#### "WALKING IN THE LIGHT"

# **Kings Crossing Prison Ministries**

A NEWS REVIEW & EDUCATIONAL TOOL OF JAIL-PRISON MINISTRIES IN CHURCHES OF CHRIST Dr. Dale Underwood, Editor

"Endeavoring to teach the Gospel to every person everywhere before Jesus returns"

#### A <u>Milestone</u> in <u>Jacksboro</u>, Texas

You may not have heard of Jacksboro. If you want to get there, travel to Fort Worth and head northwest for an hour on highway 199. There you will find the *Lindsey State Jail* where approximately

one thousand men are incarcerated. Since the fall of 2024, **Jeff Hill** (pictured below) has been teaching **NewLife Behavior** courses in this prison. Jeff contacted **Dr**. **Dale Underwood** recently to tell us that

OISCIPLE SUIFE MINISTRIES

Jeff Hill

one hundred and thirty men will participate in a moment of accomplishment

due to completing *A Sense of Self*, *Attitudes and Behaviors*, and *Managing My Anger* .

On March 13<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate this milestone of accomplishment with Jeff and these men. The prison gave us the opportunity

to have a few hours to enjoy this moment of victory and consider the path they are walking. We will encourage them to continue their journey of faith to include baptism along with continued studies in God's Word. We also plan to contact the congregation in Jacksboro about helping. What a marvelous resource of God's people on the ground in this community! *Praise God!* 

#### **Discipleship**



Recently I was blessed with the opportunity to sit down with C. F. Hazlewood, director of chaplains for TDCJ and the person responsible for giving spiritual growth opportunities to inmates in Texas prisons.

It was one of those unplanned moments when I asked him how we could help him most. He responded

with one word: "Discipleship!" He went on to say that courses we provide for inmates do more than just a weekend uplift, rather they are having a long-term impact. He asked us to keep providing courses and volunteers. It was both exciting and sobering to hear this is how our efforts are viewed from TDCJ statewide administration.

Please keep praying God open prison doors and blesses this work!

National Jail & Prison Ministry Workshop June 11-13, 2025

## "Redemption Meets Recovery"

Midwest Church of Christ 2115 Garland Ave., Louisville, KY 40211

(For more information, see the insert in this newsletter edition)

#### The **Panhandle Texas** Initiative

Ashey Melendez is a junior at *Lubbock Christian University*. If her name sounds familiar, it is because she is the daughter of *Luis and Myra* 



Melendez. We have been blessed for several years to know and work with the Melendez family. Luis is on staff as part of the mission team at the Sunset International Bible Institute. Myra, her mother, is on staff with us and is hard at work translating our curriculum for incarcerated Spanish speakers.

Now, Ashley is helping our efforts to ask congregations in parts of the Panhandle of Texas where fourteen prisons are located to join us for a meeting in Lubbock at the Sunset Church of Christ on April 5<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided as we discuss ways to reach the lost in addiction, jails, and prisons in this region.

### The Providence of God



On February 13, 2024, my daughter, Jess Warrick, gave birth to my beautiful granddaughter, **Ava Lynn**. However, little Ava did not survive.

She went on to spend eternity with the Creator of the universe. AMEN! We grieved and then continued to put our faith in the Lord. The *University Church of* Christ in Canyon, Texas (20 minutes outside of Amarillo) was so kind to our family. This congregation opened their building and fed us so we could have a memorial service for baby Ava. That was last year.



Wouldn't you know it? Dr. Dale Underwood recently approached me about delivering 500 prison Bibles to a congregation in the Canyon area. What could only be the work of God is that the delivery allowed me to be with my daughter's family on Ava Lynn's first heavenly birthday. What made things



even more powerful was the 500 prison Bibles were ordered from the same church where my granddaughter's memorial service took placethe *University Church of Christ!* 

> What a great trip! I delivered 500 prison Bibles, celebrated my granddaughter's birthday, and our family worshipped with the University Church of Christ! Our

God is such a good God. Praise King Jesus!!



### In His Time (Garza East unit, Beeville, TX)

One thing you find out in working with prisons or jailsthings often move much slower than you want. You can almost hear Paul responding, "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up (Galatians 6:9)."



The Garza East prison unit located in Beeville, Texas was closed down during the COVID years. In September 2020 the unit went dormant, then re-opened in mid-2024 with a new warden and a new chaplain. Currently TDCJ is building a population there of two thousand men. We were contacted by the chaplain when it opened and asked if we would come over to volunteer. We are now teaching weekly approximately fifty men in the faith-based dorm and working out a schedule to teach a general population class of over one hundred men sometime this year. More than seventy men have asked to be baptized, and we are working with the chaplain to schedule these! It all happens "In His Time!"



# Gifts of Remembrance & Gratitude

Many ministry friends find this a meaningful way to remember loved ones and honor persons who have made a difference in their lives – living or not. Whether a person just passed away or died decades ago, it is a marvelous feeling to know that you or a loved one is remembered.

**Received from:** Judy Shelton M/M Buck Griffith Frank Maxey Dr/M Dale Underwood Patricia Berny M/M Buck Griffith

In Memory of: Naomi Maxev Glenda Hammons Ron Pinion Patricia Berny

Received from: M/M Buck Griffith Maggie Wachtel Frank Maxey Maggie Wachtel Frank Maxey

In Memory of: Joyce Freeman Ron Pinion Glenda Hammons Patricia Berny Joanne Progess

Received from: Maggie Wachtel Frank Maxey Dr/M Dale Underwood Renie Patty M/M Buck Griffith Maggie Wachtel

In Memory of: Glenda Hammons Patricia Berny Joanne Progess Joanne Progess