

How can we say Thank YOU? To God & YOU!

By Cal Bodeutsch, PMA Chairman

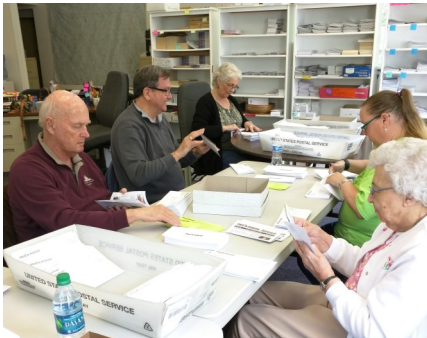
"How can I say thanks

for all the things You have done for me?

Things so undeserved, yet You gave to prove Your love for me. The voices of a million angels could not express my gratitude. All that I am and ever hope to be, I owe it all to Thee." *My Tribute* by Andrae Crouch

It is a dark grey and rainy day in Western Washington today, but there is a bright sunlight in my heart as I reflect back on how God continues to bless the ministry of PMA. **We are debt free; the building is paid off; we are sending out a record number of lessons each month.** The blessings just keep coming and coming. There is no way I can say "Thank you" enough to God for His grace to me and to PMA.

So what is next? Do we now sit back and rest on our success? No! That would be dishonoring to God who is so graciously blessing us. There is only one thing we can do.



Here are just some of our many volunteers helping do a recent mailing at our headquarters.

We must move on believing God is going to continue to increase the ministry of PMA.

Its been exciting to see this fast expansion and growth. With growth comes some challenges: additional expenses; more paper, more printing, more envelopes, more postage,

even a bigger electric bill as more hours are spent in the office. Unfortunately, our finances have not kept up with our growth.

Right now, our major focus is to sustain the level of growth we are experiencing until the finances catch up. Once that happens, we will be able to continue to grow the ministry again. It has been said that people like to get involved in ministries where it is evident that God is blessing. That would be PMA!

Let me tell you how our finances work. In compliance to IRS regulations, the board of PMA determines the annual budget and salaries of its employees. All the money that comes into PMA goes into one pot. From there we pay the bills. Some money comes in designated, like for Dwight Anderson or Arnie Selfors. Regardless of how much money comes in, these individuals receive the amount of money the

board has specified. *That amount is always higher than the amount of money that comes in designated for them.*

Sometimes we have to adjust those amounts in the middle of the year. For example, the board had budgeted for our director, Dwight to receive a raise this year to bring him up to full-time. But the money was just not there to do that, so we could not give him the pay raise.

So, why am I telling you all this? Giving to what is often called the *general fund* not only pays for the postage, envelopes, utilities, etc., but it also determines how much we can give to our staff. Giving money designated for Dwight or giving money to the general fund will both help us get Dwight up to full-time support as our PMA director.

Our focus for 2018 will be a new "Sustainability Initiative" that will give us a stronger base as we have been growing so fast the last three years. We have a dear friend of PMA that has offered to match any donations for this "Sustainability Initiative" for up to \$5,000 by Dec, 31, 2017. So your gift towards this initiative will have double impact as we continue to grow in 2018, with total of \$10,000 to reach this goal by Dec.31!

\$50 BECOMES \$100
\$250 BECOMES \$500
\$500 BECOMES \$1000

Please use the enclosed donation slip and mark it for the **double impact with the matching love gift.**

I'm Robert Barry from Washington State.

I recently got released from prison after five years of being incarcerated. I was just devastated when this happened. My wife and sister-in-law who volunteer for PMA, kept supporting me. All my family came to visit me in prison. They got me to thinking with all their love, support and patience that I desired to turn to God for help.



With their help I took the PMA Bible courses for four years. It was the best thing that I could have ever done. With the love and support of the PMA people and their Bible courses, I reconnected with God and blessed now as a PMA volunteer helping where I can.

The PMA lessons bring hope to those behind bars! It is so important as there's a lot of inmates who do not have any support as often their family and friends have disowned them. I just pray and thank God that you continue forward in your efforts at PMA. Thank you!

