

“WALKING IN THE LIGHT”

Kings Crossing Prison Ministries

A NEWS REVIEW & EDUCATIONAL TOOL OF JAIL-PRISON MINISTRIES IN CHURCHES OF CHRIST
Buck Griffith, Editor

“Endeavoring to teach the Gospel to every person everywhere before Jesus returns”

THE ANNUAL DRIVE HAS KICKED OFF! ENDING DECEMBER 31

The Annual Fund Drive for *Kings Crossing Prison Ministries* (KCPM) kicked off on October 1st and we are taking the ball down the field! Prison doors are reopening and opportunities abound. “This is a team effort”, states Buck Griffith, KCPM Director. “Your financial gifts enable us to continue to publish study material, correspond with inmates in their Bible coursework, and enter the facilities weekly and offer other special events.”



This “Team” consists of generous men and women who devote their time, talents – **including money** – and energy in a thousand ways. No one is more important than anyone else. This ministry depends on all of us partnering together to reach the lost and help families, including *Little Angels*, and those dealing with destructive addictions. **Now is the time to give!** We want to match the **\$35,000** offered and *more* before the clocks strikes midnight on December 31, 2021.

YOUR GIFTS ARE CHANGING LIVES

In 2021, your financial support touched thousands of lives in this community and far beyond. At times, we tend to focus on our own backyards. When this is done, we see the faces of men and women who are confined in Nueces County Jail. We see the faces of their families and small children coming to our office for help. We look into faces of those benefitting as a result of our weekly Christians Against Substance Abuse or *Winners Circle* peer



-support group meetings. When we focus farther away, we cannot overlook 30,000 who are studying with us by mail from all across the United States. Next, we see that 427 baptistries have been distributed to 38 states, including 117 to 40 foreign nations through *Baptistries Around the World*. These are used to immerse nearly 16,000 per year. These are only a few of the specific things being done as a result of your support, prayers, and donations.

DREAM BIG. SET GOALS. TAKE ACTION!

God has already been in action opening doors in 2022, and we intend to walk through them. TDCJ – Texas Department of Criminal Justice – Chaplaincy Division – has invited us to write a proposal that will utilize our prison ministry staff, volunteers, and NewLife Behavior curriculum to instruct the TDCJ staff and offenders in small groups. This “pilot” program (beginning sometime in January and continuing throughout 2022) is expected to eventually spread to state prisons across Texas. The state is divided into six regions with Regional Chaplains and individual *unit* chaplains. Region I is in the Huntsville area. This is the location of TDCJ’s administrative headquarters. This “Life-Coach” program will be kicked off in Region I. “This is a big effort requiring time, travel, and manpower,” says Dale Underwood, the incoming KCPM Director. “We will seek to coordinate with prison ministries throughout the State of Texas, which will enhance the overall reach of the gospel. We will be working together to impact the entire State of Texas prison system.”

“This is a big effort requiring time, travel, and manpower.”

Kings Crossing Prison Ministries is overseen by the shepherds, Kings Crossing Church of Christ, 5901 Yorktown Boulevard, Corpus Christi, Texas 78414 (Ron Cardwell, Robert Ilgen, Stephen Johnston, Rick Legvold, Jack North, Richard Scanio)

Contact Us: The physical location of the prison ministry office is 3833 South Staples Street, Suite S-101, Corpus Christi, Texas 78411 (361) 855-3372; Fax: (361) 855-7469. Our website is www.kingscrossingprisonministries.org. Email: kcprisonministries@gmail.com

BAPTISTRIES AROUND THE WORLD - BUILDING A FOUNDATION

Baptistries Around the World had its beginning in July 1991. It will have its 31st “birthday” in 2022. The first *portable* baptistry was an invention to immerse an inmate in Nueces County Jail. Finally, we were allowed to place a *permanent* baptistry there. We paid for everything, including a special-fabricated fiberglass tub, plumbing, fixtures, etc. “Where there is a will, there is a way.” This humble beginning led to the refined equipment used now and shared all over the world. So far, we have placed baptistries in 38 states in the USA and in 40 foreign nations. This has left us scrabbling to respond positively to worldwide requests.

