

EVANGELISM / DISCIPLESHIP / COMPASSION

GOSPEL EXPRESS

MINISTRIES

OPEN DOORS IN FLORIDA PRISONS!

WE THANK GOD!

I have heard SO MANY AMAZING things this year concerning your group and program. Region 1 truly enjoyed having your team and has seen such a difference with the inmates. I can imagine how challenging and time-consuming it is for you in making sure everything is put together and ready for such a large group/event. It is such a pleasure in working with you Mr. Wengerd. I hope you and your team will continue to visit our facilities next year! Please thank everyone involved; from our Office of Program and Re-entry staff here in Central Office! If you all would ever like to expand to a different region as well, please let me know as I would love to assist!

~Jordan Bonds, FL DOC Statewide Volunteer Coordinator



NORTH FLORIDA PRISON CRUSADE

NW FLORIDA RECEPTION CENTER ▪ APALACHEE ▪ CALHOUN ▪ GADSDEN
GULF ▪ HOLMES ▪ LIBERTY ▪ QUINCY ▪ WALTON

INMATES' TESTIMONIES

*I am in confinement here at "lovely" Gadsden Correctional. I'm trying to get back a relationship with the God I once knew. It was a particularly "down" day when your beautiful ladies came through and **I woke up to their soft, sweet singing** and it felt like confirmation. Thank you! ~**Sheri**, Gadsden*

*To the Weaver family, I'd just like to say that I enjoyed the service very much. You have an awesome family. I do the Gospel Express Bible studies with my Christian brothers every morning. ~**Albert**, Reception Center*

*I want to thank Mr. Mervin Esh and the group of brothers from OH and PA, along with all the musicians for taking time out of their schedules to come to Liberty CI and minister to us. I know all of these people have treasures waiting in heaven for the seeds sown here on earth. **I wish every day could be like the four days that the volunteers were here worshipping with us.** ~**James**, Liberty*

***Gospel Express came to Walton Correctional and tore down the walls in our hearts.** Back in 2019, I started doing your Bible studies and I got a free Bible that you sent me with my name on it. I have been reading it and studying it daily. It was good to see Gospel Express come back to see us. ~**Garrett**, Walton*



VOLUNTEER MINISTRY PARTNERS' TESTIMONIES

Dave Miller gave an altar call (for salvation) and two men came forward to give their lives to Christ. **Dean said that this was a new experience for him and he had never given his heart to God.** I explained that this isn't trying to get better or moving from bad to good (but) that believing in Christ means Jesus comes in and takes over. 1 John 1:9 says, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." I tried to give him a picture of what he could expect from this commitment. Dean prayed a simple prayer of asking Jesus to come in! ~ **Scott Blunier, FL**



DEAN & SCOTT

It is hard to express the joy in my heart when a lady looks at me and comes with outstretched hands for prayer during the altar call. ~**Grace Horst, MO**

I came to encourage the inmates and I ended up being the one encouraged the most! Was an incredible experience and I made a lot of new friends. **These women all have a painful story. They need a listening ear and a caring heart!** ~**Judith Nolt, MO**

I really enjoyed the chapel and dorm visitation. I appreciated meeting a man who had given Jesus his life at the GEMS meeting last year. A man falsely accused after 3 years in prison is still shouting victory in Jesus! ~**Monroe Hochstedler, FL**

When they find out we're human too, have been through much, have had to forgive much... there is so much power in sharing a story/pain they can identify with. ~**Fawn Jacobs, AL**

FROM *Bondage* TO *Freedom*

This seminar is taught as a follow-up to the prison crusade.

Topics Include:

- Created for Relationship
- Broken Relationships
- Wounds of Rejection
- Forgiveness

I thank you [Mervin] and the Gospel Express Team. Bondage to Freedom seminar was very educational. Thank you for the love of Christ you show us. Lives are truly changing. **I may never get out of prison, but I'm free indeed!** I still have great hope that God will deliver me from the consequences of my sins. ~**Richard (inmate), Holmes**

Teaching in prison for four days is a fairly intense experience in many ways. It is a time of spiritual growth; sharing the Word with so many spiritually hungry men. One inmate, who grew up in the small town where we lived in Conn. for 30 years, told me that the seminar was showing him that he was full of bitterness and anger, and had not been aware of it. Another inmate, stood up and shared with all the other inmates that **he was thankful for being in prison. Getting saved and growing in his faith would not have happened if he was still out running with a bad crowd.**

~**Chris Scarbough, Seminar Instructor**



Certificates are handed out to inmates who complete the course

JANUARY UGANDA MISSION



On these pages, you can read some of the “glory stories” from our trip. The 22-member team ranged in age from 5-month-old Porter Tate to Eli Miller at 88. Dave Miller and Chet Stoltzfus had their entire families along, including Dave and Ruth Ann’s first grandchild. Secretary Kaylene Mullet, Carol Yoder, Janese Hurst, and Eli Miller were also intrinsic parts of the team. Villagers and prisoners were all smiles whenever baby Porter was introduced. Over and over again we experienced God’s divine favor being able to take him and also Chet’s 9 and 12-year-old boys into the prisons.

