

# CAM UPDATE

Christian Aftercare Ministries for Ex-Offenders

Non-profit Organization

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

November 2021

Established 1994

Praising the Lord  
for 25+ years!

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

By Paul Roussel

### CAM Dinner: A Night of Fellowship

This past month, Saturday, October 23, CAM hosted a very successful 26th annual CAM Dinner at the beautiful Puritan Backroom Event Center. The food was excellent, and the “Prison Band” provided the music to make the evening a joyful occasion honoring to the Lord. Rich Bernier’s testimony was riveting as he shared how Jesus has overwhelmed and blessed his life.

Our main speaker, Chaplain Bill Pelletier, shared how the Lord is using him inside Concord State Prison for men and how well he and CAM work together to help men successfully reenter society. We at CAM were thrilled to be part of it this special night. It was so gratifying to see many former inmate and volunteer connections made at the dinner.

### Expanding CAM’s Outreach

Good news—Mike Grady and I have completed the online training to become certified volunteers at all state prison facilities. This will allow Mike to start Bible studies at Calumet, the prison halfway house in Manchester. I will now be able to restart my prison visits to the chapel at the men’s prison in Concord. There are many men there who need visits. Praise the Lord that I will be able to meet with them again!

### Fruitful Relationships

As I mentioned at the CAM Dinner, we continue to have a wonderful working relationship with Helping Hands and minister on almost a weekly basis with David, Jim Rose (see his testimony on page 2), Ron, Keith, Terry, Eric, and any new tenants living there.

### Preparing for Winter

I have spent the last two weeks buying X, 1X, 2X, and 3X winter shirts, coats, and hoodies for our clients to be supplemented with a winter coat drive for CAM held by Bethany Covenant Church.

~Paul

## Sharing Jesus Again and Again

By CAM Board Member  
Mike Grady

“In the year that King Uzziah died,  
I saw the Lord . . .” (Isaiah 6:1)

Today, we don’t “see the Lord” as the prophets of old, but God uses the circumstances of life that seem tragic at the time to open our eyes to His kingdom and close them to this world.

Our own personal history with God is often an account of the death of our heroes, those to whom we have looked to for guidance, direction, and companionship. Over and over again, God has to remove our friends to put Himself in their place, and that is when we falter, fail, and become discouraged. Think about this personally—when the person who represented what God should have been died, did we give up on everything in life? Did we become ill or disheartened? Or did we do as Isaiah did and “see the Lord”? Many of those getting out of jail and prison have lost friends and family, their heroes; they are lost in the world they once knew and are ready to start life anew.

Their vision of God is dependent upon the condition of their character. Character determines whether or not truth can even be revealed to them. Before they can “see the Lord,” there must be something in their character that conforms to the likeness of God. If not born again—

**1 Peter 1:3 (ESV):** *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,*

—they can’t begin to see the kingdom of

(continued on page 2)

(Sharing Jesus, *continued from page 1*)

God; they only see from the perspective of their own biases. Until God does the work, what they need is God's surgical procedure—His use of external circumstances to bring about internal purification—and this is sometimes done in jail or prison.

Their priorities must be the Lord first, the Lord second, and the Lord third, until their life is continually face to face with God and no one else is taken into account whatsoever. Their prayer will then be, "In all the world there is no one but You, dear God; there is no one but You." We at CAM are privileged to come alongside them to encourage and share the truth of the Gospel, over and over again when necessary. They keep paying the price until they see God in all circumstances; they must be willing to live up to His vision, not theirs.

**James 1:25 (ESV):** *But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing).*

Please pray for us at CAM as we work with many hurting individuals who need to understand God's love for them. Our hope lies in the fact that Jesus Christ came to save sinners. We are sinners. He came to save us.

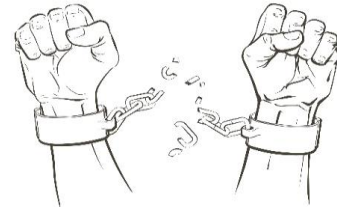
**Titus 3:5 (ESV):** *he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit.*

Pray that all the jails and prisons will remain open to the many volunteers who bring the light of the Gospel to dark places.

~ Mike

**PRAY:** *That men and women behind the walls would seek the Lord, and that Christian volunteers would continue to find doors and hearts opened to the Gospel.*

## MY PERSONAL TESTIMONY



By James Rose

*My name is James Rose, and this is my testimony on how the Lord has changed my life:*

I grew up in a nonreligious home. My father was sent to prison for murder when I was five years of age. My mother was a drug addict, so I had to take care of my brother and sister. I attended Sunday School because a local Baptist Church bus ministry would pick up neighborhood children. We enjoyed the pretzels and fruit punch! At the age of 13, I put up my hand when the pastor asked if I would like to become a Christian by saying the "sinner's prayer." However, as I got older, I no longer went to Sunday School. I started getting into heavy drug use such as PCP and heroin. I didn't listen to or trust anyone. I always tried to deal with problems on my own. As time passed on, I thought about God less and less.

My life started to spiral out of control, and I could no longer deal with my problems on my own. I didn't know of any way to get better. Finally, after 30 years of marriage, my wife and I separated, my children stopped speaking to me, and I couldn't work. That was the bottom. I finally thought about asking God for His help. I prayed to the Lord to show me what to do.

**Hosea 10:12b (ESV):** *Break up your fallow ground, for it is the time to seek the LORD, that he may come and rain righteousness upon you.*

I went to the Phoenix House drug treatment program, applied to enter into Helping Hands, and still hoped that maybe my wife would take me back. But when I got out, she told me our marriage was over. This put me into a mental health tailspin, and I ended up at the Cypress Center because I didn't want to do drugs again.

*(continued on page 3)*

AND HE SAID TO THEM, "GO INTO ALL THE WORLD AND PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL TO THE WHOLE CREATION." (JESUS, QUOTED IN MARK 16:15)

**We were blessed by all the friends of CAM who came out for a wonderful evening of music, food, and fellowship at the 26th annual CAM Dinner & Fundraiser.**

**A special thank-you to our speakers, Chaplain Bill Pelletier and Rich Bernier.**

Thank you  
for a  
successful  
CAM  
Dinner!

(My Personal Testimony, *continued from page 2*)

When I was discharged, I rented a hotel room with the last of my money. "Friends" came over with cocaine, and I fell back into some old habits. Guy Torgersen, the Drug/Alcohol Counselor from Helping Hands, called me and asked me if I still wanted to come live there. I interviewed with him and made a plan for staying straight and sober. Amazingly, Helping Hands accepted me, and I haven't done any drugs since then, which was September 25, 2020.

**Ezekiel 34:11 (ESV): "For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out."**



At Helping Hands Outreach, I met with Chaplain Tim and found out about how to pray. I found out that there is power in prayer. Now I pray day and night. I also met with Paul, and he encouraged me in my walk with Jesus. He told me that with Jesus, anything is possible. I know Paul prays for me every day. In one year, through my belief in Christ, I have a job again in my trade of masonry. I asked God to renew my relationships with my children and grandchildren. Now they talk to me and visit me. I am in prayer about my relationship with my wife as well and am happy that we can get along. We spent one Sunday together recently. This has been a 180-degree turn-around, and I give all glory to our Lord.

**Psalm 40:16 (ESV):**

*But may all who seek you  
rejoice and be glad in you;  
may those who love your salvation  
say continually, "Great is the LORD!"*

~ James

## Ministry Needs


CAM is again accepting donations for men's clothes:

|        |             |
|--------|-------------|
| pants  | shoes       |
| shirts | belts, etc. |


**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.  
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.*

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**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

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*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.*