Consequently, there is a constant and growing need for financial support. Looking back, we failed to foresee this. There was an immediate cry for help from other prison ministries and we reached out to churches of Christ everywhere. We were grateful that almost 200 congregations responded with donations large and small. It met the currently pressing needs. We were busy trying to meet the needs of other efforts like our residential aftercare program (CTS) and Christians Against Substance Abuse (CASA). *Christian Training School for Ex-Offenders* began in 1983 and CASA in 1988.

So, what is the plan today? We are returning to our roots. We are asking individuals and congregations throughout the United States to give to meet growing demands. Some requests for a baptistry come with a contribution to cover all or a portion of the cost. If not, we supply it. We are unable to deny an opportunity to taught believers wanting to obey the Lord in baptism.

In the case of prisons, we want to proactively seek official approval to “donate” baptistries to prisons. This would require *Baptistries Around the World* to be in strong fiscal condition. You may have noticed prisons are often constructed on the outside of tiny communities in which congregations are small and struggling. This is why our volunteers drive 50 to 125 miles (one way) to teach the offenders and when taught, hopefully, immerse them into Christ. *Baptistries Around the World* would like to get a baptistry there when the prison is first constructed. It is one less battle that future workers will not have to fight.

In the case of foreign missions, we try to find stateside sponsoring congregations to carry a portable baptistry into the country on their next visit. Otherwise, the cost of shipping and customs can be two or three times the cost of the baptistry itself. We would love to not only satisfy requests but actively offer “free” baptistries. Many in the USA would be shocked to see the contaminated water people are being immersed in (and others who face a real fear of being bitten by snakes). This is NOT an exaggeration.



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:

M/M Tom Blackstone
M/M Don Crofton
M/M Abe Garcia
Joyce Reynolds
M/M Ed Moore
Mary Ann Cloud
M/M Chuck Kolb
M/M Lonnie Sykes
M/M Bob Wachtel
Leo Tyler
M/M Delton McGuire
M/M Ed Moore
M/M Bob Wachtel
M/M Frank Maxey
Jim Gatewood
Raquel Rivera

In Memory of:

Marlene Glasson
Kenneth Watson
Marlene Glasson
Kenneth Watson
Lillian Gatewood
Kenneth Watson
Bill Glasson
Dottie Kubala
Evelyn Lough
Kenneth Watson
Zora Simonds
Zora Simonds
Bobby Doggett
Bobby Robinson
Bobby Robinson
Taryn Brooks

Received from:

M/M Chuck Kolb
M/M Ed Moore
Leo Tyler
M/M Dale Underwood
M/M Chuck Kolb
M/M Pat Watson
Mary Ann Cloud
M/M Delton McGuire
M/M Frank Maxey
M/M Jim Wilson
M/M Chuck Kolb
M/M Dale Underwood
M/M Frank Maxey
M/M Bob Wachtel
Lillian Gatewood
Raquel Rivera

In Memory of:

Marlene Glasson
Cristina Capo
Zora Simonds
Bobby Doggett
Joshua Ogden
Kenneth Watson
Joshua Ogden
Kenneth Watson
Jason Betz
Kenneth E. Butts
Jack Graham
Evelyn Lough
Bobby Doggett
Bobby Robinson
Bobby Robinson
Kenneth Watson

Received from:

M/M Ed Moore
M/M Chuck Kolb
Mary Ann Cloud
M/M Chuck Kolb
M/M Tom Blackstone
M/M Chuck Kolb
M/M Buck Griffith
M/M Abe Garcia
M/M Jeff Nesloney

Received from:

M/M Chuck Kolb
M/M Ed Moore
M/M Ed Moore
M/M Ed Moore
M/M Ed Moore
M/M Ed Moore

In Memory of:

Connie Kosarek
Kenneth Mayfield
Zora Simonds
Zora Simonds
Zora Simonds
Lillian Gatewood
Bobby Robinson
Lillian Gatewood
Bobby Doggett

In Honor of:

Kenneth Watson
M/M Buck Griffith
Ron Cardwell
M/M Bob Hughes, Sr.
John Henry Pruitt
M/M Don Crofton