

# BEHIND THE FENCE

FEBRUARY 2019 ISSUE



## Redeeming Love Prison Ministry

PO Box 487

Broken Arrow, Oklahoma 74013-0487

www.rlpm.org

Happy  
Valentine's  
Day



Sharla Yoder, Director

27 Years of Full-Time Prison Ministry \* 42 Ambassadors \* 10 Correctional Facilities

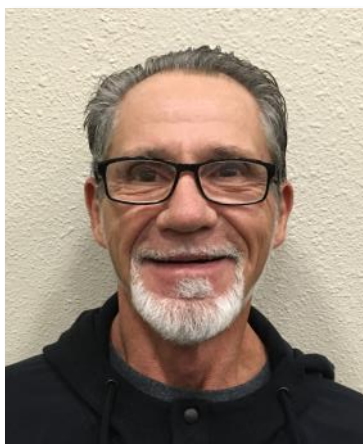
### FORMER INMATE TESTIMONY

## REGARDLESS OF THEIR PAST, THE LORDSHIP OF JESUS CHANGES PRISONERS' LIVES!



I was born in Missouri in 1957 and was the fifth child of six. My dad was an alcoholic and abandoned us when I was 4 years old because of his drinking. We had to go on welfare, and Mom worked evenings in a nursing home. So we kids roamed the streets at all hours of the night and got into much trouble. My older brothers were in and out of reform school, and I quickly followed in their footsteps. We were not taught any morals.

When I was 12 years old, I was placed in Boonville Reform School for troubled kids. Released at age 14, I went to Tulsa, OK, to live with my sister and brother-in-law. I started smoking pot and drinking, only went to school two or three days a week, and began hanging out with older guys and doing several burglaries with them weekly. At 16, I got caught and went to another reform school. After release, I started doing roofing work with my brother-in-law but soon went back to my old ways. I then dropped out of school and worked on a construction crew framing apartments. The guys I worked with were taking little white pills to make them work faster and longer. *I learned it was speed, and my life was fixing to change for the worse in a big way!* When I took them, I would



Garry Brussell  
Transformed former inmate

stay up all night shooting pool in Brookside on Peoria Ave. Gambling, drugs, (meth) and alcohol caused me to lose my job, and I returned to criminal behavior.

Next, I began taking drugs intravenously and entered a level of darkness I knew nothing about. I could then stay awake for up to 10 days at a time. There were hallucinations, paranoia, and I could see and hear demons living in me! My crimes caught up with me and at age 20, I was sentenced to 10 years and sent to prison in McAlester, OK. I was transferred many times and released in 1982.

After prison, I met my first wife, Terri, and we drank and did drugs together. When our marriage began to fail, she woke up one Sunday saying, "I'm going to church and can't live like this anymore!" I said, "Wait, I'll go with you." I then got saved at age 25 and joined the Broken Arrow Free Will Baptist Church. But I didn't know how to be a good husband, and we soon divorced.

I headed for North Tulsa, only to let Satan deceive me into going back to the old life. He comes to *steal, kill, and destroy* (John 10:10). I went back to prison again, and after release, went

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**FORMER INMATE TESTIMONY**

(Continued from Page 1)

to live with my brother, who was going to Destiny Church in Broken Arrow, OK. Although Jesus was my Savior, He was not yet my Lord. It took one more time going to prison before I finally surrendered fully to the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

Galatians 2:20 says, *I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live...I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.* (NKJV). The fire of God's Word ignited a fire in me that still burns today! That's why I encourage others to begin each day in the Word of God. When I arrived at Jackie Brannon Correctional Facility in McAlester, OK, I met Sharla Yoder and the team from Redeeming Love Prison Ministry. Through their chapel services, they helped me become a disciple of Jesus and I grew and matured in my spiritual life, along with the support group **Celebrate Recovery**.

