





P.O. Box 2493 New Caney, TX 77357 / 281-467-2410 "Bringing Hope and Life to the Prisoners"



## NEWSLETTER FOR MAY 2021

We pray all mothers and especially those who are incarcerated or who have children who are incarcerated; May the Loving-Kindness of our Heavenly Father be yours this "Mother's Day".

## From the desk of Chaplain / President, Shelia Johnson

Praise ye the LORD. Praise, O ye servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD. Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and for evermore. From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the LORD's name is to be praised. Ps 113:1-3.

**Updates**: Praise the Lord we are able to go back into the prisons and minister. **Hallelujah!** Thank you-**Jesus**. This is a list of some of our team members that went into the prisons this month. Dan Groves, John Hammond, George Powell, and Tom Harris, who has his own ministry, "Gospel Blimp Crusade". Evangelist Harris ministered at the Cleveland Unit and Estelle. Below you will find testimonies of our prison experiences this month. I was able to go into four units this month. The Cleveland unit, Carol Vance, Jester IV, and Ramsey Unit. I ministered at the Ramsey Unit and my topic was "Have You Been Tried In The Fire? If so, did you come out as pure gold?" (1Peter 1:1-9). 15-20 men were present. I would have never thought that it would be such a blessing to be back in prison. Most people are trying to get out of prison and here we are trying to get in. **Look at God!** 

I anticipate greater things that are going to transpire with the men and women who have been incarcerated, and they will come out on fire for the Lord. I believe they will be the army that God is looking for to lead His people and make a change. Why? Because they would have been tested and tried to the utmost as gold is tried in the fire and will not let the enemy succeed.

**Partners**: We are forever grateful for those that continue to sow into this ministry. We pray God's blessings on each one of you. Just a reminder we are still raising money for the Vision which is The Town of Hope. Would you please consider giving as this is a place needed now more than ever? I have heard of so many ex-offenders that have gotten out and did not have a place to stay while trying to get back into society. The need is growing rapidly, and we can be a part of meeting that need with the Town of Hope. We will build it with your help. So, I ask again please consider regular giving.

**Volunteers**: Please consider becoming a volunteer. You will find that it is truly heart fulfilling and you will be truly blessed.

We continue to pray that you are staying safe and practicing safety measures as much as possible to stay Covid-19 free. Each prison we visit, we are required to arrive early to be tested for the virus. The State is showing by

this, their commitment to our and their safety.



On the 11th of April 2021 – the team, comprised of Chaplain Shelia Johnson, Evangelist Tom Harris (from Gospel Blimp International Crusades) Minister John Hammond and Brother Dan Groves went in after passing the Covid-19 test. We split up into two teams to minister in separate areas, complying with state Covid-19 mandates while trying to accommodate all the inmates who wished to participate. Evangelist Tom preached and Chaplain Shelia blessed them with worship music in the one meeting. I am confident, without being there, it was both enlightening and joyful. In the Cafeteria/Worship center, Brother Dan Groves gave a word of encouragement and introduced Ministry Hammond, who then took it from there and led us in additional worship and brought the message entitled "The Importance of the Word of God".

"Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." Phil 4:6 (KJV) Prayer requests should be submitted to Shelia Johnson **\*\* 281-467-2410 \*\*** 



PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO JOIN US IN PRAYER				
SUBJECT	REQUEST			
TOWN of HOPE	We thank God for the progress that we have seen and especially what we have not seen, for that which is not seen is eternal. We Hope in God			
Pastors Mozell	Prayer for healing of health issues uniting them in fellowship with the Father			
Gloria Johnson	Prayer for healing of health issues coupled with wonderful revelation of Jesus			
Wayne & Daisy Turner	Rejuvenation in the essence of their health with intimate knowledge of God			

These prisons are now starting to allow volunteers with restrictions that virus testing is performed before the services, masks must be worn and no physical contact with inmates.

