

THIS ISSUE

Staffing Changes	Page 1-2
In Memoriam	Page 2
New Board Member	Page 3
Retirement Tribute	Page 3
Letter from the Pres.	Page 4
Virtual Aftercare Ministry	Page 4
Ways to Support YF	Page 5
Amazon Smile	Page 5



The Bob Barker Company Foundation, which supports nonprofits that help reduce the recidivism rate, awarded the Yokefellow Prison Ministry a \$20,000 grant. Yokefellow Prison Ministry is grateful for the Bob Barker Company and their continued support!

Staffing Changes at Yokefellow Prison Ministry



**Carlton Gooding (Baptist),
Executive Director**

Carlton Gooding joined the Yokefellow Prison Ministry of North Carolina in October 2017 as the State Developer and was promoted to Executive Director in July 2021. Carlton was raised in a Christian, Bible centered home in Kinston, NC. His parents were simple, hardworking people who focused their lives on worship and service to God and His church. His mother's patience and his father's steadfastness in the Christian faith, along with other devout teachers and people who nurtured him in the Christian faith helped set the path for his own life and ministry.

When Carlton responded to Christ's invitation in a personal way, he was baptized in the First Baptist Church of Kinston, NC, where his faith was nurtured and he later sensed a calling to ordained ministry as his life's vocation. His family and church have always had a profound influence on his life. The things he treasures most are the love of his own family, his wife and six children, the ministry and the pastoral care God has called him to within the church.

Out of his love for his family, including the family of God, his desire is to continue in ministry beyond his 25 years of experience as a Chaplain Retired (LTC) in the Army Reserve Component, 20+ years as a Federal Prison Chaplain in 5 different institutions throughout the United States and pastoring in NC, WVU, and MD. His desire is to continue serving God in ministry, using his spiritual gifts and diverse ministry experiences to nurture others in God's care.

He loves God's Word and God's people wherever they may be in life's circumstances, and is grateful to serve in this capacity, yoked with other believers in Christ. You can contact Carlton Gooding by email at cgooding@yokefellowprisonministry.org or by phone at 336-740-0392.



**Jennifer Burns (United
Methodist), Development &
Marketing Administrator**

Jennifer Burns joined the Yokefellow Prison Ministry in September 2021 as the Development & Marketing Administrator. She is finishing her last credits on a Bachelor's Degree in

In Memoriam



Rev. Wilfort Powell
Local Coordinator for
Gaston Correctional
1933-2021

Yokefellow volunteer Rev. Wilfort Powell transitioned to his eternal home on September 5, 2021 from Stanley Total Living Center, Stanley, NC. He was laid to rest at the Gaston Memorial Park in Gastonia, NC.



Mr. Ronald Clement
Volunteer for
Lincoln Correctional
1946-2021

Yokefellow volunteer Mr. Ronald Clement was called to his heavenly home on New Year's Day 2001. He was laid to rest at Hollybrook Cemetery in Lincolnton, NC.



Mrs. Maxine Fulford
Volunteer for Polk Correctional
1942-2020

Yokefellow volunteer Mrs. Maxine Fulford went to be with Jesus on July 29, 2021. She was laid to rest at Crestlawn Memorial Gardens near Farmville, NC.

Organizational Leadership at Eastern University in PA; she will walk for graduation in the Spring of 2022. Jennifer comes to Yokefellow with a background in Christian Ministry. She worked for over six years within the United Methodist Church in the Penninsul-Delaware Annual Conference as a Church Office Administrator, in Nursing Home and Homebound Senior Visaiton ministry, and as a Social Media & Marketing Coordinator. Jennifer has extensive experience volunteering in the church setting, helping in various ministries, and in leading Bible studies and prayer groups. Jennifer is the proud wife of an Active Duty United States Air Force member who is stationed at Seymour Johnson Air Force base in Goldsboro, NC. In addition to her church volunteerism, Jennifer has also gained significant volunteer experience serving those who serve our country, including as a volunteer Receptionist at the Airman & Family Readiness Center at the Dover Air Force Base in Dover, DE and serving as a Spouse Mentor helping to onboard and train spouses that are new to the military lifestyle. Jennifer also volunteered her time with her husband's squadron at her time at numerous events including the Thunder Over Dover Air Show, NASCAR races at the Dover International Speedway, and the Firefly Music Festival.

