CAM UPDATE

Christian Aftercare Ministries for Ex-Offenders

November, 2010

Non-profit Organization <u>www.christianaftercare.com</u>

Established 1994

FROM THE DIRECTOR

By Paul R. Roussel

CAM DINNER

Once again this year the Lord has overwhelmed us with His blessings as we gathered for our fifteenth annual dinner in Manchester. The music, led by Sue Brown, and the testimonies given by the men were uplifting; the ham dinner was well prepared and delicious; the financial offerings were most generous. Thank you to everyone who had a part in coordinating this event!

NEW CAM BOARD MEMBER

We are pleased to welcome another CAM board member, Ernie Kilman to our board. (See his article on this page) Ernie has led Bible studies at Laconia Prison and now is involved in volunteering at Concord State Prison. We also welcome Ernie's lovely wife, Cara.

CAM ACTIVITIES

We continue to minister to approximately 35 men and women each month. That includes giving them clothing, work boots and shoes; leading Bible studies; helping with rent money; assisting in job leads and driving to job interviews; connecting them up with local pastors and churches; praying with each one and pointing them to the Lord Jesus Christ who makes it all possible. As a Board of Directors, we lead approximately 400 Bible studies inside the walls of various New Hampshire prisons and lead 200 Bible studies outside, in our office and elsewhere.

VALLEY STREET JAIL

Pastor Carlson, Chaplain, reports that 39 men have responded to the gospel there and have become Christians in the last six months. The men see their need for a new way of life that the Lord offers to them as they are incarcerated. Praise the Lord!

CONCORD AFTERCARE

A new group has formed and I am serving on the Advisory Board. The Lord is blessing in this new work which is much needed in this area where many men are released from prison.

!URGENT NEED! – WE ARE REQUESTING DONATIONS OF WINTER COATS, WORK BOOTS, GLOVES, & HATS ASAP!

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; all things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled him to Himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation."

II Corinthians 5:17

MY CONNECTION TO CAM MINISTRY

By Ernie Kilman New CAM Board Member

"I can do all things thru Christ Jesus who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13. That is what this letter is about. I grew up in a Massachusetts town and went to church as a sort of duty, or family tradition. I even served in the church as a trustee but my life on the inside was still very messed up. One day I was driving on a oneway street when I was strongly urged to abruptly stop my car. Immediately after I stopped, a small child ran out from behind a building right in front of my car. I could not have stopped in time if God had not intervened God demonstrated His love to me for which I will always be thankful. Interestingly enough, this was right outside a Christian Coffee House. I later visited the place and got to know the people. A businessman showed exceptional love to all who entered the Coffee House. I wanted what these people had because it was so real for them, and it was Jesus. I made a profession of faith in Jesus at a Christian concert in 1975. Everybody in the coffee house was surprised because I was so religious they thought I was already a Christian. (continued page two)

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(Kilman- continued from page 1)
Up to that point I was overweight, obsessed with things and generally messed up even though I have a good education. God showed me step-bystep good things like self-control. I lost weight from 225 down to 170 pounds. The interim pastor of my church strongly suggested that it was God's will for me to stay involved at the church instead of spending my time at the Coffee House, so I did stay away.

Subsequently, the Lord used me in playing a part in getting a permanent born-again pastor thru the pastoral selection committee. That pastor is still there after 33 years. God is good. Fast-forwarding: The Lord has given me a wonderful wife, two daughters and sons-in-law who all love the Lord. I am very blessed. About 13 years ago the Lord impressed on me to get involved regularly in prison ministry in the Laconia NH facility after participating in an event put on by my church's outreach at that prison. I helped in the prison 13 years with two great guys until the facility closed recently. Jesus showed me so much thru those guys. Our pastor equipped us so much for what was ahead and I am thankful for him. Last year the Lord made it plain to me that it was time to move to another church. I counseled with my pastor and all the elders agreed. I work in Manchester and have gotten to know and enjoy the company of the men who serve during the week at CAM headquarters. Recently, the Lord worked out an opening in Concord State Prison to volunteer on Friday nights with the assistant chaplain, which is a pleasure. It is my heart's desire to encourage others to know and live for Jesus. I love to tell others on the street that Jesus cares.

I would say to everyone, let God train and equip you as long as you live. I struggle daily just like anyone else, and surrender my life to Jesus and He makes all the difference. In John 20:31, the Bible says "But these are written that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through His name."

-Ernie

PRAYER REQUEST:

That the Lord would raise up Christian businesses that would give hiring preference to men getting out of prison.

MY LIFE CHANGING TESTIMONY By Kier Fiore

My name is Keir D. Fiore, a former inmate of the NH State prison. I also served time at a Federal Prison in NY for the same case. I began my incarceration in 1997. I served a total of 12 years in prison. I have been on parole and federal probation for about 15 months. I was incarcerated for having an inappropriate relationship with an underage girl.

I began my incarceration with a search for meaning. I was in denial about my affair and all the horrible things I did in my life. I regretted nothing. However, there was a void in my life. I tried to fill it with man's philosophy, religion, and the occult. I dabbled in tarot cards, witchcraft, and what I now know to be satanic studies.

When I was first locked up, I met an inmate who loved Jesus. I had some questions about the Bible, so I dared to ask him to give me more information about Christianity. However, I was not ready to commit to Jesus. I was transferred to the NH State prison after serving almost five years of my sentence.