We had the privilege of serving alongside our 13-member Uganda medical team to assess and tend to the needs of approximately 1300 people in two village medical clinics. These venues gave us the wonderful opportunity to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with people from all walks of life.

We are still needing a couple to replace Gary and Rosa Miller in Uganda. God has enlarged every avenue of ministry during their faithful work these past two years. We sincerely thank our donors for every deed of love and kindness made possible by God through your Christ-like spirit of benevolence and compassion. We give God all the honor, glory, and praise! ~**Nelson Coblenz**, Int’l Ministry Director

A huge highlight came when the Americans played the prisoners in a football (soccer) match. This was of great encouragement, with the objective that these prisoners would gain self-esteem amid the prison walls that surround them. And then, our hearts were touched and broken as we ministered in the prison hospital where many men are suffering. Giving them a piece of soap, a blanket, and a hankie, along with prayer, (mirrors) Jesus’ heart when He said, “When you did it for the least of these, you did it as unto me.” The Miller Family shared with grace and excellence in breaking the yokes of bondage from people as they ministered together. And, what a blessing Chet’s children are as they track with “dad and mom” to lift up Jesus! **We cannot thank your supporters enough or even know how to express the true impact that your compassion ministry is making.**

~**Bishop Dickson**, Kampala, Uganda





I was inspired to be part of a mission group whose goal was to be the hands and feet of Jesus. Gifted singers, young people who loved on children by the hundreds, and clerks in the used clothing department had a heart for carrying out the Great Commission. What we couldn't say with words, we showed in hugs and kisses. Wounds were bandaged, tears dried, and I came home with a renewed love for my Savior. Only Heaven will (reveal) the results!

~Carol Yoder



What we couldn't say with words, we showed in hugs and kisses. ~Carol Yoder

The foundation had been laid by so many others through prayer, donating supplies, and proceeds. At first, I was overwhelmed by the enormity of the need, the poverty, diseases, and brokenness... but working alongside our Ugandan brothers and sisters, they shared stories of how God is redeeming those situations. One little girl brought an interpreter to me at the end of a long day, and she said, 'Thank you for being here. I love you.'

~Janese Hurst

We had a blast on the soccer field with our thrown-together Gospel Express & Ugandan team.

Being a part of the mission and being worn out after working hard together to serve others is the most fulfilling kind of tired you will ever have **~Derek Miller, Development Manager**

Please Pray
We need a couple to serve in Uganda (ASAP). Contact Nelson or Dave.



continued...

JANUARY **UGANDA** MISSION ...continued

It's hard to describe the surreal feeling of the moment when I met the pastors face to face that I have been corresponding with for the past year and a half. Their hearts were filled with gratitude and now I realize even more the value, power, and joy of relationships. One such example is the relationship and favor Nelson has with the top official of prisons, Commissioner General Johnson, whom I was honored to meet. I have returned with a greater heart of passion and love for the work that I do!

~Kaylene Mullet, International Secretary

When our children began to sing to over 1000 inmates, it was like the heavens opened and the glory of God fell upon us. At that moment, I was standing in the shade under a tree while checking the sound and tears began to flow. God broke my heart with a deep sense of gratitude for His presence and the opportunity before us to love and encourage these inmates.

~Dave Miller, Executive Director

Medical clinics are always a highlight for Lena and me. Seeing all the different gifts of our children coming alive in a setting like this is a joy to see. It was a privilege and a humbling experience to be able to pray with a father and son who renounced their Muslim faith and pledged their allegiance to Jesus Christ. There is nothing more satisfying than to witness that!"

~Chet Stoltzfus, Uganda Board Member



Meeting with Ugandan Pastors

HOW CAN *You* HELP?

"Life is good when you are happy, but much better when others are happy because of you."

You've just read a summary of the January Uganda mission and you may be wondering how you can partner with us. We have an account here in the ministry called IC (International Compassion). Proceeds designated for that fund go directly toward various humanitarian needs. We get many requests for financial assistance with surgeries, food parcels, water wells, and shelters.