Karen's



"For we are God's fellow workers" (I Corinthians 3:9a). On June 17, 2017 we had our first annual work day. The outside grounds were cleared of brush and moss and we did some deep cleaning inside too. Thank you to all who came out to work. Then on September 9 we had our annual volunteer appreciation picnic **celebrating the faithful service of so many of our hard workers.**

We continue to be plenty busy in the office every week and the office volunteers continue to faithfully fulfil their tasks. We added a new corrector this

year, **David Rupers**, and a new office person, **Cindy Hinz**. Cindy processes all the new students every Thursday on my computer so I can work on other duties.

We still have three volunteers that started with me in 1996. **Celeste Wedding (office processor)**, **Gladys Hanson (lesson folder)**, and recently **retired corrector Lolamae Abbott**. Lolamae Abbott had to retire due to illness. We love you Lolamae and miss you. Another corrector, **Louise Hunsaker** started in 1999. Where in the Bible does it say we retire with age? God bless all of you.

An inmate sent a card to the mission recently with these words. *"It's the friends we meet along life's road, who help us appreciate the journey. Thank you Prison Mission, director, operations, all the volunteers in every area."* **Thank you Jesus we get to be a part of this.**

More notes from prisoners:

"I thank you greatly, anticipate further study with you, learning more about God every day... Thank you for the course...I enjoy looking up the answers... The study gave me such a great study of God's word...They really help me a lot... Thank you for letting me be a part of this study... It is wonderful, it makes me want to learn more... I eagerly await the next study... These studies have kept me busy in God's word, the Bible...This is a beautiful lesson... Thank you for the very nice certificate you sent me...Thank you for your Bible study...The more I read the more I want it...I'm asking God for another chance at life and be with my kids again."
By God's grace,

Karen Bodeutsch, Operations Manager

Help Wanted! Grant Writer

Do you know anyone who might be interested in helping PMA apply for grants? Please call 612-423-3457.

Praise and Prayer Points

Praise God for our PMA team with our continued expanding growth, all our faithful volunteers, board members, and for all of you who pray, give and partner with us to make this all happen for the Glory of God!

Praise God for answers to Prayer:

- ◆ We were able to reach our goal to pay off our mortgage so we are debt free now with our Port Orchard, WA headquarters!
- ◆ Thankful for new volunteers helping to visit prisons, correct lessons and be PMA representatives!
- ◆ We have now reached over 30,000 students in the last 17 years!



This year's volunteer appreciation picnic

Prayer Points:

- ◆ For a bilingual person to be our Spanish coordinator so we can correct Spanish lessons to reach more Hispanics with the gospel!

- ◆ For God to call key leaders within the prisons to help distribute/correct lessons and plant prison churches.
- ◆ Pastor Dwight has been invited to host a weekly prison ministry radio show called **"Prison Transformation Radio- Changing Hearts with Christ!"** He will co-host it with his friend, Jim Moore, starting Nov. 18. It will be on every Saturday at 1 pm central time. www.am980themission.com
- ◆ Planting a church in Faribault MN prison. Pray for the prison officials now to be able to schedule a time for us to meet. We have 11 students there who are committed to being the core group. Pray also for Vern Hendrickson who will be leading and mentoring these men.

Coming Soon!

Pray for presentations coming up:

- Oct. 26 First Baptist Church, Anoka MN—International Bible Givers Mtg.
- Oct. 29 Oak Park Heights Prison, MN

Nov. 4 Pastors Prayer Breakfast, Maranatha Church, South Minneapolis, MN

Nov. 12 Preaching at Bethesda Church, Prior Lake, MN

Jan. 27 PMA Board Meeting, Berean Bible Church, Shoreline, WA

Feb. 21-13 Coalition of Prison Evangelists International Conference – teaching workshop **"Planting Churches Behind Bars"** Orlando, FL

March 1, 12 noon, Grace Pastors Regional Conference, Tomah, Wisc.

April 10, Shakopee Women's Prison, MN

April 24-26 GGF Leadership Conference, Grace Bible College, Grand Rapids, MI

April 29 Oak Park Heights Prison, MN

May 2 St. Cloud Prison, MN

June 8-9 CMCA Ministry Summit, Wheaton, IL. Teaching workshop

Praying for inmates: an important ministry that anyone can do. Thanks to all who pray now! To learn more about the PMA Inmate Prayer Ministry, contact the PMA office: 360-876-0918