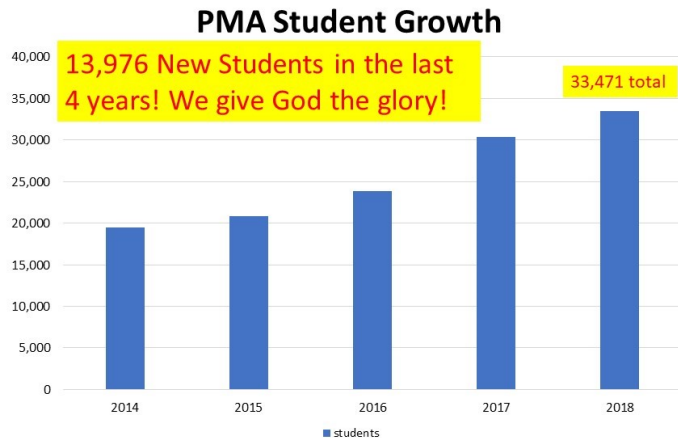


God's leading in PMA's strategy to handle our fast growth



We thank God for our growth adding 13,976 new students (not including all our new students in our 19 regional BCF hubs). We want to share how we feel God is leading us to handle this amazing growth. In last years newsletter we explained the four different ways we are decentralizing to have local churches, individuals, and hopefully soon inmate church communities distributing and correcting PMA Lessons called **Bible Correspondence Fellowship Ministry (BCF)**.

PMA has moved from a centralized approach to ministry to a more decentralized approach. Centralized means everything begins and spreads from one central location. Amazon.com might be a good example. To purchase any item from Amazon everyone has to go to the same location, Amazon.com. A central location processes all the orders and then the orders go out to be filled.

For about 60 years, PMA operated under a centralized philosophy. All lessons from prisoners came into the home office where they were processed. There are several benefits of this type of organization. Key ideas of a centralized approach are control and accountability. Everybody does everything under the watchful eyes of the decision makers who make sure the process is followed (one size fits all). For PMA it means **adding** more students who are taking its lessons and sending them into the home office. The key word is **Addition**.

Under a decentralized system, authority is delegated to different people who can use their discretion in what works best for them (see our last newsletter for different ways BCF's are operating). For PMA this means **multiplying** the number of bases sending out and correcting incoming lessons. The key word here is **Multiplication**.

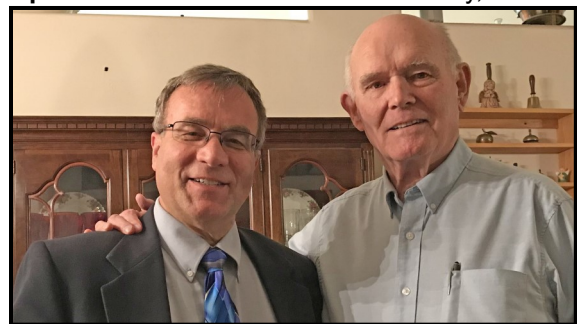
For PMA, we are taking a *modified decentralized* approach to ministry. With the tremendous influx of lessons over the past several years, one central office can't do it all. In addition, we anticipate even greater growth in the future. We have many faithful lesson correctors at the home office, but there is only so much they can do. Some of the work has to be decentralized.

The PMA home office (and the board of directors) still oversees and coordinates the methods and processes of the different hubs. Right now, our Executive Director, Dwight Anderson, is responsible for this part of the ministry, although in the future we may need someone to take this over. Each BCF delivers, corrects, and returns lessons to prisoners. They are mostly autonomous groups under its own leader.

This modified decentralized approach has resulted in the ministry **multiplying**. Will the PMA office stop sending out and correcting lessons? **Never!** But, with the ever growing amount of administrative duties and handling of the finances, there is more to do. Without the BCF's processing their lessons, the office would be crushed by the workload. Oh, the blessings of a growing ministry! Our costs will increase with the growth as we work and develop more BCF hubs. However, the unprecedented growth of PMA will make it all worthwhile!



