




Light of Hope
EVANGELISTIC MINISTRY

Prisons - Churches - Communities

Spring 2020 Newsletter

Prisons - Churches - Communities



**So shall be my word be that
goeth forth out of my mouth;
it shall not return unto me void,
but accomplish that which I please,
and it shall prosper in the thing
WHERE TO I SEND IT.**

- Isaiah 55:11



Volunteer's TESTIMONY



A few months ago, a few other volunteers and I went into the prison as usual on a Friday evening. Jim came out for the first time and did a lot of talking. His main topic was about, how once he gets out of prison, he is going to find the people who put him into prison, and do some very nasty things to them, (basically he wanted to see them as no longer existing.) After about 15 minutes or so, of his murderous threats, and our reasoning with him about the gospel and forgiveness, and him talking about how he can't forgive these people, he then says that he wasn't even planning to be here tonight. But, just before the service, when he was still back in the block, he got a sudden severe neck pain and requested to see the doctor. As he was waiting to see the doctor, the bible study was announced, and he then decided, on a whim, to go there instead. The other inmates then reminded him of what I said when they first went into the room. I had told them I changed my topic to forgiveness last minute, because I felt led to do so. This led him to thinking. One of the volunteers read John 3:16 to Jim, and he didn't say much.

I then continued talking to the rest of the inmates. Not too long afterwards, Jim pops out his seat and says emphatically, "I want to be saved." Ok, we said, but do you know what that means? You'll need to be willing to allow God to help you forgive these people, and you need to surrender to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. He said yes to that, and so we proceeded to lead him to Christ. After we were done praying with him, I got a sense that something wasn't quite right yet. I asked him how he felt. Jim responded with, "all I can see and think is that there is a red piercing and a blue piercing in my mind." (I did not know this at the time, but these are the colors of the Bloods and Crips, I suspect he might have been involved with one side or the other.)

This stumped me, so I did not say anything right away. As I was praying for wisdom, he started rocking back and forth on his knees and repeatedly muttering "Bloods and Crips". Immediately the Lord revealed what was going on. I asked Jim if he wants to be free from this thing. He responded by starting to growl and shake his head around. The volunteers and I looked at each other and were both quietly praying, trying to figure out what to do. I praise God for His wonderful

presence that was in the room. Because of his presence we both had peace and no fear of this evil spirit. Then, Jim seemed to get a hold of himself and responded "yes" to my question about being free. We then bound the evil spirit of murder of the Crips and Bloods in the mighty name of Jesus Christ, and commanded it to leave by the authority of Jesus Christ as His representatives. Afterwards, we prayed over Jim that he would receive the Holy Spirit and be set free from every other bondage from his past.

We didn't see him the next time we went into the prison, but then, 10 weeks from when we first met him, he came out with the group and starts talking about how good God is, and how we need to obey Him and trust Him. It was a very stark contrast to the death that poured out of his mouth the other time! What came out of Jim's mouth after he was filled with the Holy Spirit of God was life giving! As we parted ways to go home that night, I asked if someone would lead us in prayer. Jim said he would, and prayed for all of us.

I am once again left standing in awe of our miracle working Saviour, who is still doing great and mighty things! To Him be all the glory both now and forever! Amen.

~Levi King / Volunteer

By the time you will receive this newsletter we will be on our 2020 Western Ministry tour. We as a ministry covet your prayers as we seek the Lord in how we can be most effective through these uncertain times. Due to the covid-19 pandemic much has changed, and this has impacted our nation and world around us. All the prisons in Pennsylvania have been locked down since March 13th. As I write this letter some of the institutions have moved to level 3 which means there can be movement in groups of 20 or less throughout the prisons. Chaplains are hoping that by September 2020 Chapel services and outside volunteers may continue like before.

Lord willing by September we plan to resume ministering in prisons. But we have been informed by the Department of Corrections that there will be a new norm and there will be changes to adapt to. We have not been informed yet what those changes may look like. In Romans 8:28 reminds us that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them that are called according to his purpose. Please continue to pray for us as we seek God's direction and discernment in how to most effectively in ministry through these uncertain times.

~Amos Stoltzfus / Founder

SEEKING

Laborers - Materials - Donations

EXCAVATING • MASONRY • FRAMING •
ELECTRICAL • PLUMBING
WINDOWS & SIDING • DRYWALL INSULATION •
CABINETRY • TRIM • CARPENTRY
APPLIANCES • ROOFING • HVAC • PAINTING



Our original office building is a 12x24 which was built in 2008 has accommodated us well. But due to the growth of the ministry the past 10 years the ministry has started a new office building fund in 2016. Land was purchased in 2018 to build a 1600 square ft office which will contain three office rooms, a receptionist area, a kitchen area as well as a conference room. In addition to the office, we will be adding a 40x60 warehouse/garage to keep all vehicles and trailers parked indoors. The garage will also contain a room for the storage of bibles and ministry materials, and a room for sound equipment and accessories.

We are starting this project with vision and lots of faith for additional financial/material donations and labor toward the cause. \$165,000.00 has been raised and approximately \$85,000 is still needed to complete the project. If you are interested in assisting in any way, call Amos Stoltzfus at our office 570.837.0649. You can also contribute through the enclosed response envelope, or on-line at www.lightofhope.org and note "new building project."

