

# CAM UPDATE

Christian Aftercare Ministries for Ex-Offenders

Non-profit Organization

[www.christianaftercare.com](http://www.christianaftercare.com)

December 2022

Established 1994

Praising the Lord  
for 25+ years!

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

By Paul Roussel

### CAM Dinner

CAM hosted our annual dinner and fundraiser on October 8, 2022, at the Puritan Back Room Restaurant. The evening was a *spiritual* success (uplifting testimony and message) and a *financial* success. Pastor Carlson gave an excellent message on Philemon. Ken West shared how the Lord used him inside the walls to tell other inmates about Jesus but then shared how the Lord is blessing his life now on the outside as well.

I was recently doing a Bible study at Valley Stret Jail, and Brandon (one of the attendees) said, "Paul, I knew Kenny years ago at the State Prison and he was always telling people about Jesus." I received a call after the dinner from Chaplain Angie Estevez (Brentwood), who asked for Ken's phone number so she could have him share his testimony with the men at Brentwood. While on the phone, I asked Angie what she thought of the dinner, and she said, "**I never knew so many people in New Hampshire cared about men and women in the jails and prisons in New Hampshire.**"

### Winter Clothing Donations

Again this year, one of our supporting churches, Bethany Covenant in Bedford, had a winter coat drive for CAM. Last week they brought in 20+ beautiful ski jackets (some brand-new) for CAM to give out to men and women being released.

Through the Lord's provision, we are able to purchase all the winter clothes needed (hats, gloves, hoodies, sweatshirts). CAM was asked to speak about our ministry at Bridge Community Church about four weeks ago. I spoke about CAM and Peter Dugas shared his testimony about how the Lord has blessed his life. A week later, they sent a nice support check.

~Paul

## Restoration

By CAM Board Member  
Steve Fulk

Nehemiah was extremely grieved. His brother from Judah had come to visit him in Shushan. Nehemiah asked about the Jewish remnant that survived the exile, and he also inquired about the city of Jerusalem itself. His brother informed Nehemiah that those who survived were in great trouble and disgrace. He also informed him that the walls of Jerusalem were broken down, and its gates had been burned with fire.

When Nehemiah heard this, he sat down and wept. For many days he mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven.

If you look at Nehemiah's prayer (Nehemiah 1:5-11), you'll notice that he started by praising God. He then went right into confession, acknowledging his own sin and the sins of the people. Then Nehemiah reminded God of the promises He had made to the people. If the people disobeyed, they would be scattered, but if they obeyed, they would be gathered together in the place God had chosen as a dwelling.

His prayer ended with this plea to God, "Give your servant success today by granting him favor in the presence of this man [King Artaxerxes]." Nehemiah had a plan. He was the king's cup bearer. He was going to go before the king and ask for permission to return to Jerusalem to help his people with restoration. Nehemiah wanted God's help in moving the king's heart. When the king found favor with Nehemiah's request, Nehemiah put his plans into action.

**Restoration.** That's what Nehemiah wanted for Jerusalem. That was the motivation behind Nehemiah's journey to Jerusalem. He ran into plenty of opposition, but Nehemiah believed that God put this desire in his heart.

(continued on page 2)

(Restoration, continued from page 1)

When he shared his vision with the people of Jerusalem, how God’s hand was upon him and how he found favor with the king, they were on board with his mission. They rebuilt the walls and gates of Jerusalem in just 52 days.

**Restoration.** It is a primary focus of Christian Aftercare Ministries. Restoration, not of physical walls and gates, but restoration of lives. Lives that have been broken down and destroyed. There’s a common path to the ruined lives of inmates and parolees. Just like the Israelites, they had failed to obey God. They fell deeper and deeper into sin until the law caught up with them and they ended up behind the wall serving time for their broken lives.

These men and women are a captive audience for the volunteers of CAM. One of the first questions upon meeting an inmate or parolee is, “Are you a Christian?” or “Are you born again?” If the answer is no, they are given the gospel. If the answer is yes, they are told how important it is to keep God in their lives by connecting with a local church, attending Bible studies, and by being accountable to a fellow believer. They are given the mandate to stay away from drugs, alcohol, and sex, as these things can only lead them back to prison. They are encouraged to give back to others by volunteering in community service and serving in ministries within a local church.

Parolees meet with CAM volunteers regularly on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays for Bible studies and prayer. CAM assists parolees with gas cards and bus passes in order to make it to job interviews. CAM also provides clothing, coats, and footwear. Bicycles are available for those who don’t drive and need transportation.

Volunteers give men rides to their parole meetings, to the store, to Bible studies, and to church on Sundays. Those who need to get a driver’s license are seen driving volunteers around town, practicing their driving skills, or on their way to take a road test with the DMV.

Many want to reconnect with family and restore lost relationships. CAM volunteers become the family inmates and parolees have been estranged from. They need accountability in order to begin the restoration process with lost family, and CAM helps provide accountability.

(continued on page 3)

## MY PERSONAL TESTIMONY



By Anonymous

Editor’s Note: We have ministered to this individual for three years, and he attends CAM’s Bible studies every week. He has asked us not to share his name for personal reasons.

I grew up in Jacksonville, Florida, and had a difficult childhood. At age 12, I ran away with my 13-year-old friend to New York City. The mob started using us to deliver betting numbers.

My parents didn’t believe in God and had convinced me, before age 12, that there was no God. I became an atheist and lived as one for the next 30+ years.

At age 18, I started drinking alcohol to get through my difficult life. My life was hopeless, and I wanted to die. I was always with a job to support myself.

