



Fall 2020 PMA  
Newsletter

***Giving Thanks to God for each of YOU  
and all His blessings this past year.***

*"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*

Dear friends, prayer partners, and supporters of PMA!

**Happy Thanksgiving!** We have so much to be thankful for this year! We thank God for each of you! We appreciate all your prayers and support as the ministry has continued and even grown during this recent pandemic.

Most of all we are grateful for God's love and the good news of the gospel of the Grace of God which is so needed in our world today. It is the hope that we need to share and the need is urgent as we see our world really struggling.

**Thank YOU for praying and supporting God's work behind bars** that is saving lives and making an eternal difference! **Let us share with you some Thanksgiving Blessings!**

Here are some highlights from this past year we want to update you on what God has been doing and what we are so grateful for.

**Thankful for Blessing #1.  
Huge increase of 45% in  
new students!**



Despite the fact we could not go into jails and prisons personally due to COVID-19 restrictions, we see that new students are up by 45% this past year!! Praise the Lord! In 2019, we had 1,256 new

students, and this year in just over 10 months totals, we are at 2,314 new students, on Nov. 11, 2020. This represents many more souls being reached with the gospel!

**Thankful for Blessing #2. Huge increase of Volunteers!**



Mailing Lesson packets to work from home volunteers

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we have had to work out a way so volunteers can work remotely now from home. Many other prison ministries have not been able to continue their ministries since they can no longer go into prisons. Our ministry can not only continue but grow as the mail will still get through. We are blessed that we will be able to continue this important ministry of mentoring and connecting with thousands in growing in their faith in Christ behind bars. Pray for God to raise up more leaders behind bars to do ministry! A **Special shout out to Karen, our office manager who has worked non-stop during this time to keep everything rolling!** Pray for her! We are so thankful that so many can work from home to correct lessons and mail them out to inmates from their homes. We are mailing out lessons to be corrected all across the country with volunteers now in Arkansas, California, Missouri, Michigan, Arizona, and Minnesota, etc. Pastor Dwight spoke at Rush Creek Bible Church Missions Sunday, Oct. 18, 2020, and we had several more new people volunteer to help us! This extended volunteer team has been a blessing and with it has cost us more in postage, but it is well worth it to enable so many more to do this prison ministry! We also are blessed to have more bilingual volunteers helping with Spanish lessons. Please pray for them: Elsa, Jenni, and Irma.

**Thankful for Blessing #3. Prison Worship Services now virtual**



Pastor Dwight Anderson

Since there are restrictions now not allowing us to go in person, to visit jails and prisons. It makes it even more important to continue our ministry since the mail is still allowed into the prisons and

jails. We no longer were able to hold in-person worship services at the SuperMax prison at Oak Park Heights, MN. But now with Covid-19, they have given us permission to supply live worship streams recorded by Bethesda Church of Prior Lake, MN that are mailed to them on DVD. Chaplain Paul has agreed to use the DVDs of the live streams to broadcast the worship services on the offender TV channel in the Oak Park Heights MN State Prison. This began June 1, showing every Monday at 9 am each week. We have now sent 32 DVD's to be shown in the prisons. It is our goal to expand this to the other surrounding prisons that will be willing to broadcast our services as well. Please pray for this new outreach!



In the past, we have had the joy of connecting with many inmates through the annual transition fairs in state and federal prisons. These are now going virtual as well. We have created a Transition fair 6-minute video we have brought to women's prison in Shakopee, MN and Men's prisons in Stillwater, MN with several boxes of Bibles, 12 seeds books, and lessons for new students for their recent transition fair. We will be duplicating this to the other surrounding prisons as well.



PMA is developing advanced Biblical leadership and ministry training for church planting curriculum. Pastor Dwight met with Robert Nix and staff at Berean Bible Institute (BBI) on Oct. 19, 2020, to discuss a collaborative effort. BBI has offered to help us with some of the materials so we can adapt courses to fit the prison culture for planting churches there. This is a great help so we do not have to re-invent the wheel in this area. This will be a team effort in developing these new

courses. We also have some other leadership courses we can put on DVD to train those called to help plant the churches behind bars. This is a huge breakthrough for this outreach! We do have one of our PMA graduates who has completed all 35 PMA lessons who is interested in doing these advanced courses and plant a church. Please pray for him, Anthony Roper, in Muskegon Correctional, in Michigan. We have a couple of other graduates who are also considering this opportunity. Pastor Dwight has completed his master's degree from Grace Christian University and has written his master's thesis on "*Prison Ministry in a Post Covid 19 World*". Please email [dwight@prisonmission.org](mailto:dwight@prisonmission.org) to **ask for your digital copy**. It will give details on this new paradigm shift in prison ministry.



After our well went dry, we have finally got the new well dug and new pipes, water pump, and system installed! Praise the Lord. We still need about \$4,500 to pay the final bill, but the same God who uses the COVID-19 virus for His glory can provide people to finish the water project. Nothing is too big or little for Him. We still need to decommission the old hand-dug well but there is a shortage of cement so have not been able to get that done yet. Click here to donate and help to complete this project. Thanks to all of you who have helped us get so close now to completing this project!

