminars \*

Tue. October 29 ..... Home Coming Committee Meeting Mifflinburg, PA \*\*

Thur. October 31..... Deputy Commissioner Meeting Philadelphia, PA \*

Fri. November 8..... Ministry Banquet Locust Grove Mennonite Church, Belleville, PA

Sun. November 10..... Shekinah Christian Fellowship Church, Middleburg, PA

November 12-14..... Meeting with Chaplains \*

Sun. November 24..... SCI Muncy \*\*

Sun. December 8..... SCI Frackville \*

Fri. December 13-14 ..... CCI Northumberland \*

December 27-28 ..... Philadelphia Prisons

Sun. December 29 ..... Lancaster County Church (AM)

Sun. December 29 ..... Ephrata Business Center (PM) \* Amos Stoltzfus  
\*\* Amos & Linda Stoltzfus

## Weekend Ministry Opportunity

*Teaching - Group Sessions - Compassion*

Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.

And surely, I am with you always,  
to the very end of the age."

2019 Prison  
Discipleship Seminars  
October 25-27, 2019

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

For more information contact LOHE Ministry  
Office 570.8370649 or visit our website  
[www.lightofhope.org](http://www.lightofhope.org) to download  
volunteer application.

*Light of Hope Evangelistic Ministry*

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