Jennifer is loves serving the Lord and God's people thorough sharing the Good News and she looks forward to continuing in this way through her work with the Yokefellow Prison Ministry. You can reach Jennifer Burns by email at jburns@yokefellowprisonministry.org or by phone at 336-681-6835.



Mr. James Letterlough
Volunteer for Wake Correctional
1941-2020

Yokefellow volunteer Mr. James Letterlough was called home to Jesus on September 20, 2020



Vita Alligood (Non-Denominational), Office Administrator

Vita Alligood joined the Yokefellow Prison Ministry in October of 2017 as the Executive Director and voluntarily resigned that position in July 2021 for personal reasons. She continues to support Yokefellow staff as the ministry's Office Administrator. She has a law degree from Duke University and a Master of Arts in Christian Ministry, Discipleship & Church Ministry cognate from Liberty University. Vita Came to Yokefellow after a career in corporate America where she worked as a technical writer, instructional designer and online college instructor focused on the needs of students with disabilities. She serves on the Board of Directors for the Tabitha Ministry, a Christian ministry that provides free transitional housing for women seeking to change the course of their lives such as those transitioning back into society after prison, addiction, homelessness, abusive situations, prostitution, sex trafficking, or a history of abuse or other forms of trauma. You can contact Vita Alligood by email at valligood@yokefellowprisonministry.org or by phone at 336-724-9801.

*Whatever you do, work heartily,
as for the Lord and not for men,
knowing that from the Lord you
will receive the inheritance as
your reward. You are serving
the Lord Christ.*

Colossians 3:23-24

New Board of Directors Member Christopher McLean (Non-Denominational)

Christopher McLean joined the Yokefellow Board Prison Ministry Board of Directors in September 2021. Christopher was born in Brooklyn, NY and was raised in Sanford, NC. He became a born again Christian in 1997 as a nondenominational Christian and now serves at Body of Christ Out Reach Ministry under the Bishop Larry and Pastor Mellanie Ray of Sanford, NC. Christopher says that he was interested in serving when answering the call to ministry. He served on many boards at Church and also served as an armor bearer, church security, parking lot attendant, youth Sunday School teacher, and a church volunteer at the local prison in Sanford, NC. Christopher worked at Pfizer in Sanford from 1999 until 2010 when he was laid off. It was at this point that he was recruited to the Yokefellow Prison Ministry in 2003 by Yokefellow volunteer Harold York, who started the Yokefellow meeting at Sanford in the 1980s and is now 97 years of age. This recruitment to the Yokefellow Prison Ministry was a blessing for Christopher because, as he says, "When I was laid off I was asked would I consider to be the Chaplain at Sanford Correctional. I was ordained as a minister in 2010 and grew to be ordained as an Evangelist in 2017. Also, in 2017 I began working for Caterpillar as a Logistics Team Lead and I am still able to serve as a volunteer chaplain at Sanford Correctional. God the Father gets all the glory, Amen. We are thankful for Christopher and his commitment to the Yokefellow Prison Ministry and his continued service to the Lord and the Lord's people.



YOKEFELLOW T-SHIRTS COMING SOON



The Yokefellow Prison Ministry is looking into ordering T-Shirts and Polo Shirts with the Yokefellow logo which would be a great way for Yokefellows to share the Yokefellow movement with all they come into contact with. Once the prisons reopen and we resume in person Yokefellow meetings we also anticipate that volunteers would be able to wear their Yokefellow shirts when they visit facilities for meetings!

At this time we are only considering shirts but, if there is interest, we could offer other items such as coffee tumblers, phone cases, lanyards, and more in the future.