I arrived at the NH State prison and was stuck in R&D (Reception and Diagnostics) still in the same frame of mind of my past. I started to have severe emotional and mental health trouble; of which I only experienced briefly in the feds. I did however, after some time, through deep counseling, medication and some serious time, I broke out of my shell and made it through the "system." But, there was still a void, and I was still doing things my way.

I was coming up for parole, and I was scared. I found myself actually praying. I prayed like there was no tomorrow! I asked God, "If you answer my prayer and get me out of this place I got myself into, I will dedicate my life to you." He did answer it! I started to believe in Jesus. However, I was not there yet. I met a man names Paul Roussel at Christian Aftercare Ministries who kept after me like glue! He challenged me to walk the walk and really live for God.

After some time, I totally dedicated myself to the Lord Jesus, even though it's a challenge some days. I found that Jesus is the only one who can fill that "void" I had for so long.

Thanks to Paul, family, extended family, and the system, I have a new outlook on life, hope for a better future, and eternity with God! I now attend Gospel Baptist Church with Pastor Carlson.

Rier



CAM has **urgent need** for winter coats, boots, gloves, hats, sweaters, & ski jackets. If you can donate any of these items, please call CAM or bring to CAM office at 50 Lowell St. in Manchester, NH (Paul Roussel @ (603) 669-5090)

BE THANKFUL

Have we become so accustomed to thinking of Thanksgiving in terms of gratitude for material blessings that we find it hard to think in terms of being grateful for God's good gifts that are hidden in experiences we resist or try to avoid?

Let us also thank God for the *opposition* we have had to meet that has forced us to put forth our best effort and sent us to prayer in faith believing God will answer; the *disputes* that have compelled us to re-examine our arguments and study the Bible to eliminate the flaws.

Can we thank God for the *struggles* that have caused us to grow, the *defeats* that have kept us humble, the *losses* that have made us cautious, and the *dangers* that have kept us alert?

Let us thank God for the *risks* we have had to take, that have brought out our hidden strengths.

Can we thank God for some of the *enemies* we have made, for to have no enemies means that we have not taken issue with sin and wrong, defied any evil, or rallied to the defense of the oppressed. Let us thank God for our *critics* who tells us the truth about ourselves.

Above all, let us thank God that *good has often come out of evil*; that *struggles* we would have preferred to avoid have turned into blessings; that confident in His love and goodness, we have found strength and courage to face whatever comes – to run the race that is set before us.

*Lord of all we raise a hymn of grateful praise to who You are, The Alpha and Omega, The Resurrection and Life, Messiah, Savior, Lamb of God, Prince of Peace, Mighty & Omniscient, God, Sovereign Lord, Shepherd, Brother, Everlasting Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, King of the Universe and so much more!

-Adapted

My Personal Testimony By Frank Indelicato

When I was a child, I was a Catholic. At age seven I stopped going to church. From then on to when I was about 32, I didn't think about God at all. For most of my life I was into drugs and tried to quit many times, but couldn't. I was in and out of trouble with the law most of my life, and then I met my wife, Rhonda. She was already saved but in a bad time in her life, so I didn't think it mattered to her if I was or not. We went through a lot of bad times after we got married and I ended up in jail for two months.

When I got out of jail I was clean for awhile but soon gave into the drugs again. My marriage really went down hill and I was put back in jail for six months. That's when I met Paul Roussel. I met with him every other week, and went to Bible study with brother Les for a few weeks. **That was when I accepted our Lord Jesus as my Lord and Savior.**

I went to bed that night and prayed and started to repent. When I woke up the next day, I felt free of all my burdens and sins while still in jail. I was full of joy and love for Jesus and it was by His grace that I was saved.

Ever since the day I was saved, so many things have happened to renew my life. I met so many wonderful people who have come into my life. My wife, Rhonda and I attend Merrimack Valley Baptist Church and have met many new friends there. The Lord has blessed me with a full-time job. Praise the Lord!

-Frank

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TO ADDRESSEE OR CURRENT RESIDENT:

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URGENTLY NEEDED: DONATIONS OF WINTER COATS, SKI JACKETS, WORK BOOTS, GLOVES, MITTENS, HATS, SWEATERS, & LINED HEAVY DUTY JEANS.

CHRISTIAN AFTERCARE MINISTRIES

Co-Laborers with the Church in ministry to ex-offenders since 1994 www.christianaftercare.com

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Office hours: Mon. & Wed. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday: 2:30 – 6 p.m. Phone: 603-669-5090

CAM MINISTRY ALWAYS NEEDS:
Men's jeans, sneakers, work boots, gloves,
clean shirts in good repair, and
YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT.
Thank you for helping to meet these needs.

Tax deductible donations may be made payable to Christian Aftercare Ministries. Send to: 50 Lowell St., Manchester, NH 03101

Thank You

NOTICE: If you would like a CAM board member to visit your church or group to speak about this ministry, call Paul Roussel, Director, to schedule a date. Phone: (603) 669-5090.

Board Members: Paul Roussel, Mike Grady, Kent Threlfall, Jean Metzger, Jack Shuler, Sampson Duclair, Dave Rattigan, Dawn Beaulieu, and Ernie Kilman