

CAM UPDATE

Christian Aftercare Ministries for Ex-Offenders

Non-profit Organization

www.christianaftercare.com

January 2020

Established 1994

Praising the Lord
for 25 years!

FROM THE DIRECTOR

By Paul Roussel

“GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS” CAM Celebrates 25 Years of Ministry

The October 2019 CAM Annual Dinner and Fundraiser was a wonderful success. It was the highest attended dinner to date, with 140 people coming to hear testimonies and support the ministry. Mike DeMarco's testimony was riveting as he shared how Jesus transformed his life. Our keynote speaker, Chaplain Dana Hoyt (Berlin Prison), told us how the Lord is using him to share Jesus with all who come to his chapel services. The former Commissioner of Corrections, Bill Wrenn, used to say that Dana was his representative up North! Dana also focused on the important work CAM does as we share the love of Jesus with each one of the approximately 250 people CAM meets each year. Our own board member David Grant cooked a delicious meal, served by young people from local churches, which was enjoyed by all.

Every year, the Lord is so faithful through the giving of His people. We are so thankful for each of you who made this dinner a financial success for the ministry.

As I write this, I'm thinking how blessed we are in this ministry: the Lord sends us His success stories—Mark, Wayne, Steve, Richard, David, Richie, David, and the list goes on. We treasure these victories and are encouraged by them. In addition, we get to meet and partner with so many Christian volunteers who minister to women and men inside the jails and prisons, all sharing the love of Jesus.

We continue to be blessed as we partner with Helping Hands to provide beds for men from jail and prison. We also occasionally help with some program fees.

~Paul

Serving Others

By CAM Board Member
David Grant

Praise God for all He has done through CAM to minister to others in need and for the dedication of those who are committed to serving our Lord Jesus to accomplish His will.

I have been part of CAM for a number of years now and was part of the ministry team at Concord State Prison for 8 years under the leadership of Jean Metzger. She has encouraged many in her service for our Lord, and now at 94 years she is just retiring! She is an incredible and compassionate lady.

From my ministry at the prison, I eventually moved on to help mentor two inmates who were being released the same year. I encouraged them in their adjusting to life on the outside. I took chaperone training taught by a certified counselor in Manchester. One of the men needed a chaperone in order to attend church services. This Christian brother and I are still good friends.

*Proverbs 27:17 (NKJV): As iron sharpens iron,
So a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.*

I have served CAM in helping to prepare the annual fundraising dinners for several years. For the past couple of years, I have been volunteering at the CAM office about once a week to organize and help distribute clothing and household donations to people in need in our community. It is a blessing to share fellowship and prayers with Paul, Mike, Jack, and Don. Since I began going to the office on Wednesdays, I have personally been able to see how many people are helped by Paul

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(Serving Others, *continued from page 1*)

and his ministry team as they minister to clients. Last year, Paul asked me if I would start a letter-writing mentorship with one of the inmates he is ministering to at NH State Prison in Concord. This inmate is a believer and is trusting in our Lord Jesus Christ. Living in prison has been a difficult experience for him, but he is strengthened by his faith in Jesus as well as by many supportive Christian brothers. As the Apostle Paul writes in Romans 5:3–5, faith triumphs in times of trouble:

Romans 5:3–5 (NKJV): . . . *we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.*

I am also involved in leading a weekly Bible study at the Southern NH Rescue Mission in Nashua. The director at the mission, Lloyd Curtis, writes: “We are a Christ-centered group of staff and volunteers committed to serving the community . . . with the Good News of Jesus Christ and compassion of our Heavenly Father to help the hurting and homeless in the power of the Holy Spirit.” Many of the men at the rescue mission have a jail or prison background, so this provides a good connection with CAM.

The R12 LifeChange Discipleship Program that the men are involved in is an intense study of the Bible. In the study I lead, we focus on going through individual books of the Bible in verse-by-verse exposition. We also look up relevant scriptures that are closely related to what we are studying. We examine the entire context to get the whole picture as well as read reputable Bible commentaries. We have discussion and answer questions that arise.

Ministering to others is challenging at times, but I have found that in each opportunity to serve Him, God will enable us to do His will through His Spirit. In serving Him by serving others, we can also find a great blessing and personal growth when we don't trust in our own strength but rely on His strength.