Example of recent new BCF: Green Valley, AZ



Dwight with John Elliot, Green Valley AZ BCF

Steps to start your own BCF:

1. Pray and ask God how you can get involved
2. Contact Pastor Dwight 612-423-3457
3. Pastor Dwight can come and visit your church to share the vision and opportunity
4. Recruit a coordinator to lead your local ministry
5. Contact local jails and prison chaplains to distribute lessons with your PO Box on them
6. Recruit several volunteers to correct lessons



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Karen Bodeutsch
PMA Operations Manager—WA

Prison Mission Association is *not* a ministry to prisoners. It is a ministry to people who are in prisons. What's the difference and why does it matter? It is easy to forget that prisoners are real people with real problems. Many of them have husbands or wives, mothers and fathers, and children. They worry about finances for their family and how are they going to survive when they get out of prison.

Our students are not just a number to us. Each is someone God loves and for whom Christ died. We owe it to God and to them to treat them with dignity &

respect. We may be the only example of what a Christian should be, the image of Christ.

That goes for our volunteer staff as well. Our lesson correctors treat each lesson with sensitivity. Many of our correctors pray over each lesson and for the person who sent it in. It doesn't matter if the volunteer folds lessons, helps in finance, or handles mailing; each is aware of the fact that they are ministers of God's grace to those in prison.

It is always hard to say goodbye to these faithful servants. Gladys Hanson recently had to step back after 23 years of service. We will certainly miss her. However, Louise Hunsaker, who we recently reported as having to retire because of health issues, is back correcting lessons. PTL!

New workers include Caroline Blair, Eric & Angela Purcell, Kathy Depree, and Jenny Caulishaw. Our volunteers now come from nine different churches in our area. **PMA is all about people ministering to people.**

Spanish Ministry



Alta Soriano

Our Spanish ministry is undergoing a complete renovation. Alta Soriano is correcting and updating all of our Spanish lessons. She is also reformatting the lesson to make them uniform. As you might guess, this is a very time consuming task.

She finds correcting lesson and reading comments to be a real blessing. Often the prisoners will ask difficult questions, like; "what is the unpardonable sin," or "why are Protestant and Catholic Bibles different?" We have answers to these questions, but they are written in English, so Alta has to translate them into Spanish.

Alta is building a solid foundation for the future of the Spanish ministry.

Praise and Prayer Points

Praise God for answers to Prayer:

- ♦ Praise God for seven new BCF hubs since our last newsletter. We have 19 BCF regional hubs now around the country.
- ♦ Pastor Dwight has a weekly radio show called "**Prison Transformation Radio— Changing Hearts with Christ!**" It is every Saturday at 1 pm central time.
www.am980themission.com
- ♦ Praise God for all our wonderful PMA team: for Karen's great leadership managing the operations with our expanding growth, all our faithful volunteers, board members, and for all of you who pray, give and partner with us in the exciting ministry!

Prayer

- ♦ Pray for our Spanish Coordinator, Alta, as she is recruiting to build a team of bilingual correctors.
- ♦ 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 so they can reach out to their local jails and prisons.
- ♦ For God to call key leaders within the prisons to help distribute/correct lessons and plant prison churches.

Coming Soon!

Pray for the presentations coming up:

- June 2 Bethesda Church, MN
- June 5 Faribault Prison, MN
- June 25 Rush City Prison, MN
- June 27 International Bible givers, First Baptist Church, Anoka, MN
- June 30 Oak Park Heights Prison, MN
- July 9 Lino Lakes Prison, MN
- July 18-21 GGF Family Bible Conference, Brighton, CO
- Aug. 27 Red Wing Prison, MN

Aug. 24, 1 pm Live Radio show at the MN state fair.

Aug. 31, 1 pm Live Radio show at the MN state fair

Sept. 28 PMA Volunteer Appreciation Day picnic at PMA headquarters, Port Orchard,

Do you really need a will?

Having a will is arguably one of the most important things you can do for yourself and your family. Not only can a will legally protect your spouse, children, and assets, it can also spell out exactly how you would like things handled after you have passed on.

At PMA, we would be happy to work with you on how to include PMA in your will or living trust that could help minimize estate taxes for you.

The ability to make gifts is a good reason to have a will because it allows your legacy to live on and reflect your personal values and interests. In addition, gifts up to \$13,000 are excluded from estate tax, so you're also increasing the value of your estate for your heirs and beneficiaries to enjoy.

PMA recently got a wonderful estate gift from a donor who went to be with the Lord. Thank you!