

Join us for prison letter answering on the fourth Tuesday evening of the month at IMMANUEL FELLOWSHIP CHURCH 3533 East Tolbert Road, Wooster, Ohio

To help provide Bibles, concordances, and Bible courses for those in prison, your support would be greatly appreciated. See the enclosed envelope or send your gift to: PO Box 135 / Fredericksburg, OH 44627

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BECOME MORE INVOLVED WITH THE PRISON MINISTRY, FEEL FREE TO CONTACT US.

### **Financial Report**

March 31, 2023

Balance 12/31/2022	\$134,860.61
INCOME	13,672.62
Donations	10,594.62
Church Donations	3,078.00
EXPENSES	(22,303.78)
Literature	12,654.29
Supplies	1,071.62
Postage	6,959.39
Outside Help	1,585.50
Computer Expense	32.98
Balance 03/31/2023	\$126,229.45

#### Literature sent

**January 1 - March 31, 2023** 

3ibles2	34
Concordances2	16
Bible Atlas	11
Bible Dictionaries	74
Study Courses3	56
Spanish Bibles3	06
Spanish Concordances	0
Spanish Bible Dictionaries	32
oaves & Fishes Magazine	64
A Life Redeemed Book	51
Marriage Courses	3
_etters Answered1,0	38
nmate Newsletters1,1	40

**Christian Fellowship Prison Ministries** 

Noah Martin / James Martin
Stephen Martin / Konrad Steiner
Henry Beachy / Joe LaFave
Elson Miller

**Board Members** 

PO Box 135,
Fredericksburg OH 44627-0135
Website: cfprisonministries.org

"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." John8:36

## Christian Fellowship PRISON MINISTRIES

REACHING THE BOUND TO FREE THEIR SOULS BY THE POWER OF CHRIST

2023

First Quarter Report





Photo credits: Tulips and poppies : Shawn Martin; Other photos: Creative Common



#### DEAR SUPPORTERS...

"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me." John 14:1. Jesus spoke these words to His disciples as they were sharing the Last Supper together. Apparently, the disciples were troubled by what Jesus was telling them that would happen to Him. He had told them, "Whither I go, thou canst not follow me now; but thou shalt follow me afterwards." The disciples loved Jesus dearly but they did not realize what lay ahead.

We hear about a lot of troubling things in this world. We can so quickly give in to worry or become anxious and troubled about what may be in the future for us. We don't know for sure what will happen. Will the money that we now have become worthless? Will we continue to have religious freedom? Will we still be able to send Christian literature into prisons? We

could worry, worry and worry, but Jesus told His disciples to not let their hearts become troubled. You see, if we put our trust in God and believe that He is able to see us through, it lifts us up above the

"Just trust... that is easier said than done!"

troubles around us. That is easier said than done! Let's "Lift up our eyes unto the hills from whence cometh our help" – because "Our help comes from the Lord!"

Thank you again for your prayers and support in this prison ministry. We keep experiencing challenges and changes along the way. There are prisons who keep adding restrictions and refusing books. For this reason we have to "stay on our toes" to make sure that we are doing what we can to meet new requirements. Several prisons are scanning all the mail offsite and sending the correspondence on a digital file to the inmate. Most likely we will see more of that in the future. It makes it more difficult for us to be certain that the items are sent to the correct address. May God help all of us to let our light shine for Him!

In His service, James Martin

# INMATE TESTIMONIES





#### Dear Friend in Christ,

I was very pleased to receive your letter and the book, A Life Redeemed. Both came 3 days ago. You are the kindest, thank you! I've been here in this prison 23 years this September and [received] only 3 letters in that time. Hearing from another person makes life seem more accepting of an old criminal! You made life better with just a simple word that means a lot. I pray for you and yours, whoever you are.

I've been alone in long-term isolation for so many years, it seems out of the way for me to write and speak to anyone. I came to prison in 1981 at age 15 and now I'm 57. My life has been one crime or another my whole life. I cannot believe how blessed I am to [have learned of] Him who lives and was lifted up to save us from sin! Praise God!

You can look at my picture and view all my past crimes on the [internet]. I really would like to find a person to be a pen pal, a more personal connection. I'm not out to use anyone or ask for money, etc. I simply seek friendship. Growing old in a box all alone makes a person feel unwanted and lonely! [Age and color don't matter to me!] We must take the blessings the good Lord provides!

I have not received the Large Print Bible and Strong's Concordance [yet]. I will let you know when I receive them. I have stage three colon cancer, so I need a friend and God's love more than ever.

I must close as this is my only paper and my eyes are blurry. I am waiting on eye glasses. Write if you can, or pass me off to anyone that would like a pen friend! I'll always respond, be respectful, and answer all questions. I appreciate your time and prayers.

May the Lord provide peace, good health, and blessings!

In Jesus' name, Bill H., McAlester OK

#### To my friend in Christ,

I'm writing your ministry to let you know how much I thank you for sending me this Bible. I wanted to tell you that I finished reading it. It took me a couple of years to do so. When I first got it, I just jumped around reading the same stories that I had learned as a child. One day it occurred to me to read the whole thing...

Demus W., Richmond TX

Dear Ministry,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus! Glory be to God; I just received a letter from your ministry!!! I do not know who the volunteer was who wrote this letter, but let me say, it touched me deeply! The person who wrote this is blessed. They're filled with the Holy Ghost. I would really like to thank your ministry for the spirit lifting letter. It helped me more than I can express.

I also wish to thank you for the Bible and concordance you are sending me! My heart leaped when I saw and read that! You have no idea how badly I've been wanting them. Thank you so much, thank you Lord! He is faithful. I've seen some of the free literature you offer. I would like to read, "A Life Redeemed". This is a wonderful thing your ministry is doing to help prisoners. I've learned those who deserve love the least need it the most. Your letter arrived when I needed it the most! Thank you, and thank you Lord.

Oh, and I don't want to forget, I'd like to do the study courses as well please. I've always enjoyed the writing of John. Well, I'm going to close for now. Again, please thank the volunteer that sent me that wonderful letter! Thank you for all you do in the Lord's name.

A brother in Christ, Daniel C.

Bonne Terre, MO



#### Dear CFPM, Hello,

My name is Kenya B., and I am writing in reference to John 8:32 ("And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.") concerning Luke 1:26-38. Is it really true that a Savior named Jesus Christ, the son of a woman named Mary who spoke to an angel who told her she'll become pregnant with Him (Jesus) without the aid of a man?

Exactly who was this Luke, and who were his relatives (i.e. Mother, father, sister(s), brother(s), wife, children, etc.) Besides being a doctor, who are his relatives?

How do we know his detailed information concerning Luke 1:26-38 is the truth? He never reveals his source of information, so [We don't know] from whom or where he obtained it. Neither Jesus nor any of His disciples speak about Mary privately talking to an angel about her mysterious impregnation. Paul doesn't corroborate his information, nor does Mary or her husband Joseph.

Luke wasn't an eye witness to what he was explaining in his book, nor does he state where he received his information or from whom.

Where are the facts to prove his information in detail is true? Am I supposed to believe in an unproven, unfactual belief (Matthew 24:4)?

Spiritually yours, Kenya B.

P.S. Please write soon. Do I not have a spiritual right to know it's truth?