MAY 2021					
2 <sup>ND</sup> 12:45 pm	Ramsey Unit	23 <sup>RD</sup> 8 am	Cleveland Unit		
2 <sup>ND</sup> 8 am	Clemens Unit	23 <sup>rd</sup> 8 am	Jester IV Unit		
15 <sup>th</sup> 8 am	Diboll Unit	30 <sup>th</sup> 8 am	Eastham Unit		
		30 <sup>th</sup> 8 am	Duncan Unit		
JUNE 2021					
6 <sup>th</sup> 8 am	Clemens	27 <sup>th</sup> 8 am	Jester IV		
26 <sup>th</sup> 1 pm	Diboll				
27 <sup>th</sup> 12:30 pm	Ramsey				

JULY 2021					
4 <sup>⊤н</sup> 8 am	Clemens	25 <sup>th</sup> 12:45 pm	Ramsey		
17 <sup>th</sup> 1 pm	Diboll				

NOTE: Times given are actual start times. Please arrive 1 hour early for the virus test.





Estelle Unit in Huntsville, April 18: Evangelist Tom Harris, of <u>Gospel Blimp</u> <u>International Crusades</u> and Brother Dan Groves went in for three Sunday Service sessions. Brother Dan Groves introduced the ministry and gave a word of encouragement from the Word. Evangelist Tom Harris text came from Matt. 9:20 about the woman with the issue of blood whom Jesus healed on the way to the Jewish leader's home to heal his child. Four men responded to Evangelist Tom's call to salvation or rededication, and

afterward two men came forward for personal prayer. For the second service, Evangelist Tom introduced and gave a word of encouragement and Brother Dan Groves gave a message about decision making and choices we make every day of our lives, with examples mostly from Proverbs. For the third service, we both gave a message which was enthusiastically received.

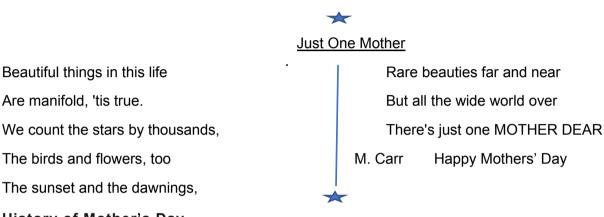
In Christ; Dan Groves



Sunday, April 25th, for the first time in over 2 years, Hope for All In Jesus Prison Outreach ministered at the Jester IV Unit in Fort Bend County. I was informed these units have just starting to allow worship services, and most of the inmates were not aware this has begun. The service was held in the prison chapel, but they do not have a worship team, so I led praise with my guitar and sang God Will Make A Way by Don Moen. There were 11 men in

this service, and I gave a message to encourage them to grow in their Christian walk by reading His Word and making time to talk (pray) to God. I prayed for the men and their families at the close of the service. They all were grateful to have us back to minister to them.

Minister John Hammond God Bless.



History of Mother's Day

The American incarnation of Mother's Day was created by Anna Jarvis in 1908 and became an official U.S. holiday in 1914.

Celebrations of mothers and motherhood can be traced back to the ancient Greeks and Romans, who held festivals in honor of the mother goddesses Rhea and Cybele, but the clearest modern precedent for Mother's Day is the early Christian festival known as "Mothering Sunday."

## Welcome Back Volunteers! (Taken from the volunteer services newsletter)



## A Message from the Rehabilitation Programs Division Director

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our volunteers back! It has been a long and challenging year and we have all had to create a different way of providing services to the inmates. The absence of volunteers working with our inmate populations has been felt deeply. However, many volunteers and volunteer organizations stepped up and took the challenge to ensure the inmate population continued to receive support from afar.

Your dedication to these men and women and to the TDCJ is appreciated more than mere words can express. I want to thank each of you who have returned to your calling to serve others. Regardless of the area in which you serve, I want to encourage you to continue to enrich and bless the lives of others with your efforts to make a real difference to the TDCJ inmates, parolees, and staff as well as their families and communities.

Thank you for the support you provide to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice!

Christopher Carter Director, Rehabilitation Programs Division

The Word of God is like a fine piece of aged swiss cheese or a fresh almond. If you quickly bite and swallow you miss the taste, but if you chew it, you will get the full flavor.

Ps 34:8 O taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man who trusts in Him