

33 Years of Full-Time Ministry • 38 Volunteer Ambassadors • 6 Correctional Facilities • 12 Monthly Team Outreaches

Redeeming Love Prison Ministry



OCTOBER 2024 ISSUE

# BEHIND THE FENCE



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## Prison Team Chapel Services Praise Report!



I am delighted to share with you last month's report of what our great God is doing through our ministry in the team chapel services at the six correctional facilities where we do monthly ministry!

At least three-fourths of the inmates who attend these services are already born again. Among them, about one-third are baby Christians, while another third are somewhat mature and hunger to be disciplined! An additional one-third are mature Christians, Spirit-filled, and on fire for God!

They are also leading other inmates to Christ, inviting new inmates to our chapel services and serving the Lord faithfully however they can!

**Here are results of the total team chapel services report for last month:**

- **19 Received Salvation**
- **23 Restored & Rededicated**
- **56 Received the Infilling of the Holy Spirit**

**ALL GLORY TO GOD!**

We give these three invitations after the praise and worship and before the message at EVERY Chapel service, as well as (after the message) three additional invitations for those who need HEALING (physical, mental, or emotional), DELIVERANCE (from addictions or oppression), RESTORATION OF RELATIONSHIPS (forgiveness and favor), and however the Holy Spirit leads us in other areas, Amen.

We are one of the few prison ministries that give invitations for the infilling of the Holy Spirit and receiving of the Gift of Tongues. We believe it is **SO NEEDED** for prisoners, as much as for anyone else! As you can see from the report, 56 received that precious gift this month, Praise God!

We believe God is pouring out His Spirit in the prisons, and you as a partner are a vital part of it! There is an increasing hunger among the inmates to know God intimately and to grow into His perfect will for their precious lives!

Your prayers for this ministry mean so very much—**THANK YOU!**



# Exciting 33<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Event

— Coming Soon!

If you have not yet purchased your tickets for our 33rd Anniversary Event, we hope you will do so right away! It's going to be the best yet!

We will have a Silent Auction (fundraiser), starting at 5:30 pm. (a great time to do some early Christmas shopping!); a delicious Chicken Alfredo dinner; and a wonderful program with music, prison ministry information, a **POWERFUL FORMER INMATE TESTIMONY**, some exciting announcements, and an offering!

It will be on Friday, Oct. 11 at The Bridge Church in Bixby, OK. Advance tickets are \$15 each or \$20 at the door. If you do not have Venmo or Cash App (mobile payment apps), a check or money order mailed in is fine. If you did not receive a flyer in last month's (yellow) Partner Letter, please call our office at 918-252-2772 for more information. We hope to see you there!



## OSP Prison Ministry Expands!

We are so thankful that one of our Volunteer Ambassadors, Kurt Heinlein, saw a need at OSP (Oklahoma State Penitentiary—also known as “Big Mac”), and God put it on his heart to take the opportunity that led to expand our ministry in that facility! Many of the men our team was ministering to cell to cell (on the third Sunday of the month) said they did not have a Bible, even though they had put in several written requests to the chaplain for one.

Because of the immense size of the prison, the chaplain, Todd Minshall, needed help in distributing Bibles (and other materials, such as requested devotionals, and Bible studies) to the many men who are locked down (23 hours a day) in maximum security. Kurt called Chaplain Minshall and soon was going to McAlester one full week day per month to help distribute the Bibles to the men who wanted them. He loved doing it so much that recently he began driving down one day every other week!

He has also been asked to pray with some of the men for their needs. They now see him as an assistant volunteer chaplain! He has led several men to salvation and some in the Baptism in the Holy Spirit as well! One young man was in with some Muslim men and had been influenced by them. The chaplain asked Kurt to take him a Quran that he had requested. Kurt was not convinced that young man truly wanted to be a Muslim, and after talking to him, he soon changed his mind and wanted to receive Jesus as his Savior!



**Kurt Heinlein,**  
RLPM Ambassador

Chaplain Minshall says he is VERY appreciative of Kurt's help, which has turned into an additional prison ministry outreach! We praise God for this divine connection that is bearing fruit for God's Kingdom!

A few other approved men volunteers may want to consider joining Kurt in this important new mission!

*“I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in the truth.”*

—3 John 2

## Four Ambassadors Will Soon Take Jail Training

We are excited that four of our prison ambassadors desire to take the 2-day (7 hours per day) jail training so they can also be part of our men's and women's jail teams. They are: Ella Sands, Kurt Heinlein, Larry Moore, and Vinnie Merenghi. We welcome them and will be very glad to have them on these teams!



