

CAM UPDATE

Christian Aftercare Ministries for Ex-Offenders

Non-profit Organization

www.christianaftercare.com

February 2023

Established 1994

Praising the Lord
for 25+ years!

FROM THE DIRECTOR

By Paul Rousel

Special Visit & Blessings

On Wednesday, February 1, 2023, I had a nice visit from a former client, Mike Euliano. I met Mike about ten years ago from prison when he started attending our church, Merrimack Valley Baptist Church. While in prison, Mike was led to Jesus by his Christian cellmate, Josh. I met Mike at church, and we helped him transition back into society with financial help, prayer, and counseling. Today, Mike has his own successful tree service and attends Gate City Baptist Church in Nashua with fiancée, Jackie. Mike says he “prayed a lot”—what a nice visit.

In late January, while waiting to do my Bible study at Valley Street Jail, I had time to meet the new superintendent, Joe Constanzo, and tell him about CAM. It was a good visit as he was interested in what CAM does. For years, we have been bringing clothes in for inmates. Just recently we brought in three new ski jackets for the men.

Chaplain Bill Pelletier continues to set up prison visits at Concord prison for me. I visited nine men on December 21, 2022—for the most part, all Christians. The men we visit are close to being released, and we share how CAM can help them (read Jay Neeper’s testimony on page 2).

The Concord reentry group meets every month and has a list of about twenty men either just out of prison or close to being released. It’s a blessing how the reentry group works closely with each man. They help the men find a church and/or a job; provide rides, prayers, and clothes; and give some rent help if needed. They also provide encouragement—which we all need. And finally, but not least, they share the love of Jesus.

~Paul

The Importance of the Church

By CAM Board Member
Mike Grady

With the holidays behind us and looking forward to spring, I would like to reflect on CAM’s ministry in the post-pandemic era. It was good to finally get back in the jails and prison even with all the glitches starting up the Bible studies and office hours, etc. We thank God that it has happened.

Again, we would like to emphasize the importance of churches in our ministry. We, the volunteers, need the fellowship of church life, our small groups, and worship services. It recharges our batteries and keeps us focused on the Gospel and the Bible, for only they change the heart and lead to forgiveness.

Romans 8:1 (ESV): *There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.*

A young man at a Bible study was having a difficult time: it was his first time in jail and he had no family or church contacts, only volunteers and fellow inmates. He was hoping to be out for Christmas. When that didn’t happen, he became discouraged and missed a couple of Bible studies. He finally returned to the studies at the encouragement of other inmates, still discouraged but still seeking a relationship with the Lord.

Then his spirits began changing. A member of his church began to visit him regularly, and his pastor also. They bought him a new study Bible, and how he treasured it. This renewed his interest in the Word of God, connecting the dots. He began to understand the richness of the Gospel.



(continued on page 2)

(The Importance of the Church, *continued from page 1*)

Formerly a quiet one, he began contributing more and more to the discussions. We have the privilege of seeing this happen over and over again. I hope these words give you an example of the hope and freedom Christ brings to a dark place.

2 Corinthians 3:17 (ESV): *Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.*

We thank God for his churches. The support they give to those whose sin is evident and who are shunned by society shows the love of Christ to all.

James 5:20 (ESV): *Let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.*

Again, a big thank-you for the financial support we receive from churches and individuals. Please pray for us as we bring the word of God to these men. The only means for change in their lives is understanding and applying the Gospel to their lives.

~ Mike

You also must help us by prayer, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many.

2 Corinthians 1:11 (ESV)

Praise

For the continued success of the Concord Aftercare/Reentry group as they effectively minister to men and women recently released.

Prayer

Once again, that the Lord would send more men and women for CAM to minister to, as CAM desires to use the resources that Jesus has blessed us with.

MY PERSONAL TESTIMONY



By Jay L. Neeper

In the past, I have had more than enough sin in my life. From lust, envy, drugs, and fights, I have struggled with them all. In 2007 I was arrested and accused of something that I did not have anything to do with. I remember being so scared, so frightened, and so cold. My knee's felt like rubber to the point they were weak and in pain. I remember the cop that took my fingerprints asked me which military branch did I serve in? I replied that I didn't serve. He said that I follow orders to good to not have been in the service.

The court-appointed counsel came to see me at the county jail. His advice was to plead out, and I told him no way. He proceeded to threaten me with twenty-five years to life in prison if I took it to trial. I was scared, very scared, but could not see admitting to something that I was innocent of.

I remember when my parents came for a visit at the county jail. They asked me what the appointed counsel had to say. I told them the lawyer wanted me to plead out to something I did not do. I told my father that I was innocent. What I did not know at the time was that day would be the last time my father would encourage me to make a major decision in my life. Shortly after that day, he passed away.

Sitting in my cell I was scared, really scared to the point of thinking about what kind of decision I needed to make for my life. Just then, God sent his messenger to whisper in my ear, saying, "You should go to the Bible study with me."

At that time, I was looking out the window. I turned around to face Eric Herring, and he told me they were playing a movie called *The Passion of the Christ* by Mel Gibson. I remember turning down the offer, and as I sat there thinking about the last few weeks, something came over me. I don't know what or how to describe it.

John 10:16: *And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.*

My thoughts stopped, and I had this weird feeling that I should go to this movie.

(continued on page 3)

HOW CAM HELPS OUR CLIENTS



*Help with housing or rent,
finding jobs, providing
rides*



*Bible studies for spiritual growth,
prayer support, and accountability*



*Clothing and household items
for a fresh start*

(My Personal Testimony, continued from page 2)

When I sat down and watched that film of a man named Jesus and the horror of so much beating and tearing of flesh, like Simon of Cyrene I was compelled to hold back tears. I guess what Jesus was trying to tell me at that time was that he took that beating for me, and if I trust him, he would be walking with me on my journey and to not be afraid.

I could not remember feeling so spiritually empty and void after watching that movie. In the middle of a jailhouse cell, I fell to my knees facing out toward a little window that was in the cell and just asking him, as best as I knew, with watery eyes: O Lord Jesus, please come into my life and save me from my sinful life.



As another journey started for me. I was released from prison and walked down North Main Street in Concord, NH, and proceeded to the unemployment office looking for work and housing. I knew that I had to start my new life from the beginning, and there were no resources available to me at that time. I had no place to go and was now without a job and homeless. The only support that I had at that time was Christian Aftercare Ministries. Two volunteers from CAM—Steve and his wife, Donna—visited me daily on the street, and with their assistance and two individuals from the unemployment office, I was off and running in the right direction.

John 17: 26: *I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.*

Hindsight is always 20/20, and I realized then that I should have tried to be better prepared to put important details in place prior to my release from prison. CAM directed me to local resources, provided clothing, snacks, and prayer with a relationship that helped me through that time. Housing is very limited in the Concord area, and I was sleeping in a car on the street, but through the grace of God I obtained housing at Whitfield House about a week later. I also started attending Bible study on Saturdays with MC/Men and was offered part-time work with one of the guys who attended the study. Another individual who attended the Bible study mentioned the possibility of full-time work at an automotive warehouse, so I applied, received the job, and am still employed there full time. I was also encouraged to attend CenterPoint Church for Sunday services and was welcomed to attend with members of CenterPoint. I am currently working on a vehicle to be able to be a little more independent, with the possibility of obtaining a career more in line with the gifts that the Lord has given me.

God clearly has placed many people in my life, and they continuously encourage me to continue my walk daily with Him. Thank you all for your support, and may God continue to bless you all!

~ Jay

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.
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

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, 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.