**Newsletter of PMA** 

Our Mission: "Reaching Prisoners for Christ!"

Fall/Winter 2018

# We give thanks to God for answered prayer!

### **Prison Mission Association Spanish Ministry**

For over one year we have been praying for a bilingual person to help us with our Spanish lessons to help expand our ministry to reach many Hispanics. **Thank you for your prayers!** We want to share this answer to prayer with you and introduce you to Altagracia Peralta Soriano.



My name is Altagracia Peralta Soriano and I'm from the Dominican Republic. I'm an Industrial Management Engineer, have a Master in Logistics, and I'm finishing an MBA. I have lived in the United States for two years. I love to read, teach, and share my professional experiences with business owners and entrepreneurs. Other family members live in the Dominican Republic and New York. I am married and my husband and I enjoy studying the Bible together because God is the center of our marriage and lives.

My journey to accept Jesus Christ as my Savior began in 2016 when my father passed away that January. My family and I spent from January 6 to January 29 in a hospital with my dad because of his breathing complications. Those days prepared my dad to receive Jesus and prepared us to say goodbye to him.

Months later, in August 2016, at the recommendation of my sister, my mother and I attended a Christian Women's Conference in the Dominican Republic, where we met the most amazing Pastor Yesenia. Her words were perfect for our grieving family. That night my mom and I gave our hearts to Jesus.

Since the moment I married my husband he has encouraged me to read the Bible. He also gave me a bilingual Bible to start studying it. He received the Lord 25 years ago and his knowledge guided me to understand the Bible deeper and build a relationship with Jesus.

I came across Prison Mission Association because my aunt-in-law, Sarah Devine, a Christian, is a volunteer at PMA, and she started talking to me about its ministry. Sarah told me about the opportunity of being a Spanish Translator to correct Spanish Bible study lessons from prisoners by mail.

I agreed to have a meeting with Karen to get information about PMA. Since the moment I walked in the door, the Holy Spirit was there welcoming me in the same place my grandmother-in-law, Joan Devine, had also served as a volunteer. My heart for volunteering has always been a part of my DNA and serving the Lord to help others is an honor and privilege from heaven.

Every week I receive completed PMA lessons and letters from prisoners. I correct each lesson and give them an evaluation of their performance.



My prayer request for the Spanish ministry is that the Lord may bless all the Latino inmates across the country, touching their hearts to receive Jesus Christ as their Savior. My vision is that the Lord continues to guide us to help the Latino inmates around the country and make the Spanish ministry grow with volunteers.

Please pray for a team of bilingual volunteers to work with Alta to handle this exciting Spanish ministry expansion!



It's been incredibly busy at the PMA home office since our last newsletter.

The outside of our building was repainted along with a new overhang over the front door was built to keep the Washington rain off everyone entering the building. We also got all new safety lights around the whole building. We appreciate Robert Barry for all his hard working doing these projects with a servant heart!

A BIG thanks to Jay and Laura Wikary for washing all of our windows, inside and out, while on a visit from Wisconsin.

We added three more correctors, two office workers, and I'm in the process of adding another lesson corrector. God is so faithful, giving us all the volunteers, we need right at the time we need them.

I firmly believe the mission is never done alone and volunteers make it happen. The PMA office is mostly an all-volunteer office. Volunteers give us a block of their time each week and that makes the office a very busy place. We are in the process of creating a video to demonstrate the working of the office and that will show how involving the office really is.

I'm very excited to bring Alta into our Spanish ministry. We are making a lot of headway towards getting the Spanish materials up to par with the English side. I'm really looking forward to working closely with Alta.

This year we lost a great corrector, Lolamae Abbott. Even though she moved to Oregon, she continued correcting lessons. She corrected lessons with great detail and care for over 20 years until she went home to be with the Lord. I miss her and know she is happy to be with the Lord she faithfully served.

Another long-time corrector retired in June, Louise Hunsaker. She is having health issues but we praise God for her faithfulness for 19 years of ministry with PMA. Thank you, Louise!

Being a servant of God is one of the most important things we can do. **PMA gives the opportunity to choose to do the will of God because we love God.** James tells us to serve God with the strength He provides so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ (James 4:11).

To God be the glory,

Karen Bodeutsch, Operations Manager

## 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:

- ♦ Thankful for new volunteers helping to visit prisons, correct lessons and be PMA representatives!
- We have now reached over 32,000 students in the last 18 years!
- We have updated our Spanish lessons to reach more Hispanics.
- We now have over 15 Bible Correspondence Fellowships (BCF) around the country, effectively doubling our outreach again!
- Our newest BCF is with Tom and Michelle Sanchez in Zambia who are distributing PMA lessons and had 150

inmates sign up in the Kabwe Prison this month!



Tom & Michelle Sanchez—GMI Zambia

#### **Prayer Points:**

- For bilingual volunteers to work with Alta, our Spanish coordinator so we can grow and expand 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.
- Pray for churches to start a local BCF so they can reach out to their local jail and prisons!
- Pastor Dwight has now done over 60 shows hosting a weekly prison ministry radio show called "Prison Transformation Radio—

Changing Hearts with Christ!" It is on every Saturday at 1 pm central time.

www.am980themission.com Listen to podcast replays at www.prisonmission.org/media

## New Videos!

Check out our new YouTube videos and please share them on social media.

www.tinyurl.com/pmafishing www.tinyurl.com/pmagreenhouse www.youtube.com/prisonmission

#### Pray for presentations coming up:

Nov. 8 Bethlehem Baptist Church, MN

Nov. 15 R3 Collaborative, Richfield, MN

Nov. 20, Red Wing Prison, MN

Nov 29 Prison Transformation Radio show recording session AM980themission

Dec. 6 Prison Transformation Radio show recording session AM980themission

Dec. 20 Prison Transformation Radio show recording session AM980themission

Dec. 30 Oak Park Heights Prison, MN

Jan.26 PMA Board Meeting, Berean Bible Church, Shoreline, WA

## Help Wanted! Grant Writer

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

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