

CENTRAL KANSAS PRISON MINISTRY

MEMOS

April 2023

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Do you need to go through training?

See details and dates on page 2.

A Word from Jay Lewis, Executive Director



By the time this newsletter is distributed, I will have begun my new ministry at Central Kansas Prison Ministry. People have asked me about the details of what I'll be doing. Being candid, I'm not sure what things will look like. I do know for the first few weeks I'll be in discovery mode, meeting new people, meeting the different Chaplains and staff at the institutions we serve, and getting to know the men and women who support this ministry with their time and resources.

Last month, I had the opportunity to sit down with Karen McBride to talk about the ministry and learn more about the vision planted in Lynn's heart so many years ago. It is important that while God may lead us to new places and ministry opportunities, it is equally important to stay true to the mission and calling God had in mind for this ministry to the incarcerated men in Central Kansas that Lynn so passionately served for over 30 years.

This week while in Nashville visiting my daughter and her family, a very disturbed 28 year old woman opened fire on nine year old students at Covenant Presbyterian School. The shooting was underway as my daughter drove me home from the airport. The school was 10 minutes from her house. There were connections to her family with one of the adult victims. All I could think of was the utter depravity of man. The urgency to share Jesus with people must be first and foremost on the hearts of Believers. I hear people talk about the sad state of our country and world, and for the most part I agree. However, those of us who know Jesus have a responsibility to share with all who will listen, the healing power of Jesus. It broke my heart this woman was so distraught that she felt like she could commit such an act, yet without hope people will do destructive things to themselves and others. Jesus is the only answer. Jesus heals the broken-hearted. Jesus brings wholeness to a broken world. These are the things I tell people I will be doing inside prison walls. I can't wait to see and experience the stories of redemption and freedom as men are released from prison to be reunited with their families. Some will never be released, for them we share how the place they find themselves is in fact their own ministry field.

What a blessing it is to serve these men as we sow seeds of Christ's love.



EDCF Spiritual Life Center Update:

It has been a great thing to see the EDCF SLC transformed from the recent efforts from the many different outside donations and the fundraisers the residents do inside. The new and upgraded technology has been a game changer in getting the message of Jesus into areas of the prison where men are unable to leave their cellhouses. There have been so many compliments for Channel 35 and the programming that we are airing. Seeds will continue to be planted and cultivated through this project alone for many years to come. We have begun a new project to redo the floors in the SLC on a room-to-room basis. Part of the funds we raise are being designated to the completion of this project. The library is complete, and we are waiting for the final bookcases to be installed. CKPM continues to be a great partner in our efforts to make the EDCF SLC a beacon for the Gospel. We thank them for all they continue to do in ministry and financial assistance.

We continue to struggle with only Primary Callouts being allowed. All the other different religions are frustrated too. I believe prayer changes things and we continue to ask for prayer as we continue to move forward. Pray that God would send men and women to fill the positions for Correctional Officers. Remember, even in the valleys God continues to use His people to fulfill His will. God bless you all!

CENTRAL KANSAS PRISON MINISTRY IS ONLINE! WWW.CKPM.ORG

CENTRAL KANSAS PRISON MINISTRY

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Non-Profit-Organization (NPO) number for Central Kansas Prison Ministry is:

80159



Please allow your grocery donations to go to Central Kansas Prison Ministry!

VOLUNTEER TRAINING

El Dorado Correctional Facility:

Tues, June 6, at 5:30 PM

Sat, Sept. 9 at 7:30 AM, SHARP!

Tues, Nov. 7, at 5:30 PM

Oswego Correctional Facility:

Tuesday, June 13, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 10, 5:30 p.m.

Chaplain Harris asks that you PLEASE arrive on time!!

Primary call-outs have begun. Christian Praise and Worship services will be Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 6-7 PM. Volunteers arrive at 5:30 PM to be processed in. Questions? Call Chaplain Harris at (316) 321-7284, ext. 22308

For volunteer training information, contact:
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Amber Hoffman
(316) 321-7284, ext. 22362 | amberhoffman@ks.gov
Contact Amber two weeks in advance for the training date you wish to attend.

CHAPLAIN: Herbie Harris
(316) 321-7284, ext. 22308 | Herbie.Harris@ks.gov

OR CENTRAL KANSAS PRISON MINISTRY
(316) 733-1537 | director@ckpm.org

MENTORING4SUCCESS TRAINING INFORMATION:

Tanya Husselman: (316) 613-7237 or Tanya.Husselman@ks.gov

Hutchinson Correctional Facility

All training will be held in the Old School House on the Correctional Facility Central Unit Campus

BASIC BEGINNING TRAINING

May 15, July 17, and Sept 18.: 12:30-4 PM

ANNUAL FOR REGULAR VOLUNTEERS

May 15, July 17, and Sept 18.: 2-4 PM

All training on the 3rd Monday of the month. For more details, contact:
Sue Stoecklein at (620) 625-7380 or Sue.Stoecklein1@ks.gov
or Thomas Broomfield at (620) 625-7380

Why Didn't They Get It Right?



Glenn Lygrisse

Bible teacher at his church and online devotional thoughts.

