

# Release Through Jesus Prison Ministry Newsletter

AUGUST 2009

## IN THIS ISSUE

### P. 1 UPDATE FROM OUR FOUNDER

The day-long deliverance services at Vandalia yielded incredible results.

### P. 2 NEW LOGISTICS MANAGER APPOINTED

Meet Kim Desherlea.

### P. 3 TESTIMONIES

Deliverance services have a big impact.  
July 4th at the Edgar County jail.

### P. 4 SCHEDULES

Find our contact information and schedules of both the prison Bible studies and services and where Jim is speaking next.

## NEWS

- Visit our website at to give online, sign up for the electronic version of the newsletter and submit prayer requests.
- RTJ is looking for someone to be editor of our newsletter. Please call Brenda at 217-677-2356 for more information.

## Dear ministry partners,

It has been quite a month for the ministry. We have been allowed to go into areas that in the past have been closed. Have you ever tried to witness to a friend or loved one and it seemed like you got nowhere? Then later on, perhaps even months or a year later, you have the opportunity again and found that the door is wide open?

We had the privilege to minister to our brothers in Christ at the Vandalia DOC July 5th. It was an all-day, joyous time. I and 8 other ministers gave the message which was focused on healing, ministering, testimonies and great stories. It was a wonderful time. We began at 8:00 a.m. and we finished at 8:00 p.m. The prayer lines were packed from one end of the chapel to the other. God's miraculous power was there. We tried to count but it was almost impossible. Approximately 400 men were in the services. Around 300 came through the prayer line. If you recall in the book of Acts as the disciples came into a town and miracles were done, by evening all those that heard what was going on through testimonies came to the services just to observe. And what happened? They saw and

believed and the church was added to daily.

As I looked at the men in each of the 4 services I could see they weren't the same men. Each service was full of new men. The evening service in particular saw men coming for salvation. In the evening service Rev. Steve Wright began talking about intimidation and fear and Tim Desherlea began ministering in that area and the stronghold was broken and you

could tell the men were being set free. It was such an honor ministering with Chaplain Dave Vaughn and

seeing his love for the Lord and for these men. He is doing a mighty work for the Lord getting this army ready for battle but he doesn't stop there. He says to the men, "I will go with you. I will help you even when you're released. Call me." There are some awesome chaplains in the institutions today. It's very evident God has placed them there.

Thank you so much for your prayers and financial support. We could not do this without you.

Jim Helton  
Founder RTJ



Deliverance

## NEW LOGISTICS DIRECTOR

### KIM DESHIRLEA

RTJ welcomes Kim Deshirlea to the ministry as she takes on the duties of Logistics Director. Her duties will be to prepare, mail, and track the promotional packets we send to pastors, follow up with contacts, and take care of correspondence with the churches and individuals who support RTJ.

Kim is the wife of Tim Deshirlea, one of our volunteers for the Vandalia Prison. We are so blessed to have this couple that loves the Lord and is willing to serve Him in prison ministry.



### Why I Am in Prison Ministry.....

Through my local church and Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International I have been involved in Jail & Prison Ministry since 1974. I have been blessed in relationships with my Lord and the men and women to whom I minister. I have witnessed the Lord's power to save through preaching of the word of God. Many have responded to the message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ through the years, and we have seen others healed and delivered from bondage. This is all to the LORD's glory. His will is for all to be saved, healed, and delivered. I'm thankful the Lord has included me in this great ministry.

Jerry Van Houtin



Sunday eve I had the privilege of being a part of a great healing service. God was there as always and His presence was felt. There was an unusually large attendance and many were prayed for. There seemed to be a spirit of fear among the men when we came, but we left them with deliverance thru freedom in Christ. There were a lot of different types of afflictions and we are believing in their healing, even to this very minute. Praise God that we have a place to go where He never sleeps nor slumbers, and give him our burdens. Jesus said " take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light. (Matthew 11:29-30 NIV) Mary Purcell

### **The Choice**

(Written by an inmate at the Decatur Correctional Center)

On one side stands the crowd.  
Jeering, Baiting, Demanding.

On the other stands a peasant.  
Swollen lips, Lumpy Eye, Lofty Promise.

One promises acceptance,  
The other a cross.

One offers flesh and flash,  
The other offers faith.

The crowd challenges, "Follow us and fit in."  
Jesus promises, "Follow me and stand out."

They promise to please,  
God promises to save.

A basin of water?  
Or the blood of the Savior?

God looks at you and asks:  
"Which will be your choice?"

### Taylorville CC

We had a great service at Taylorville Sunday morning. Since I also teach the John Bevere series on Thursday nights I had told them I wanted to see them on Sunday. Most of them showed up. The message was entitled "Dependence in Independence." Thank you for your help financially and for all your prayers. God is doing a great work in the prisons.