## Heart to Heart

— by Sharla Yoder —



It seems so amazing that we are (this month) celebrating 33 years of full-time prison ministry! (It was part-time for a few years previously.) The rewards of ministering in prisons far outweigh any challenges. It has been challenging at times, but God has been SO FAITHFUL to provide the partners, ambassadors, board members, other volunteers, finances, and more that have been absolutely necessary to sustain a ministry this size. I am truly thankful that God loves prisoners so much, and He wants to transform their lives for His glory! And we know that He will continue to be faithful in providing for the needs of RLPM.

Inflation has affected this ministry as it has many people's lives, including some of our precious partners. Our expenses have increased for things like van maintenance, gas, printing (brochures, flyers, partner letters, and newsletters),

postage, office supplies, computer maintenance, utilities, and much more. Also, because of inflation, some of our partners have been unable to give or give as much as they would like to, to help support us. (We are accountable to our board of directors, who oversees our income and expenses, so we make the absolute best choices in handling the business side of the ministry.) In the past months, it has often been waiting week to week to pay some bills and purchase other office expenses.

In sharing these things from my heart, it is to let you know why we are believing for increase for RLPM and for our partners—and believing for new partners too—to help us bring in this big final harvest (Revelation 14:14-20) before we go to be with Jesus! It is not to put any kind of pressure on anyone, but simply to let you know the facts. The truth is that God is still faithful! And we want

you to join us in getting in on His blessings and rewards through your continued giving to RLPM! As you know, we can never out give our great God!

We believe God will bless and multiply your giving back to you many times and in many ways as you put Him and His Kingdom as your top priority (Matthew 6:33), and that everything will work out better than we both could have imagined! (Luke 6:38.) It is God's way of bringing increase into our lives, Amen!

We look forward to hearing from you soon!

God's Love and Shalom,



**Rev. Sharla Yoder**, Director  
Redeeming Love Prison Ministry, Inc.

# Prison Ministry Monthly Itinerary

These are the times and locations of our 12 monthly team outreaches at 6 correctional facilities:

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

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

**2nd Wednesday** — OSP, McAlester, OK, Kurt Heinlein, cell-to-cell distribution of Bibles, (& more).

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

**2nd Sunday** — Men's Jail Service, Tulsa County Jail, Meet at 1:30pm, Service at 2-3:30pm.

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

**3rd Saturday** — EWCC Prison, Taft, OK. 6:40—8:10pm. Women's Team Chapel Service. Meet at 4:15pm for van transportation, or meet at Prison by 5:45pm.

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

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

**4th Wednesday** — OSP, McAlester, OK, Kurt Heinlein, chaplain assistance, cell to cell distribution of Bibles and Christian literature, and inmate prayer as requested.

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

**4th Saturday** — Women's Team Chapel Service, Tulsa County Jail, Service 2-3:30pm. Meet at Jail at 1:30pm.

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

Thank you for your support!

**ANNUAL TAX RECEIPTS ARE MAILED TO EACH CONTRIBUTOR.**

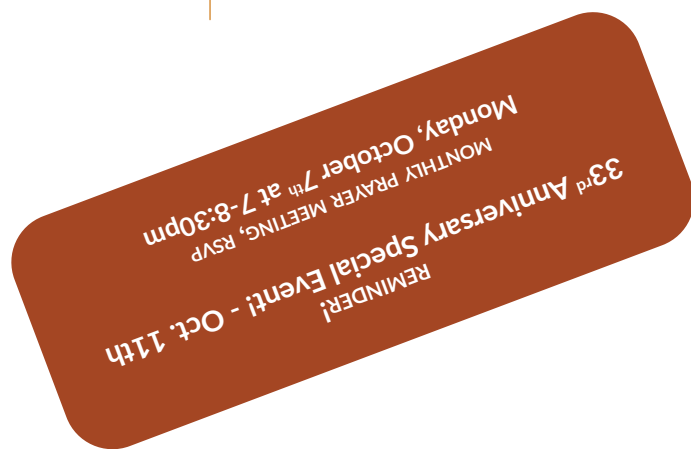
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**\*\*\* CHANGE IN MONTHLY PARTNER RECEIPTS MAILED \*\*\***

We want to let you know that as of July 1, 2024, we will no longer be mailing monthly partner receipts. We will, of course, continue to mail year-end receipts. This will cut our expenses for envelopes, postage, time, etc. (I will miss not writing little notes of appreciation and encouragement to you on the back of the envelopes!) If you have a need for a monthly receipt to be emailed to you, please let us know. Thanks!



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