



35th Annual Christmas with Friends

Luncheon - Wednesday

December 5, noon

**Civic Center, 201 E. Central,
El Dorado, KS**

It all began 35 years ago when the leaders of El Dorado and Butler County, along with David Clymer, owner of the *El Dorado Times*, were discussing what could be done to say “Thank You” to the men who came from the facility then known as the El Dorado Honor Camp.

The discussion lead to feeding the inmates a steak dinner on Saturday night. And so the tradition began. Local men of the community drove busses to transport over 100 inmates from the Honor Camp to the 4H Building.

Other people of the community set up the tables and chairs for the event, while others connected a sound system and a keyboard for singing Christmas carols. Citizens of the community were quick to jump in and sponsor this event by purchasing “Santa’s Helper” ticket packages or individual tickets.

The 4H building would fill with up to 200 people in attendance, including politicians, civic leaders, pastors, businessmen and many local people. What a huge celebration!

Ten years ago everything changed, as the North Unit was closed. It then became necessary to have a noon luncheon with about 35 inmates in attendance.

Now five days a week, throughout the year, this group of inmates is brought to El Dorado from Winfield Correctional Facility, to do maintenance and other responsibilities around our community.

We have been visiting with Warden Paul Snyder, Winfield, and Warden Sam Cline, El Dorado, about having this event another year — and it is a “Go!”

The luncheon for inmates is free, but members of the community and prison ministry volunteers are asked to purchase meals, thus helping fund the event.

The *Red Devil* chefs charcoal hamburgers and *Central Kansas Prison Ministry* will be providing the rest of the meal, including: baked beans, potato salad, chips, dessert and drinks.

WHAT WE NEED:

- #1. We need supporters and volunteers to purchase tickets.
- #2. We need some help from volunteers who can come to the civic center around 9:30 a.m. on December 5 and help set up tables, chairs, decorate, prepare the meal and be there to assist in any way needed.



Christmas with Friends 2017, praying for the meal.

2019 Volunteer Training

EL DORADO CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

2019 Training to be announced in January.

Chaplain - Herbie Harris 316-321-7284
extension 22308

Records - Jillian Cheever 316-321-7284
extension 22362

HUTCHINSON CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

2019 Training to be announced in January.

Contact: Jennifer Collins for more details.
620-728-3323 - Jennifer.Collins@ks.gov

WINFIELD CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

2019 Training to be announced in January.

Contact: Chaplain Grady Osborn
Phone 620-221-6660 - extension 56026

MENTORING4SUCCESS TRAINING

Contact: Tanya Husselman at 316-208-3386
or – Tanya.Husselman@ks.gov

Match-2 (M2)

Mentoring Visitation

M-2 December 3 and 17

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Why is it necessary to tell people about God?



I know human nature — people do not like to be instructed about life. But, I also know that IF I do not explain God’s principles, I must answer to God when I stand before Him. Ezekiel 33:6, — *“But if the watchman (guard, minister, you and I) sees war (danger) coming and doesn’t blow the trumpet, warning the people, and war comes and takes anyone off, I (GOD) will hold the watchman responsible for the bloodshed.”*

HERE IS THE WHY:

Jeremiah 10 reads in The Message Version, *“The heart is hopelessly dark and deceitful, a puzzle that no one can figure out. But I, God, search the heart and examine the mind. I get to the heart of the human. I get to the root of things. I treat them as they really are, not as they pretend to be.”*

Public speaker Chip Ingram conveys: When people abandon us, letting us down and do not come through, we feel rejected, left out, lonely, sad or sorrowful. We usually cover it up with depression, which is one of the roots of anger. May I also add, sometimes it is inward anger is covered with drugs or alcohol. When we feel hurt, we will turn against people, family and friends, often because of unmet needs and unmet expectations.

THE RESULT:

From my years of working with people, when the problems of life seem to overwhelm them, they resort to “human” ways of coping. When people are hurt or face problems, the first reaction is to blame God. After all, we think that He should or could fix it.

When women are hurt, they often talk to other women, seek counsel and are usually the first to pray, asking God to forgive their sins and seek His will in their lives.

When men are hurt, they often isolate themselves, become depressed, blame God and lash out in fits of anger. Often that anger is vented against family within the home, or a stranger on the street.