Glenn is also part of the Match2 mentoring and former president of Central Kansas Prison Ministry.

Verse: Judges 3:10-11 AMP

The Spirit of the Lord came upon him, and he judged Israel. He went out to war, and the Lord gave Cushan-rishathaim king of Mesopotamia into his hand, and he prevailed over Cushan-rishathaim. And the land was at rest [from oppression for] forty years. Then Othniel the son of Kenaz died.

And so the cycle begins. We will read that this cycle continues throughout the book of Judges. Turn away from God→oppression→repent→God sends a leader→they return to God, and it cycles again. At which point are we in that cycle? As a nation, and more importantly as an individual? We read these chapters that span a great deal of time, and we ask, "Why didn't they get it right?" But in the midst of our daily life of ups and downs, why don't we get it right. These events tell us this in not just a political or ideological tussle, it is a spiritual battle and we need the Holy Spirit, just as did Othniel.

Prayer thought:

Ask the Holy Spirit to give us discernment, wisdom and boldness to take on the forces of evil that daily plague us.

Daily Reading: Judges Chapters 3→5

Blessings,
Glenn

Fundraising Challenge!

by Karen McBride



At Lynn's passing, a Memorial fund was established. At this writing \$4,360 has been donated.

It was my wishes for part of this fund to help with the Christmas packages for inmates.

The project now taking place at the Spiritual Life Center (see Chaplain Harris's article) has been much needed. This will be a costly project and the CKPM board agreed with me that it would be Lynn's desire for the remaining \$1,747 from his memorial, be donated to this project.

I would like to challenge anyone who is able to consider matching this amount. I believe with all giving some, we can help fund and complete this project. Consider what God might have you do.

Central Kansas Prison Ministry has had a wonderful working relationship with El Dorado Correctional Facility, as the SLC became a reality almost 13 years ago. This center has served as a refuge from prison life, as the men gather weekly to praise and glorify in worship.

You, our volunteers and donors, have made this ministry happen through the years, and we never cease to be grateful for your continued support.

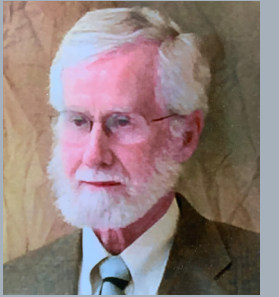
The estimated cost for this project is \$16,000.

\$10 MONTHLY SUPPORT COULD REALLY HELP!

Many people think, "If I can't give a large sum of money, it won't help." By giving just \$10 a month, you will be giving \$120 a year or \$600 in five years. Please pray about it.

Volunteer Spotlight: Robert Simmons

After the Honor Camp was built near El Dorado Lake Dam, inmates were sent into El Dorado to work for the City of El Dorado and Butler County. I got acquainted with two of them who invited me to get on their visitors list, which I did. Thus began my work in prison ministry.



A group of Christians began praying for a ministry to be developed to minister to the inmates who would be serving sentences in the new maximum security prison being built east of El Dorado, and which was completed in 1991. Those prayers resulted in Lynn McBride being offered the executive director's position of that ministry. After prayerful consideration he accepted the position, and following that an article in the El Dorado Times invited those interested to attend training sessions to be held at the Gas Service building on east Central. I took that training with others which was preparing us to visit the inmates in the new facility. Lynn invited me to serve on the Advisory Board of what became Central Kansas Prison Ministry, and I accepted.

After enough of the new prison was constructed and could house inmates, some of them were transferred there from the Honor Camp so the officers employed there could become proficient in the operation of the new facility. One of the inmates placed there was one I had visited at the Honor Camp. I continued visiting him at the partially completed new prison. This man had been sentenced to the prison at Norton as a maximum security inmate. Through good behavior he progressed to medium security status, and then to minimum security status and was sent to the Honor Camp following that. He was very upset at being transferred to the maximum security facility and due to a letter written by his mother he was transferred to the Wichita Work Release facility. He got a job while there and I continued visiting him there until his release from prison. The company that hired him kept him as an employee after his release.

Another assignment I had was teaching Bible Study at the Honor Camp. In 1994 I was honored when I was chosen as Volunteer of the Year at El Dorado Correctional Facility.

In my experience as a volunteer I have had the opportunity to help in a training session held for inmates nearing release. They were taught about budgeting for housing, food, clothing, transportation, employment, and associations with people who could help prevent relapse and recidivism.

During M-2 ministry I have had conversations with a number of inmates as we sat across a table from each other and enjoyed refreshments from the vending machines. For those interested in spiritual growth I used a workbook provided by Lynn which dealt with their situation and how to make progress leading to liberation.

I took M-4 training which is learning to mentor men for success in life after release. One man I worked with in M-2 asked me to be his mentor when he went to Jacob House (a halfway house in Wichita). I agreed to be his mentor and visited with him a few times there.

Some of the inmates are thankful for the chance to visit with someone from outside and use that time to ventilate and have someone be a sounding board for them.

What are the results of following Christ's teaching to visit those in prison? Chaplain Herbie Harris told me that the recidivism rate is 10 percent for those who participate in the programs.

I hope this will encourage those of you who are considering this ministry to become a part of it.