Now we are waiting for all building permits to clear, which is expected by July or August. We plan to begin with phase one the beginning of September, and phase two the beginning of October. Through the winter we'll plan to continue with phase three as funds and volunteer are available.

A GENEROUS GIFT WHETHER GREAT OR SMALL, HOLDS GREAT VALUE IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic all 2020 Spring ministry banquets have been canceled. The proceeds from the banquets covered 75% of the ministry operation expenses through the summer months

Because of the canceled ministry banquets, the ministry has a great financial need to be able to continue in operation through the summer and fall of 2020.

We need the help others to reach our pledge goal of **\$60,000.00 by June 30th**. With your help we together can make a difference in the lives of those in prison.

Building contractors/experienced framers are needed for Phase 2

- Phases 1.** (Excavating) September 2020 project
- Dig Footers
 - Concrete (Footers/Flooring)
- Phase 2.** (Exterior Construction) October 2020 project
- Framing
 - Roofing & Siding
 - Masonry
- Phase 3.** (Interior Construction)
November 2020-March 2021
- Plumbing & Heating
 - Drywallers
 - Painters
 - Trim work/Cabinetry
 - Flooring
- Phase 4.** (Excavating)
- Driveway Paving
 - Landscaping



Looking Ahead
Save the
DATES

Ministry Schedule



**Amos Stoltzfus Family
EVANGELISTIC TEAM**

- Sun. June 7 Crossroads Mission Church Hadley, PA
- Tue. June 9 Light House Chapel Richland Center, WI
- Wed. June 10..... Altona Christian Fellowship Henderson, MN
- Sun. June 14..... Lakeside Christian Church Rexford, MT
- Tue. June 16..... Shoonover Hutterian Colony Odessa, WA
- Wed. June 17..... Washington Church
- Fri. June 19..... Singspiration Mark Stoltzfus Residence Missoula, MT
- Sun. June 21..... Cornerstone Christian Church Plains, MT
- Wed. June 24..... Clark Fork Christian Fellowship Church Thompson Falls, MT
- Sun. June 28..... Sunriver Mennonite church Sunriver, MT (Tentative)
- Sun. June 28..... Fairfield Mennonite Church Fairfield, MT
- July 3-5 Revival Meetings Alta Vista, IA
- Tue. July 7 Penn Station Arthur, IL
- Wed. July 8..... New Life Fellowship Church, Holmesville, OH
- Fri. July 10..... Antrim Mennonite Church Antrim, OH
- Sat. July 11 Kaitlyn's Graduation Harrisburg, PA
- Sun. July 12..... Singspiration Russellville, KY
- Wed. July 15..... Light House Mennonite Church Cumberland Furnace, TN
- July 17-18..... Recording Studio (Vocals) Pelzer, SC
- Sun. July 19..... South Carolina Church
- July 20-21..... Recording Studio (Vocals) Pelzer, SC
- Wed. July 22..... Leath Correctional Institution Greenwood, SC (Tentative)
- Thur. July 23 Perry Correctional Institution Pelzer, SC
- Fri. Aug 21 Gospel Express Revivals, Lancaster, PA
- Sun. Aug 23..... Parkview Mennonite Church Stevens, PA

Fall Ministry Banquets

- SEPTEMBER 3&4.....SHADY MAPLE CENTER EAST EARL, PA
(RESERVATION REQUIRED)
- FRI. SEPTEMBER 11CHAMBERSBURG MENNONITE CHURCH
CHAMBERSBURG, PA (RESERVATION REQUIRED)
- FRI. NOVEMBER 13LOCUST GROVE MENNONITE CHURCH
BELLEVILLE, PA (RESERVATIONS REQUIRED)

CHICKEN BBQ & SINGSPARATION

- FRI. OCTOBER 9BMC ALL PURPOSE BUILDING
LEWISBURG, PA

PRISON MINISTRY SCHEDULE

- AUGUST 17-19SCI COAL TOWNSHIP (TENTATIVE)
- AUGUST 29-30PRISON SOFTBALL OUTREACH
(TENTATIVE)
- SUN. SEPTEMBER 13.....SCI FRACKVILLE FRACKVILLE, PA
- SUN. SEPTEMBER 27.....SCI MAHANOEY FRACKVILLE, PA
- OCTOBER 16-18.....FCI MOSHANNON VALLEY
CORRECTIONAL CENTER PHILLIPSBURG, PA
- OCTOBER 23-25.....PENNSYLVANIA PRISON
DISCIPLESHIP SEMINARS
- NOVEMBER 6-8SCI PHOENIX COLLEGEVILLE, PA
(PRISON REVIVALS)

Coming Soon
New Family

RECORDING

Amos Stoltzfus Family will be releasing a new recording (Album Title Amazing God) in September 2020. It will include titles like It's not long until forever, I Am Redeemed, Wait till you see my Brand New Home, along with other inspirational songs that will encourage your faith and journey in the Lord.

Light of Hope Evangelistic Ministry

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