Rev. Lila Chaplin

### Purpose Driven Taylorville

I want to thank all who support RTJ and for giving me the opportunity to go into Taylorville CC and spend time helping the men in there to discover they *do* have a purpose. I just want to share what I am seeing God do in one of the men I minister to.

The first night he told us he had a card playing problem and he was trying to get rid of it. We told him that we all have things we want to beat and we can't always do it on our own but with God we can do all things. As we ended that night we prayed for him and we prayed for him all week.

When we came the next week he said he had only played once and he lost and was angry over that. So, as he put it, he talked to "the guy" and asked for his help and told "the guy" that if he failed he was going to throw away all of his religious books.

Well, just before we came that night he was asked to play cards and told them, "no," because he had talked to "the guy" and he wanted to keep his books. The men that had invited him to play got wrote up for gambling as he was coming to class. I guess "the guy" was listening to him.

Last night he told me he had a great week and had started talking and playing chess with a man no one would have any thing to do with. I think "the guy" has him ministering to "the least of these." As I have said before I come out of there blessed every week.

God bless you all.  
Skip Renfro

### Big Muddy and Vandalia

Release Through Jesus Prison Ministry has been preaching the good news of the Gospel of the Kingdom, with fervency, many are being saved, healed, and delivered. Recently at Big Muddy River Correctional Center Friday July 3rd, evening service, there were approximately eighty in attendance. Following a message of faith, many came forward for needs to be prayed for and one man was born again, receiving Jesus as his personal savior. The power of God was present to meet every need as we asked in faith.

Sunday morning at Vandalia Correctional Center a team from Release Through Jesus, gathered together with the Chaplain David Vaughn for prayer, following prayer we entered into Praise and Worship along with the inmates. After many testimonies, of victory in Jesus, we prayed for many men for salvation, deliverance, healing, and every other need you can imagine. There was victory in the camp!!!

At Release Through Jesus Prison Ministry we're excited what the LORD Jesus is doing as we go forth in faith.

Jerry Van Houtin



### 4th of July - Edgar County Jail

Oakland Christian Church (ladies ministry) made up gift bags for the men and women in the Edgar County Jail. Paul Guthridge, Ex Deputy, delivered

them and was able to pray with those there. We are looking forward to Christmas when we will again serve the inmates dinner and sing carols with them. Thanks Sue Campbell and thank you Paul Guthridge.

PLEASE CUT ALONG LINE AND MAIL TO RTJ

#### AREAS OF INTEREST:

- JAIL/PRISON OUTREACH
- ADD TO MAILING LIST
- OFFICE VOLUNTEER
- OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

#### LOVE OFFERING:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE & ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

---



---



---

Release Through Jesus Prison Ministry  
PO Box 103  
Sullivan, IL 61951-1348  
Office: 217.728.8775  
Mobile: 217.855.7799  
Email: [rtjprisonministry@yahoo.com](mailto:rtjprisonministry@yahoo.com)  
Web: [www.releasethroughjesus.org](http://www.releasethroughjesus.org)

**Non-Profit Organization**  
**U.S. Postage**  
**PAID**  
**Decatur, IL**  
**Permit No. 300**

**Return Service Requested**

### Speaking Engagements

7/5/09 Special Healing Service - Vandalia CC  
7/12/09 Sherman 1st Church of the Nazarene  
7/19/09 Auburn Nazarene  
  
8/9/09 Pana Christian Church  
8/16/09 Cerro Gordo Church of the Brethren  
  
9/27/09 Watseka Assembly of God  
  
10/4/09 Vandalia Nazarene  
10/11/09 Fairview Heights-Parkview  
  
11/1/09 Windsor Methodist Church

*RTJ - Taking Prisoners for Christ!*

Release Through Jesus Prison Ministry enters all levels of confinement facilities to help men and women to know Jesus and lead them to salvation, to teach the men and women to hide the Word of God in their hearts so that they might sin no more, and to regularly visit churches of all Christian denominations to spread the good news of God's work with the incarcerated.



"... I WAS IN PRISON AND YOU CAME UNTO ME." MATTHEW 25:36

## PRISON SERVICES

1st Sunday  
Vandalia  
Taylorville  
  
2nd Saturday  
Big Muddy  
  
2nd Sunday  
Graham  
  
3rd Sunday  
Taylorville  
  
4th Sunday  
Decatur  
Taylorville  
  
Friday evenings  
Big Muddy

## PRISON BIBLE STUDIES

Monday  
Decatur  
Taylorville  
  
Thursday  
Centralia  
Taylorville  
  
Saturday  
Decatur Work Release  
  
Quarterly  
Lincoln  
Centralia

[www.releasethroughjesus.org](http://www.releasethroughjesus.org)