Just as we needed to dig a deeper well for our needs in the home office, we feel that God showing us that we need to dig deeper in developing our ministry and get more young men, like Paul had Timothy and Titus serving alongside in the ministry. It is my prayer that God will raise up more full-time workers for PMA as the fields are ripe unto harvest, but the workers are few. Please pray for God to work in their hearts to serve in this ministry!



**Here is a letter from a recent PMA graduate who completed all 35 PMA lessons.** *"I would like to start by thanking you for all the hard work you do for the ministry and evangelization of our Lord Jesus Christ in the prison system. While attending the Transitions Fair, I met and discussed the Bible Correspondence Fellowship Program with you.*

*I wanted to share with you how much I appreciated the gift of this program. I started almost immediately. This program has given me the opportunity to study the Bible verse by verse and to receive feedback from a mentor that you have provided. This has increased the foundation of faith on a solid rock that I walk on daily. I very much have enjoyed the opportunity provided and always look forward to my next lessons.*

*I believe that we are all being transformed daily through the gift of God's word The Bible, and the experience of this Bible Correspondence Fellowship is assisting me in the process. Thank you for this very precious gift. May God Bless and keep you safe.*  
– Peter, Lino Lakes Prison, MN.



Believe it or not, Covid-19 is a mixed blessing. Forced to vacate a fast-paced and hectic lifestyle, many people are rediscovering what is important in life. People are spending more quality time with family and enjoying it. Home improvement projects are on the rise. In prisons and jails, prisoners are spending more time locked up in their cells to reduce the virus's spread. Rather than putting their lives on hold, **some are using their time to allow the Word of God to transform their lives.**

*"I enjoy all the Bible studies that I get. They help me get through some of my lower days when I'm in a depression. I'm so glad your organization has not stopped spreading the Word of God..." MS*

*"I am writing to you in regards to joining the Bible studies offered by you. A fellow inmate housed here with me told me about your amazing foundation study." RH*

Unfortunately, it might be a blessing for some prisoners, that does not translate into easier times for the PMA office. More lessons mean a lot more work for our volunteers and expenses for the office. But then, that's a blessing too. **More prisoners are getting saved and growing in the grace of God.**

**One last thing;** Did you know that every jail and prison has its own rules about what the inmates can receive in the mail? Individual wardens can make up their own rules regarding procedures to which we must adhere. Things like not allowing colored ink, how many pages are allowed in our

lessons, and the inclusion of other Christian reading materials. One area even photocopies our studies and gives the copies to the prisoners because they are afraid our ink might contain illegal drugs. Trying to keep up with the changes is daunting.

**God is working all things together for good (Romans 8:28), so we can praise Him amid the storm.**  
-- Karen Bodeutsch, Operations Manager



- Praise God we have a graduate of our PMA courses, named Anthony, interested to become a leader in our church planting program. Pray for him as he begins our advanced leadership courses and as we recruit churches near his prison in Muskegon, Michigan to plant a church behind bars there.
- We praise God for the **45% increase in new students** this year and have over 17,000 new students since 2014.
- Praise God we are now having our live stream church services broadcast on the "Offender TV Channel" at Oak Park Heights MN Correctional Facility now every Monday at 9 am.  
**Pray for us to be able to work on closed captions and expand to other facilities.**
- Praise God for the continued **increase in students especially at this time** as more want to study God's Word!
- Praise God for the **faithful support and prayers for this ministry**
- Pastor Dwight has completed the Masters of Arts in Organizational Leadership at Grace Christian University. The master's thesis was, "**Best Practices for Prison Ministry in a Post Covid-19 World**" and available upon request.



- Pray for our **PMA board meeting coming up, Sat. Dec. 5.**
- Pray for us in this new normal with all the changes happening in our world today.
- Pray for Karen and home office volunteers and many new volunteers out of state.
- Pray for our bilingual volunteer, Elsa Franco, who is helping to **coordinate the correcting of the Spanish lessons.** Pray for her to be able to train a team of volunteers as we grow this part of our outreach. We have two new Spanish helpers: Jenny and Irma recently.

- **For God to call key leaders within the prisons** to help distribute/correct lessons and plant prison churches.
- **PMA Advanced Biblical Leadership Courses** being developed. More teachers and teams to help in this area. Former inmates and retired pastors would be wonderful to help with this project.
- Pray for more volunteers, reps, new prayer, and financial partners as we want to give all the glory to God.
- Pray for **more local churches to start a local BCF** (Bible Correspondence Fellowship) so they can reach out to their local jails and prisons.
- **Pray for God to call key leaders** within the prisons to help distribute/correct lessons and plant prison churches.
- Pray for more open doors in churches and places we have never been before! **We would be happy to do a zoom call with your church** or Bible Study groups.
- Pray for Dwight's wife, Darlene, who has had a recent flare-up with Fibromyalgia.

Please check out our YouTube channel for recent PMA Sunday Testimonials, and subscribe: [www.youtube.com/prisonmission](http://www.youtube.com/prisonmission) We thank you for your prayers and support! We give God all the glory for what He is doing!

Keep praying, working, and loving others to Christ!



*Pastor Dwight*

*Gal. 2:20*

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