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Snyder County Prison Chaplaincy is an affiliate of Jubilee Ministries
235 S. 12th Street
Lebanon, PA 17042-6614
www.jub.org

~YOU ARE INVITED~

“Breaking the Cycle” how life change has a generational impact is the theme of this year’s fundraiser banquet. At the banquet, you will get a unique, behind the scenes, glimpse in prison ministry. You will hear from Snyder County Chaplains Bruce Phelps and Michele Walter about the current ministry within Snyder County Prison. A favorite, Fred Grosse, will accompany us with his guitar.

Join us on April 18, 2020 at 6:00 pm at the Middleburg Fire Hall. Call or e-mail Charlie Benner at 570-374-8826 or ceben58@ptd.net **by April 5, 2020** to reserve your place at the banquet.

Dear Friends...

Imagine you were standing before a judge. Pulse racing, beads of sweat on your brow, nausea in the pit of your stomach. There’s nothing that can be said to undo or unsay, what you’ve done. All things point to your guilt, your shame, your wrongdoing. You’ve said you are sorry nearly a million times, under your breath, in prayer and to those who seemed to listen, but that doesn’t undo what you’ve done. The judge is listening, asking questions, but seems to know the answer. It’s pretty cut and dried...**GUILTY!**

In the middle of the trial the courtroom door swings open to a man who appears to have just stumbled in off the street. He’s a little disheveled, relaxed and unconcerned that your life hangs in the balance. This man continues to walk up the aisle. “Your honor,” he speaks, “may I approach the bench?” He proceeds and they spend a significant amount of time talking in front of the judge’s bench. You can’t see what is going on or hear anything that’s being said. This man seems to have the judge’s full attention. In the next few minutes, you are called to the bench. Shuffling in leg irons and hand cuffs you struggle to get there. As you approach you see papers strewn on the desk. Aha, your case, your rap sheet, your failures, faults, guilt laid open like a gaping

wound. The judge shakes his head, trying to make sense of what has just been done. As you try to get up to speed with what’s taken place, you notice your rap sheet. **PAID, REDEEMED, BOUGHT, PENALTY PAID, SAVED, RESCUED, FREED, LIBERATED, DELIVERED, PURCHASED, RANSOMED, SPARED, RESTORED, JUSTIFIED**, has been stamped next to each charge. The judge looks at you and says “you are free to go”.

Romans 8: 1-2 (CEV) —If you belong to Christ Jesus, you won’t be punished. The Holy Spirit will give you life that comes from Christ Jesus and will set you free from sin and death.

Some words from a song by David Crowther;

“Red Letters”

*“Thank you, God, for red letters when the ground began to shake
The grace of God started falling and I became a free man that day.
The prison walls started falling and I became a free man that day.”*

In Christ’s Love,
Chaplain Michele Walter



If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed!

John 8: 36



Snyder County Prison Chaplaincy *Newsletter*

2020



Greeting dear friends and patrons of the prison ministry. May you be blessed with the grace and peace of God the Father and Christ His Son.

It's been awhile since we've sent out a newsletter. We continue the work of the Lord at the prison and as is the pattern, worship attendance and requests for counseling were high over the holidays. Those who have been attending our worship services are consistent in their attendance and this allows us the opportunity to know them better and develops good fellowship.

A study of the book of Mark was started last June and we have arrived at chapter 8. We deviate as the Lord leads and have spent the last few weeks with studies identifying what the gospel is, what it means; how to pray; and also, what the Bible has to say concerning regret, shame and guilt. Regret and guilt are common issues for those we counsel with. These burdens can only be removed by coming to Christ and finding rest and peace in Him as He states in Matthew 11:28

Occasionally Michele and I are also asked to attend court with some of the faithful attendees of our worship services. We do this as we are able and it is a privilege for us to do this. We believe that it is important to be witnesses as

well outside the prison and offer support in this manner. It is evident to the people that we minister to that we care not only about their spiritual lives but we care as well about them as people. Additionally, we'll keep in touch with letters to those who are transferred to SCI's and rehabilitation centers that have faithfully attended with us in Snyder County. These letters appear to be well received and "Mike" just wrote me saying, "thank you so much for your letters and work in the prison. You don't know how much you bless us by what you do". May God be glorified in our work for Him.

As always we at the ministry are very grateful for your prayers and support. You are part of the prison ministry team with your support to us. With that in mind we would like to extend an invitation to you to attend our fundraiser on April 18 at the Middleburg Firehall. We are humbled and grateful for all you do to. May God bless you all and please let us know if you have any questions concerning the ministry.

In the love of Christ our Lord,

Chaplain Bruce Phelps