

Redeeming Love Prison Ministry



BEHIND THE FENCE

AUGUST 2023 ISSUE



Sharla Yoder
Director of RLPM

30+ Years of Full-Time Prison Ministry • 8 Team Outreaches • 33 Ambassadors

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PRISON MINISTRY BRINGS GOD'S PURPOSE TO MY LIFE!

— FORMER INMATE TESTIMONY —

***Note:** We were so blessed to have Shelly Scoggins, an inmate chaplain's clerk at EWCC, assist us in the sound booth and other areas at our team chapel services. She is so amazing!*

I was born and raised in Tahlequah, OK. I was abandoned in a very dangerous location at 13 months old, when a young couple rescued me, safely kidnapped me, and later adopted me. Drugs and alcohol addiction has been in my family for as long as I can remember. After I married, my husband and I also became involved in domestic violence. I was arrested on charges of domestic altercation with a dangerous weapon and later second-degree murder. This came with a 6-year prison sentence.

The first 15 months I served in the Sequoyah County Jail, Sallisaw, OK, where I made a life-changing decision to surrender my life to Jesus Christ. This is where my mind began to change and my



Michelle "Shelly" Scoggins,
Former Inmate, EWCC

journey to freedom began. During this time, I did all I could to make sure that I would never go back to the lifestyle I had once lived.

When I arrived at EWCC in 2018, Redeeming Love Prison Ministry was the first chapel service I attended. I thank God for these ladies (as well as other volunteers). They were such a breath of fresh air, and God's love radiated from their lives! I was so encouraged to hear them teach God's Word and to hear their testimonies. This gave me hope that, with diligence, God would continue to change my life and circumstances.

I later became the chaplain's clerk and assisted in services in the chapel. That is when I had the opportunity at times to ask RLPM ladies for prayer for my son, Billy. He had battled meth addiction for 14 years. Praise God, now he is in a rehab in Tulsa, OK, and has been

“clean” for three weeks! The RLPM team also prayed for my family, and I am so very thankful that now our relationships have all been restored.

God continued to promote me. I attended Victory Bible College Video School, Celebrate Recovery, and took some college courses. I became VP of Christian Women’s Association, leader of the intercessory prayer group and mentored some of the other inmates.

I was released from EWCC in 2022 and am now residing in a

transitional living home under the management of Rhonda Bear, and employed at She Brews Coffee House in Claremore, OK. My goals are to complete my bachelor’s degree at Rogers State University, Claremore, OK, in community counseling, and work for Grand Mental Health in Claremore, as a drug and alcohol counselor.

I would not trade my time in prison because God used prison ministry to show me His purpose for my life at EWCC. God has inspired me to give back what He has given me to others and giving

them the same Bible hope and direction that He has given me.

Thank you, RLPM, for bringing God’s Word to life for me, for your prayers, and for being such a bright light in dark places—not just for me, but for so many other ladies!

Michelle “Shelly” Scoggins
Former Inmate, EWCC

Women’s Jail Ministry Starting

We are thankful to finally be able to conduct our chapel worship services for the women at the Tulsa County Jail this month. Only six of our Ambassadors were able to finish the last of the newly required four, 4-hour training session in order to go. I apologize to the other men and women Ambassadors that they only had six slots open for us to take the last training session. Now we can proceed this month to go back and resume ministering at the Women’s Chapel Service this month! We pray that soon the door will open for more Ambassadors to finish the training. Thanks for your patience.

DELAYED! July Partner Letter

We were VERY disappointed to learn that the post office obviously temporarily lost our July Partner Letters, post marked June 24th, allowing sufficient time for them to reach your mail boxes around July 1st. Instead, most of you finally received it around July 19th, 3 weeks late! (It did affect our income quite a lot in July) We apologize for any inconvenience that it caused you, and wanted you to know what happened.

Mailbox

This note came with a money order for \$100:

“Hey, Sharla, This has been on my heart, and I think you remember me, and you understand, I was once where these ladies are now.”

- Love, A.S.

