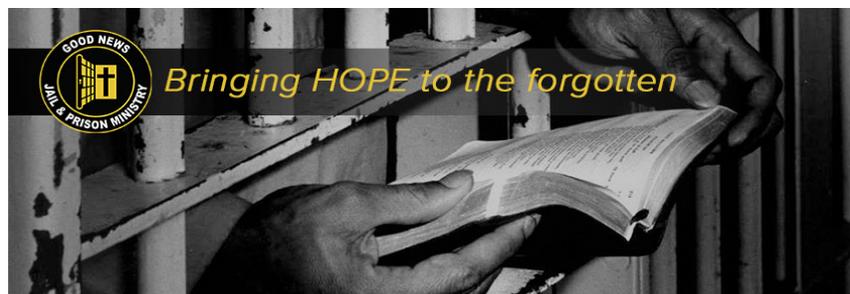


Here is our March 2019 E-Newsletter – We hope it blesses you!



Worth it All!

In my ministry as a Chaplain, I've been asked many questions about the ministry God has called me to. One such question has been, ***"Is it really worth the time and effort you put in?"*** Some of you may have pondered the same question. I want to share a letter from someone on the "receiving end" of ministry in our correctional facilities. Here are his words...

My name is David and I'm currently an inmate at the Sheboygan County Detention Center where Chaplain Rick serves as the chaplain. The purpose of this letter is to thank you (who support this ministry) for reaching out to people who would otherwise be shunned by society. Through my testimony I want to show you that you do make a difference on behalf of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

For me, coming to faith was a long journey that I started as a child. After years of suffering abuse from my earthly father and seeing him abuse my mother as well, I came to believe there could not really be a God at all.

I left home and turned to a life of alcohol and fast living. Through the years things went from bad to worse, until one night I put a gun to my head and pulled the trigger. The gun misfired, the police were called, and I ended in jail to spend the next year of my life.

I was lost and confused, and I still wanted to die. Thankfully after a long conversation with Chaplain Rick I began to see that I needed this Jesus he was talking about. Because of Chaplain Rick's love and compassion, I began to see how God had been at work in my life all along; even on the night when I tried to take my own life.

I fell to my knees and cried out to God knowing I couldn't live any longer and that somehow, I could live through Jesus Christ. From that moment on, I have no longer been alone. I have found my light in the darkness. I have found my reason to live – my Savior Jesus. Even though I am still locked away, I know that Jesus walks beside me. The bars that separate me from loved ones, cannot separate me from God's love through Jesus.

Chaplain Rick never gave up on me. He has shown me how precious God's love is for even me. He has taught me the importance of forgiveness and how we should forgive others as God forgives us. I now have a reason to live and feel the call of God on my life. Jesus truly has plucked me out of the miry clay and set my feet upon the Rock. I once was lost but NOW I AM found!

So once again, thank you! By your support of this ministry through your prayers, volunteering time, and financial support, you do make a difference. For that I praise God!

Your brother in Christ, David.

You might be asking, "So does one person make it worth the time?" Let me quote our Lord Jesus Himself to answer this question. These words are found in Luke 15:7, "***I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.***"

I'm absolutely certain that if you ask all the volunteers who minister to inmates in our facilities, they will answer a resounding, "***Yes, it's worth it all!***"

I want to take this opportunity to thank the many volunteers who give of their time and love, week after week, to demonstrate and extend the love of Jesus Christ to those behind the bars of our detention facilities. There truly is rejoicing in heaven as a result of the time you give.

Gayle's Corner

We are about to enter the church season of Lent. This is a time to remember the sufferings of Christ for us.

So, what are some of the things Christ suffered? People did not believe Him. The Devil tempted Him with food, power, and popularity. Other people tried to find fault with Him and find something to accuse Him. They wanted to kill Him. They lied to accuse Him. Then they spit on Him, abused Him, slapped Him, beat Him, scourged (whipped with sharp objects ripping His skin), and crucified Him. He suffered all of this and more so that we could one day live with Him.