I am out of prison now, and I have grown to the point where I'm mentoring other men in Celebrate Recovery, sharing my testimony and helping them obtain their success in Christ and His Word as I have! I've got a great job in construction and hope to soon be a part of Redeeming Love Prison Ministry and minister in the prisons to hurting people who are just like I was. I am **living proof** that total surrender to Jesus and faith in His Word brings great success no matter what a person's background is! Anyone who believes and chooses to can enjoy the fruits of a blessed and transformed life in Christ, regardless of their past!

**NOTE: Garry has become a very humble, respectful, disciplined, and loving gentleman who loves to help others. His boss speaks very highly of him as a great employee. We commend him for his courage to overcome many challenges, his dedication to God, and his selfless concern for others. He shared his powerful testimony at our recent Partner Appreciation Dinner and received a standing ovation!**

**MINISTRIES JOIN TOGETHER  
IN PRISON OUTREACH!**

We had a wonderful time of ministry last November as we joined together in unity with ***Because of Jesus Ministries*** for the fourth time in the last few years. (Please see group photo below.) All eight of us rode together in our van and had a wonderful time of fellowship as we talked, sang, laughed, and prayed. We traveled nearly two hours to McLoud, OK, to minister to the ladies incarcerated at Mabel Bassett Correctional Center.

Connie Witter, founder/director of BOJM, preached a lively message about the fact that we have been given the mind of Christ (Phil 2:5) and all wisdom in every situation as we receive it by faith and grace. Her message was an inspiring encouragement for us all! We gave all of the ladies here mini book *P.S. God Loves You!* There were 95 women who attended (from the approved half of the yard). ***We praise God for 3 ladies who received salvation, 10 who rededicated their lives to the Lord after being backslidden, and 25 who received the infilling of the Holy Spirit!*** ALL GLORY TO GOD!



L-R, Angie Davis, Mickie Brooks, Gwen Myrie, Lisa Aldrich, Sharla Yoder, Brenda Toms, Ina Dilldine, & Connie Witter

**YOU CAN'T START THE NEXT CHAPTER OF YOUR LIFE IF YOU KEEP REREADING THE LAST ONE. "Forgetting those things which are behind...I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:13-14 KJV).**

## **2018 PRISON MINISTRY YEAR-END REPORT**

We give God much praise and ALL the glory for all the changed lives in the 10 prisons and the jails where Redeeming Love Prison Ministry reaches out to inmates! Below is the total attendance, number of salvations, rededications, and those who received the infilling of the Holy Spirit in 2018:

|                                |              |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>TOTAL ATTENDANCE:</b>       | <b>4,139</b> |
| <b>SALVATIONS:</b>             | <b>269</b>   |
| <b>REDEDICATIONS:</b>          | <b>1,069</b> |
| <b>FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT:</b> | <b>1,028</b> |

**RELIGION WILL NOT SAVE YOU, CHANGE YOU, HEAL YOU, OR SET YOU FREE... But JESUS DOES! (Facebook post.)**

## **HEART TO HEART**

*by Sharla Yoder, RLPM Director*

It was an excellent year of ministry for RLPM in 2018! But I always want to go from glory to glory with higher and higher expectations of faith to bring more and more glory to our great God! His desire is for an ever-increasing number of prisoners to know Him, to grow in their relationship with Him, and fulfill His plan and purpose for their lives!

We believe God is calling more people to become an ambassador with RLPM, to go with us to one or more prisons or jails each month as they are able, and help minister in one or more ways.

We also are believing God for many new precious partners to support us with their prayers and finances. **We currently have two special needs we ask you to prayerfully consider helping us with:**

We are very low on cases of discipleship Bible study workbooks by Andrew Wommack, which we donate to several correctional facilities. (We have a continual number of new inmates that attend our services.) It is one of the best Bible studies I have seen for inmates that gives them a solid foundation of Bible beliefs for their lives! **We need to raise \$2,500 for more to be printed.**

Also, when I took the ministry Honda Odyssey van to the dealer for two recalls, they informed me of other much-needed maintenance: a tune up, several belts to be replaced including the timing belt needed at 100,000 miles; also the water pump, transmission flush/fill, brake fluid, and several filters. **The total cost (with senior discount) is \$1,476.** Both expenses add up to approximately \$4,000.