You can contribute via the enclosed response card (mail) or by scanning this QR code with your phone camera which will lead you to our website's international ministry section. You can be specific in your contribution or non-specific - where needed most.

Food parcels: \$25.00
New shelters: \$3,000.00
Water wells/bore-hole: \$3,500-\$6,500

Blankets: \$7.00
Surgeries: \$200.00-\$5,000.00

SCAN HERE



Your partnership is changing individuals, families, communities, and the face of eternity.

FUNDRAISERS

A VITAL COMPONENT OF OUR MINISTRY!

(The depicted events took place in the last several months)

The *teamwork* and *unity* we witness in all these events is *amazing*

PIZZA FUNDRAISER (IL)

Proceeds:

Bible study courses and materials for prisons.

1,400 pizza's made and sold in 3 days = over 24,000 Bibles study courses sent into prison!



VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT (FL)

Proceeds: GE International Food: Palm Grove School

The Volleyball Tournament is still growing! We had the most teams ever at 118! Thanks to all who show up to make the atmosphere and interaction what it is.



A Division Champs

B Division Champs

GOLF TOURNAMENT (FL)

Proceeds: Overall Ministry

30 Teams came out on a brisk day in Sarasota for our 2nd annual tournament. A huge thank you to all who played and made it a memorable day!



2022 Champs from NC

We say *Thank You* to the:

Visionaries, Volunteers, Committees, Donors, Participants, and Sponsors who make these happen!

AUCTION / SINGING / FOOD / FELLOWSHIP

2023 PA Benefit Auction Weekend

Mel's Stables / 834 Wallace Road, New Holland, PA

THURSDAY, APRIL 27

7:00 PM Cattle Auction
Call 717-222-6316 for more info or to Donate

FRIDAY, APRIL 28

4:30 PM Pig Roast & Big John's Chicken
• Full Meal/Carry-Out Available \$15.00 each

SATURDAY, APRIL 29

7:00-10:00 AM Breakfast Buffet
(Donation Basis)

8:30 AM Candy Drop

9:00 AM Main Auction Begins

9:30 AM Tool Auction Begins

6:00 PM Singspiration

For more information or to donate, call 717-478-3815



Cattle Auction



Guest Group - Amos Raber Family



Great food all weekend



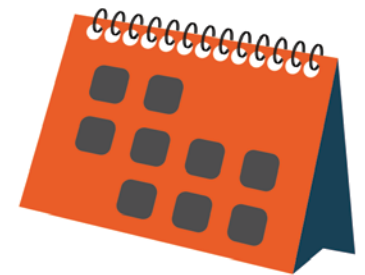
Friday & Saturday Evening Singspirations



Activities for the children

TEAM SCHEDULES

Please visit our website or call to confirm dates before traveling long distances.



MILLER FAMILY

- Mar 13-17 Seeking Cattle for PA Auction - PA (Derek)
- Mar 19-22 Revivals at Fairhaven Church - Goshen, IN
- Mar 24-25 Gospel Haven Women's Conference - Millersburg, OH (Ruth Ann)
- Mar 24-26 Sound Consultation, Roselawn Church - Middlebury, IN (Eugene)
- Mar 28 Maple View Church - Wellesley, ON
- Mar 30 Naumburg Mennonite Church - Castorland, NY
- Mar 30-Apr 1 Seeking Cattle for PA Auction - NY (Derek)
- Apr 27-29 Cattle & Benefit Auctions, & Singing - New Holland, PA
- May 8-12 Annual Staff Meetings - Columbus, NC
- May 16 Lancaster CI - Trenton, FL
- May 17 Florida Women's Reception Center - Ocala, FL
- May 18 Marion CI - Ocala, FL
- May 19-21 Oasis Youth Conference - Sarasota, FL
- May 23 Charlotte CI - Punta Gorda, FL
- May 24 Avon Park CI - Avon Park, FL
- May 25 Zephyrhills CI - Zephyrhills, FL
- May 26 Hernando CI - Brooksville, FL



NELSON & SARAH COBLENTZ

- Mar 12-Apr 2 Uganda Mission - Africa (Nelson)*
- Apr 27-29 Cattle & Benefit Auctions, & Singing - New Holland, PA
- May 8-12 Annual Staff Meetings - Columbus, NC



MULLETT FAMILY

- Apr 23-28 Jefferson CI Prison Intensive - Monticello, FL



MERVIN & FREIDA WENGERD

- Mar 16-18 Midwest Annual Benefit Auction - Memphis, MO
- Apr 27-29 Cattle & Benefit Auctions, & Singing - New Holland, PA
- May 8-12 Annual Staff Meetings - Columbus, NC