So, what have we suffered? People not believing us, hunger, loneliness, powerlessness, false accusations, lies, physical pain? Has the Devil caused our suffering? Have we suffered for our faith? Have we borne it without fighting back and not complaining? (I'm not saying that we should not fight or complain as each situation is different.)

I know that many of the inmates can relate to these sufferings. Helping them to see God's care, love, and blessings can change their lives. His salvation, understanding, and hope provides joy.

Thank the Lord that someone suffered for us, understands what we go through, gave us a book for guidance, salvation, fellow believers, and more. ***The people were amazed when they saw the mute speaking, the crippled made well, the lame walking and the blind seeing. And they praised the God of Israel. Matthew 15:31. (Or for salvation in Luke 1:67-75.)***

May you be blessed in Lent and renew your praise for God's goodness for us.

In Christ's love,
Gayle Janzen

Do you shop on Amazon? If you do, you can support Good News Jail & Prison Ministry through your purchases on Amazon. **Instead of logging into Amazon.com, log into your Amazon account at “[smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com)” instead.** This is still your account but gives you the opportunity to support a non-profit. Select Good News Jail & Prison as the non-profit you want to support, and a *portion of your purchase will go to Good News Jail & Prison Ministry.*

For more info please contact Chaplain Rick.

Mark Your Calendar
Tuesday May 7, 2019
Good News Partner Banquet
Blue Harbor Conference Center
Our new Guest Speaker this year is



Gary Franz, VP, International Ministry

Gary joined the Good News family in 2017. Gary enjoys serving the International teams of chaplains – building up, encouraging and guiding the ministry in strategic places around the world. He and his wife, Carol, have purposed to reach “difficult to reach” peoples for 30+ years. Prior to Good News, they served in a variety of ministry roles – as missionaries in Southeast Asia, Mission Field Leaders, Missions and Outreach Pastor, and Senior Pastor. Gary earned a B.A. in Biblical Studies from Wheaton College and an M.A. in Intercultural Studies from Columbia International University. The Franzes live in the Chicago suburbs. They have four children and one grandchild.

Tickets are now available. See your Chaplaincy Support Team Member Or contact Chaplains Rick or Gayle

2019 Good News Golf Event
Friday, August 23rd – Pine Hills Country Club
8:30 Shot gun start

It’s not too early to start gathering a foursome.

Watch for more info in upcoming Newsletters

Prayer Requests

- * Pray for the churches, businesses and individuals who financially support this ministry.
- * Pray for the men and women who have put their faith in Jesus. Pray that they continue to follow Jesus when they get released or are transferred to other jails or prisons
- * Pray for the volunteers who give of their time to share the love and hope of Jesus.
- * Please pray for the inmates who have been allowed to go through substance abuse treatment through Adult/Teen Challenge Ministry in Milwaukee.

Ministry Needs – Please pray about helping us with these

- **Chaplaincy Support Teams members from each of our supporting Churches**
- **Volunteers for Sunday morning Church Services, one Sunday per month.**
- **Sponsors for our upcoming Partner Banquet**

On behalf of our Chaplaincy Support Team and the inmates we serve, Gayle and I personally thank every volunteer, every person and every Church who partner with this ministry. Your sacrifice and partnership truly make a difference in the lives of families in our community. It is an honor to partner with you as we continue to witness heart changes in men and women through the love of Jesus. We pray for God’s richest blessings upon you and your families. We truly believe that Jesus is the answer to everything we see wrong in our world!

We pray that you personally continue to experience God’s powerful blessings!

Philemon vs. 15,16 (The Passion Translation)

¹⁵ Perhaps you could think of it this way: he was separated from you for a short time so that you could have him back forever. ¹⁶ So welcome him no longer as a slave, but more than that, as a dearly loved brother. He is that to me especially, and how much more so to you, both humanly speaking and in the Lord.

**May the Lord bless you abundantly in 2019,
Chaplains Rick Cawthon & Gayle Janzen**