About 22 years ago, for a period of three months, I was sober. The temptation to drink was strong, but I had a desire to shoot myself rather than drink. I told the Lord that I needed a sign that He was real. I heard a song that said, “You need to surrender,” and I took that to mean that I needed to surrender my life to Jesus. I got on my knees and accepted Him as my Savior. A special warmth came over my whole body. Jesus has given me the power to stay sober for the last 25 years, and I am a sponsor for AA.

### **Psalm 72: 12–14 (NKJV):**

*For He will deliver the needy when he cries,  
The poor also, and him who has no helper.  
He will spare the poor and needy,  
And will save the souls of the needy.  
He will redeem their life from oppression  
and violence;  
And precious shall be their blood in His sight.*

I am blessed to be surrounded by Christians like Pastor Carlson, my friend Bob from Harvest Baptist, and Paul Roussel from CAM.



Prayer Requests

**Praise**—That the Lord blessed our CAM dinner again—through Ken West’s testimony and Pastor Carlson’s message.

**Prayer**—That Cheshire Jail would be back open to the Gospel.

## CAM ANNUAL DINNER 2022

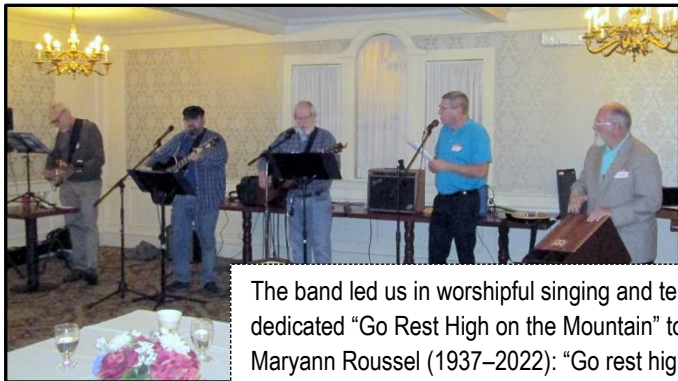
Thanks  
for your  
support!



Ken West shared his testimony of the Lord's grace in his life, stressing that the work CAM does is important. There are "men in there [prison] that don't have anybody."



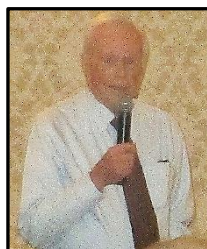
CAM supporters enjoyed great fellowship and a wonderful meal at the Puritan Backroom.



The band led us in worshipful singing and tenderly dedicated "Go Rest High on the Mountain" to Maryann Roussel (1937-2022): "Go rest high on the mountain, Maryann, your work is done."



Pastor Dave Carlson shared a message from Philemon, illustrating Onesimus's life through the lens of Christian aftercare. After being led to the Lord in prison, he was restored after his release and welcomed into a local church, becoming "profitable" for the Lord.



Paul Roussel closed the night with updates from familiar CAM friends David, Mike, and Jay. Then he shared the stories of two recent CAM clients, Shawn and Jimmy. He reminded us that the Lord goes ahead of CAM to open doors and make all things possible.

*(Restoration, continued from page 2)*

One thing all CAM volunteers have in common is a burden for the lives of men and women behind the wall. Like Nehemiah, they are grieved. And like Nehemiah, they pray for God to hear their voice in regard to the lost. Then, they minister to these crushed individuals in prison and after their release, helping them get their lives back on track. They do what they believe God is urging them to do.

Has God called you to repair a broken wall? Do you have a burden on your heart for someone or something? Please pray about it. Plead with God. Look at what God did through Nehemiah. The work was beyond Nehemiah's capabilities, but God brought restoration. God can help you find favor before men and succeed in the desires of your heart only when you act on those desires. There are many opportunities to serve through CAM. What is on your heart to do? How can you help rebuild lives that have been broken?

~ Steve

**CAM UPDATE**  
Christian Aftercare Ministries  
50 Lowell Street  
Manchester, NH 03101

**Non-Profit Organization**  
U.S. Postage PAID  
Manchester, NH 03101  
Permit Number 434

TO ADDRESSEE OR CURRENT RESIDENT:

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS:**

Microwaves, coffee makers, and vacuum cleaners are needed,  
as well as men's clothes—pants, shoes, shirts, belts, etc.

**FOR INFORMATION ABOUT DONATIONS,  
PLEASE CALL OUR OFFICE: 603-669-5090.**

**CHRISTIAN AFTERCARE MINISTRIES**

Co-laborers with the Church in ministry to ex-offenders since 1994  
[www.christianaftercare.com](http://www.christianaftercare.com)

Office hours: Mon. 2:00 p.m.–4:30 p.m.  
Weds. 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.  
Thurs. 10:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.  
Phone: 603-669-5090

Tax-deductible donations may be made payable to  
Christian Aftercare Ministries at

50 Lowell St., Manchester, NH 03101

*Thank You for helping to meet our needs.*

**INVITE A SPEAKER:** If you would like a CAM Board Member to visit your church or group to speak about this ministry, please call Paul Roussel, Director, at 603-669-5090 to schedule a date.

**Board Members:** Paul Roussel, Mike Grady, Jack Shuler, Samson Duclair, Dave Grant, Ernie Kilman, Guy and Deb Torgersen, Don Grosso, Steve Micucci, Steve Fulk

*CAM UPDATE is issued tri-annually and mailed from Manchester, NH. CAM UPDATE is compiled by Paul Roussel, Director/Publisher, and prepared by Kathleen Deselle, Editor. To be placed on our mailing list, please contact the CAM office at 603-669-5090.*