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Dear Sharla & RLPM:

We’re happy the ministry continues to reach those incarcerated! Bill ministers at Galveston County Jail and is seeing salvations and inmates filled with the Holy Spirit.

- God Bless, Judy.

(Bill & Judy Hullett, former Ambassadors with RLPM.)

Record Attendance At Men's Prison Service!

God gave us increase of inmates attending our Thursday evening chapel service at JLCC in Boley, OK. We started a year ago with about 40 men. At our last service, we had 68! There were six who received salvation and another two (total eight) who received the infilling of the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues, Glory to God!

August Ambassadors Priority Prayer Meeting & Fellowship

We will meet at Sharla's home on **Monday, July 7th, 7-8:30 pm**, and will have light refreshments afterwards. Please let Sharla know **ASAP** if you plan to come or if you usually come, but cannot make it. (*This helps plan how much food to prepare and how many chairs to set up.*)

1213 S. Willow Ave., B.A. (parking across the street in school lot). Landcaster Pl. Addition (918-252-2772 land-line, or text: 918-855-9965)

Heart to Heart

— by Sharla Yoder —

At five of the correctional facilities recently we have been giving out cases of the books our partners provided to have reprinted! *God's Grace Liberates!* (by Sharla Yoder) has been given to many inmates. Cases of *Discipleship Evangelism Bible Studies* by Andrew Wommack has been given to five prison chaplains to hand out to new believers and other prisoners requesting them, to help give them a solid foundation in God's Word.

We are increasingly thankful for our partners and friends like you who regularly support us with your prayers and finances! You are reaping a part of this ministry of prison souls who are evangelized and disciplined by God's love, His Word, and the power of the Holy Spirit! THANK YOU! I need to be honest and let you know that with rising inflation producing a higher cost of living our finances coming in during this summer have been short. We believe

God is providing for your needs and ours. I have not asked this in well over a decade, but if you are able to give extra to help us, we will be very grateful and believe you will be very blessed! We look forward to hearing from you soon!

With More of God's Love,
Grace & Gratitude!



Rev. Sharla Yoder,
Founder/Director, RLPM, Inc.

*Not only is Jesus
preparing a
place for us,
but He's
preparing
us for that
place.*

—Rick Gregory,
Facebook

**ONLY ONE LIFE TO LIVE AND IT WILL SOON
BE PAST. ONLY WHAT'S DONE FOR CHRIST
WILL LAST!**

—Dr. Billy Graham
World Evangelist

Prison Ministry Monthly Itinerary

These are the times and locations of our 8 monthly team outreaches at 5 correctional facilities:

1st Monday — Ambassadors Prayer Meeting & Fellowship, 7 pm. (*Note: if we have a dinner, it will be at 6 pm*); 1213 S. Willow Ave., Broken Arrow. Parking is across the street in school lot. (RSVP required.)

1st Thursday — JLCC Prison, Boley, OK. 6:45—8 pm. Men's Team Chapel Service. Meet at 4:15 pm.

2nd Saturday — (Starting July) Women's Team, Tulsa County Jail. 2—3:30 pm; meet at jail at 1:30 pm. Team Chapel Service.

3rd Monday — MBCC Ladies Mentoring, Women's Prison, McCloud, OK. 5:30—7:15 pm. Meet at 3 pm.

3rd Saturday — EWCC Prison, Taft, OK. 6:40—8:10 pm. Women's Team Chapel Service. Meet at 4:45 pm.

3rd Sunday — OSP Men's Maximum Security Prison, Cell-to-Cell Ministry; 2—3:30 pm; McAlester, OK. Meet at Noon. (*Team lunch between prisons, 3:45 pm.*)

3rd Sunday — JBCC Men's Prison, team chapel service, 5:45—7:15 pm, McAlester, OK. Meet at Noon.

4th Friday — MBCC Prison, Women's team chapel service, 5:15-7:15 pm. Meet at 2:45 pm.

All contributions are tax-deductible when made payable to RLPM. Tax receipts are provided.

Thank you for your support!

**MONTHLY AND ANNUAL
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TO EACH CONTRIBUTOR.**

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