SOLUTION:

First Clue — *“But more than anything else, put God’s*

work **FIRST** and do what **He** wants. Then the other things in life will be yours as well.”

(Matthew 6:33, Contemporary English Version)

Second Clue — The first prayer God will hear is — the prayer of confession and repentance. Asking for favors or things before confession, is a waste of time.

“Know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is God-fearing and does His will, He hears him.” John 9:31

1 Peter 3:12, “For the eyes of the Lord are toward the righteous, and His ears attend to their prayers. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”

Pray for yourself — and ask God to forgive your sins; commit your life 100% to what He wants. THEN, He will listen to your requests.

Third Clue — It is written: “As surely as I live,’ says the Lord, ‘every knee will bow before me; every tongue will acknowledge God.” Romans 14:11.

BUT, what if you do not believe the Bible and really do not care what it instructs?

Modern scholars have largely acknowledged the authenticity of the reference in the Antiquities to, “the brother of Jesus, whose name was James and consider it as having the highest level of authenticity among the references of Josephus to Christianity.

So James, Jesus brother wrote (James 1:12-15) — “Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.¹³ When tempted, no one should say, “God is tempting me.” For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone;¹⁴ but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed.¹⁵ Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.”

The lesson from this is: If you fail to ask Jesus to control your life and — if you are continually failing in your attempts — remember public school. When you failed a class, the teacher gave you an “F” grade and you had to take the class again.

The same is true in life. If you fail to ask Jesus to forgive your sins — if you fail to talk and walk with Him — if you fail to learn the Bible and the ways

of God — if you fail in your own power and ability — THEN you will fail to make Heaven your Home.

And if you fail at that, then you will fail at “why” God put you on this planet. **We are not here to suck air and eat food — we are here to love, live, worship and find true purpose through God’s plan.**

Take it from someone who tried his own way for years. It wasn’t until I committed my life to God 100%, that everything changed.

FINAL CLUE — Rid yourself of everything that is not pleasing to God. “Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings, or of God? Or am I trying to please just people? If I were still trying to please people, I would **not be a servant of Christ.**” (Galatians 1:10)

My favorite saying is: “If it doesn’t glorify God — then don’t do it.”

CONCLUSION: If you want your life to be rich — with blessings from God, live 100% for Christ.

1 Thessalonians 5:19-22, “Don’t turn away God’s Spirit or ignore His Word... Accept what is good and don’t have anything to do with evil.”

Central Kansas Prison Ministry is ON-LINE www.ckpm.org

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Wichita phone (316) **733-1537**

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TWO (2) Huge Financial Needs at the End of the Year

- **CHRISTMAS with FRIENDS INMATE Luncheon** – and
- *Christmas Gift Packages*

These two events cost about \$3,500 in December.



ALSO: Volunteers NEEDED to help us set up for this event.

Christmas with Friends is funded by community individuals, businesses, Prison Ministry Volunteers and supporters who purchase meal tickets.

SANTA'S HELPERS: for a donation of \$70
 — will receive FOUR (4) tickets
 — plus recognition on the printed program.

SUPPORTERS: for a donation of \$35
 — will receive TWO (2) tickets
 — plus recognition on the printed program.

INDIVIDUALS: meal ticket prices are \$7.50
 Can be picked up at the **Chamber of Commerce**
 or by mail to: Christmas with Friends,
 P.O. Box 1279,
 El Dorado, Kansas 67042-1279
 Or, ticket requests can be made by email:
 director@ckpm.org — or 316-733-1537

Central Kansas Prison Ministry is supported **ONLY** by donations from individuals and churches. We are **NOT** supported in any way by the State of Kansas.



MEMOS Newsletter

Central Kansas Prison Ministry
 P.O. Box 1279
 El Dorado, KS 67042-1279

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Christmas Packages for Inmates who DO NOT get Christmas gifts

One out of five inmates at the El Dorado Facility, do not receive anything from home or friends. It costs our ministry between \$1,500 and 2,500 to provide hygiene packages at a cost of a little less than \$10 per man.



We order these items: tooth paste, deodorant, shampoo, bar soap, along with candy, treats and the gospel message.

Volunteers often ask, “How can we give?” The answer is, a donation to this ministry.

Can you help us this Christmas with a special donation?