Our prayer for you this year is Eph. 3:20 (AMP): **"Now to Him who is able to [carry out His purpose and] do superabundantly more than all that we dare ask or think [infinitely beyond our greatest prayers, hopes, or dreams], according to His power that is at work within us."** May you be extremely blessed! ☺

Thank you so very much. We look forward to hearing from you soon!

With much Love, Prayers, and Blessings,

*Sharla*



# MONTHLY MINISTRY SCHEDULE

1st MONDAY — Monthly Priority Prayer Meeting and Fellowship, 7-9 PM, 1213 S. Willow Ave., Broken Arrow. 918-252-2772.

3rd MONDAY — Mentoring — MBCC Women's Prison, McLoud, OK. Meet 2:45 PM.

Every TUESDAY — "Homes of Honor" (Christian Family Relationships), JDCC Men's Prison, Taft, OK 3-5 PM. Leaders, Bill and Judy Hulett.

1st, 3rd, (& if 5th) WEDNESDAY — Tulsa County Jail — 12 pods, team outreaches plus Chapel Service (2 pods), 6:30-8:20 PM (B.A. group meets 5:45 PM); Coordinator, Ina Dilldine.

2nd WEDNESDAY — Cimarron Correctional Center, Cushing, OK — Teaching/Ministry, 6:30-8 PM; Tom Cabell, Roy Mowry, and Michael Shanahan, Leaders.

3rd WEDNESDAY — OSP Men's Maximum Prison, McAlester, OK — Cell-To-Cell Ministry, 9 AM – 3 PM; Dr. David Cavallaro, Leader.

4th WEDNESDAY — Creek County Jail, Sapulpa, OK; meet 6:45 PM; Mickie Brooks, Coordinator.

4th FRIDAY — MBCC Women's Prison, McLoud, OK — Team Outreach/GYM. Meet in B.A. at 2:45 PM; others meet at Prison at 4:45 PM.

3rd SATURDAY — EWCC Women's Prison, Taft, OK, 7:45-9:10 PM. Meet in B.A. at 5:30 PM or at the Prison at 7 PM.

EVERY SUNDAY — 12 & 12 Rehabilitation Center Worship Service, Tulsa, OK, 10:30 A.M.

3rd SUNDAY — OSP Maximum Prison, McAlester, OK — Cell-To-Cell Ministry, 2-3:30 PM; meet in B.A. at Noon. JBCC Men's Prison — Team Chapel Service 5-7:30 PM.



**LOOK INSIDE!**

## 10 Correctional Facilities Served by RLPM

- Cimarron Correctional Facility Men's Prison, Cushing, OK
- Creek County Jail, Sapulpa, OK
- David L. Moss Correctional Center /Tulsa Jail, Tulsa, OK
- Eddie Warrior Correction Center Women's Prison, Taft, OK
- Jackie Brannon Men's Prison, McAlester, OK
- Jess Dunn Correctional Center Men's Prison, Taft, OK
- Juvenile Crisis Center, OKC, OK
- Mabel Bassett Women's Prison, McLoud, OK
- 12 & 12 Rehabilitation Center, Tulsa, OK
- Oklahoma State Penitentiary, McAlester, OK

All contributions are tax-deductible when made payable to RLPM. Tax receipts are provided. Thank you for your support! Monthly tax receipts are mailed. **ANNUAL TAX RECEIPTS WILL BE SENT UPON REQUEST.**

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Please visit our new website  
[www.rlpm.org](http://www.rlpm.org)

**AMAZING FORMER INMATE TESTIMONY!**  
**TACO SOUP DINNER & PRAYER MEETING, MONDAY, FEB 4TH, 6-8:15 PM**

Redeeming Love Prison Ministry, Inc.  
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