*Thank you, Jesus, for blessing my life
by allowing me to serve others.*

~ David

MY PERSONAL TESTIMONY

By Bill Alexander

My name is Bill, and here is my testimony. My parents were divorced when I was 5 years old. We moved in with my grandparents. My grandfather sexually abused me until I was 15. My father remarried and the woman loathed me. My mom moved in with her boyfriend, and we moved to Florida. My grandparents had a house built next door. We moved back to NH because my mom's boyfriend didn't want me, just her. My grandparents moved back, too, and we moved in with them.

I started young with porn magazines, and when the internet got going, I found what I was looking for there. My sexual addiction became worse, and I looked at increasingly riskier images until I viewed illegal content. That is how I got prison time. I had looked for help from church, even confessing Jesus as a teen. Nothing changed. I looked into other faiths, becoming wiccan, then Bahá'í, then nothing at all. I got locked up and that is when a change happened. I read Psalm 86, and that is just how I felt.

Psalm 86:6–7: *Give ear, O LORD, unto my prayer; and attend to the voice of my supplications. In the day of my trouble I will call upon thee: for thou wilt answer me.*

I confessed to God that I can't do this life on my own. Then I got to prison and started going to chapel. I did Celebrate Recovery and the Genesis Process. I read the Bible and got baptized. Now I am out and have a good job that pays well. I go to Grace Capital Church, and they are very welcoming. I still do groups on the outside, and I know God has big plans for me.

Psalm 86:12: *I will praise thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart: and I will glorify thy name forevermore.*

~ Bill

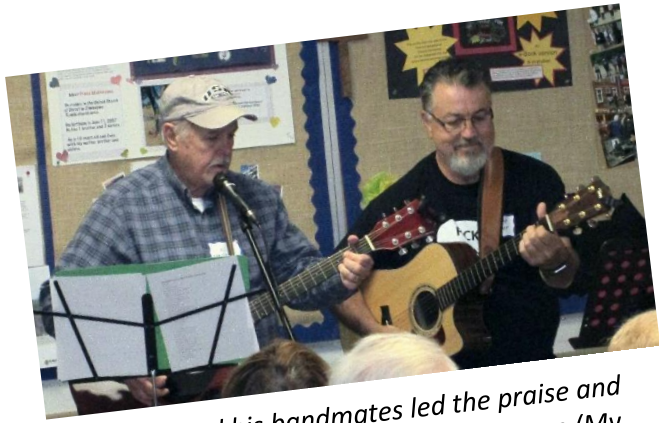
PRAYER REQUESTS

For the Lord to continue to draw hurting and needy people to Himself through CAM and its partners

For current and former CAM clients to walk faithfully with the Lord and for their personal testimonies to reach others with the love of Christ

Annual CAM DINNER & FUNDRAISER PRAISES

Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory ... (1 Ch 29:11a)



Al Franklin and his bandmates led the praise and worship time, opening with "Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)."



Mike DeMarco shared a compelling testimony of his victory in Jesus.



Paul Roussel shared three stories of the Lord's work in the lives of CAM clients Roger, Jimmy, and Wayne.

Jean Metzger (second from left facing front), one of the founding members of CAM, is retiring from the CAM Board. We are thankful for her faithful 27-plus years in ministry!




Over 140 friends of CAM enjoyed great fellowship, food, and worship music before hearing from our guest speakers.

Attendees were reminded that for people transitioning out of prison there is a crucial time "between disconnect and reconnect" when things are unstable and there are many opportunities to "give place to the devil." **"This is why CAM is so vital, to provide some support at these times."**—Dana Hoyt, Keynote Speaker


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

Non-Profit Organization
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Manchester, NH 03101
Permit Number 434

TO ADDRESSEE OR CURRENT RESIDENT:



URGENTLY NEEDED DONATIONS:
small refrigerators, coffeemakers, shoes, socks,
jeans, slacks, boots, pots and pans, large towels,
bedding (sheets, blankets)



**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. & Wed. 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
Thursday: 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, Kent Threlfall, Jack Shuler, Samson Duclair, Dave Grant, Ernie Kilman, Guy and Deb Torgersen, Don Grosso, Steve Micucci

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 CAM offices at 603-669-5090.