

Alpha Prison Ministries Newsletter

September 2023 Edition

"I was in prison and you came to visit me." Matthew 25:36

2023 APM Annual Impact Night

For those receiving this newsletter by mail, you'll find a Save the Date card to serve as a reminder of our annual Impact Night celebration banquet. That date is Monday November 13, 2023 at 6:00 pm (dinner at 6:30).

As most of you know, we do this every year for multiple reasons. It's the one opportunity we get to be together with as many APM people as who are available to attend. We enjoy each other, good food, encouragement, and more. We raise awareness of the ministry and show first hand the impact it has. We celebrate our volunteers and supporters. We invite more partners to join us any way they can and be part of the impact.

This year includes another something special, made even more meaningful by the fact that we are again having the Impact Night celebration in November. Alpha Prison Ministries began in November 1983 which means this Impact Night is also a **40 year Anniversary!**

The core mission has not changed at all but expanded when we were able to add transitional housing in the 90's. From the beginning, with only three volunteers, the vision was to provide in person Bible studies and one-to-one mentoring for inmates.

When you attend our Impact Night celebration, you'll see for yourself how unique we are, how much it means to the people we serve, and what a difference this simple focus makes. And when you see it, imagine 40 years! Many of our past servants are watching us from heaven. But we still have a future to look forward to.

Invite others to join us. Life now provides an intense array of things to be discouraged about. This celebration will help focus our attention where it should be. Evil will be evil, but its time is short. Ours will never end.

RSVP by October 30 via email or phone (see other side).

Visit us online at:



www.alphapm.org

- ◆ Please pray about our annual Impact Night for November 13. Pray that it will be a success in every way: more awareness gained, everyone encouraged, new partners gained, ministry needs met and exceeded (more growth), etc.
- ◆ Praise God for our new Executive Director who has accepted the position and that you'll be introduced to him at our Impact Night celebration banquet. He is working closely with Leon during the transition period.
- ◆ Please continue praying for Alpha in prison Bible studies to resume in all the facilities we serve. Inmates want it, our volunteers want it, even many prison staff want it, but there are many challenges as we have mentioned before. God specializes in breakthroughs and he uses our prayers to accomplish them.
- ◆ Also note the prayers requested by Jason, Lo, Eddy, Marvin, Tim, Gino, Kent, Martin, Kevin, David W, Rodger, David M., and Jeff featured this month.

Prayer Requests

SEPTEMBER 2023

Please cut around these prayer requests and use this as a bookmark in your Bible.

Alpha
Prison Ministries

SAVE THE DATE

We've Hired a New Executive Director

Earlier this summer, after preliminary meetings and a Board of Directors interview with applicant Dave Klooster, the position was offered to him and he accepted our invitation. Let me offer this as a public congratulations and welcome aboard to Dave!

We are still very much in a transition stage which will continue for a yet to be determined amount of time. Dave and Leon are working closely together until a full handing off of the baton can be achieved smoothly.

So now with the November Impact Night being a 40 year celebration in addition to our normal annual celebrations, it will also serve as your formal introduction to Dave as our new Executive Director.

Inmate Prayer Requests

We've recently received a good number of prayer requests from inmates that don't fit into our usual format. Here is a list of requests from inmates who will appreciate your prayers:

- Jason: That God will restore his relationship with unsaved parents
- Lo: Good health for his wife and parents and that his children and grandchildren are protected from any harm or danger
- Eddy: That he will get a parole his first interview
- Marvin: That he complete his six month program on time
- Tim: That his sister will take care of his mother while he is in prison
- Gino: That he will get closer to Jesus this time in prison
- Kent: That his wife and mother will get along and work out their difficulties
- Martin: Physical healing for severe stomach problems
- Kevin: Forgive me of my sins and protect my loved ones
- David W: Wisdom in all areas of his life
- Rodger: That his commutation will be granted
- David M: For his mom, Terry, she is really sick
- Jeff: Asks prayer for their Chaplain

Alpha Houses Remain Full

Keeping our Alpha House transitional housing units at full capacity has always been challenging because when we commit to each new arrival their "spot" is secure but they do not always fill it. The reasons vary. It may or may not be within the control of the new resident but every vacancy is filled only as we can be sure we can accept them.

This often results in being at less than full capacity. Over the past couple years or so, this balancing act has gone fairly smoothly and we've remained at near full capacity most of the time. Right now is among those times.

Gino successfully moved out in August prior to his marriage, and we congratulate him on a double success, and we have two new residents in August, Brian and Tony, plus the three from July, RJ, Mario, and Tim. On occasion, we get new residents who have been in prison for a long time. The new August arrival is just such a case. As we celebrate 40 years as a ministry, Brian has been incarcerated just as long.

We welcome Brian and also ask prayers on his behalf. That's a long time to spend outside of society, but having a safe place to make this transition, having prayer, mentoring and encouragement, provides the mix that has helped many others flourish even after such long periods of time in prison.

Happy Labor Day!

Labor Day is not just a long holiday weekend, it is a celebration of the dignity of work. From the perspective of succeeding upon release from prison, it's crucial. Enjoy your Labor Day holiday and weekend and celebrate it all the more on behalf of those we minister to.

Special Note on Financial Status Below

In June we announced the completion of a new roof earlier this spring for our primary Alpha House facility. We also recently paid our annual insurance premium as we do each year. And just like premiums are going up for everyone, we are no exception, and perhaps even more so for us due to various factors. Those expenses make this YTD look more dire than it actually is but we are currently in the red and are transparent about that. We're not worried but we are proactive and appreciate every gift of any size.

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Newsletter written/edited by APM Board member Steve Chittenden

APM Financial Summary January-July 2023

Total Income: **\$46,310.28**

Total Expense: **\$79,145.23**

Net Income: **\$-32,834.65**



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APM is an **undenominational Christ-centered ministry** to prisoners and ex-offenders