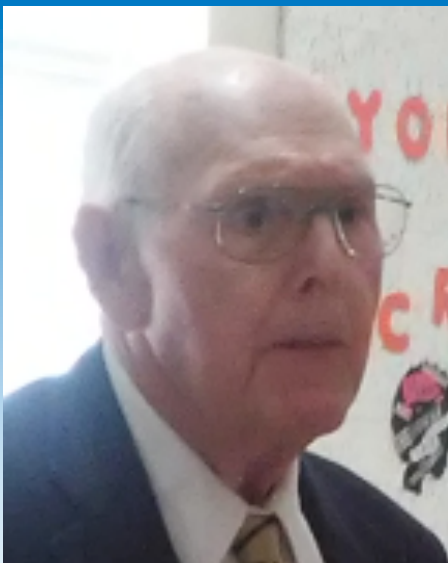
The T-Shirts will have the Yokefellow logo small on the left chest and large on the back. T-Shirts will cost \$15.

Polo shirts will have the Yokefellow logo on the left chest only and will cost \$20.

Both T-Shirts and Polo shirts will be white and come in unisex sizes from S-XXXL.

Order forms will be available soon on the Yokefellow Prison Ministry website and Facebook page. Board members and volunteers will also receive information via email. This will be a great Christmas idea for yourself or the Yokefellows in your life!

Tribute to David Canady



Yokefellow David Canady recently retired from the Yokefellow Prison Ministry Board of Directors after many years of dedicated service. Yokefellow is grateful for David's answering of God's call to serve the people of North Carolina and his commitment to Yokefellow. The following is a special tribute to David that was written by fellow Yokefellow Volunteer Bruce Pate:

"During my years as a member of the Yokefellow Prison Ministry of North Carolina a host of leaders stand out but few more so than my friend David Canady.

Fresh from years as a prison chaplain and Baptist Pastor, he brought to Yokefellow a warmth of spirit and a commitment to the Yokefellow ideal that would help to shape the future of YFPMNC for years to come. David's willingness to assume the office of

President of the Board of Directors and such other responsibilities as the Board saw fit kept him at the Center of the ministry for years on end and kept on as such with his undeterrable Christlike manner across the years. David's decision to resign from the Board of Directors leaves us bereft of his wisdom and commitment to YFPMNC but we know that he will keep the Board and all who continue to keep alive this ministry so dear to him as he is to us."

Letter from the President of the Board



2021 has been a twister of stressful experiences. Despite obstacles and headwinds in our path, I am optimistic about our future. We see, every day, amazing things happen all around us. We see many of our volunteers rise to the unusual and stressful circumstances. They rise to the challenges, and they persevere. And many make a positive impact on our world. Certainly, even Yokefellow Prison Ministry of NC has been caught in the twister of stressful experiences. We continue to discover Yokefellow's purpose and realize our potential to become the light that God has called us to be in this world. We recognize our purpose through God's spirit that proceeds us around every corner. God leads us faithfully.

Yokefellow Prison Ministry has, as many other volunteer missions have, reimagined our methods. The devastating nature of the current crisis is forcing many organizations, including ours, to do so it is never easy. The challenge can feel overwhelming, and changes may be painful. This moment also represents an opportunity for us to reinvent who we are and to better focus on our mission and to better serve our constituents. Yokefellow has a long and rich history of reimagining and becoming better in service and mission.

Today, we congratulate and welcome Carlton Gooding as our new Executive Director. Carlton served as Yokefellow's State Developer prior to his newly assumed role. Vita Alligood has transitioned from the Executive Director to our new Office Administrator.

And we welcome Jennifer Burns as our new Development & Marketing Administrator. Jennifer comes to us with a wealth of experience in marketing and promoting non-profits and their ministries. We congratulate these faithful servants to their new roles, and we look forward to working with them to meet our future challenges, our goals, and aspirations. We thank God for the opportunities to serve. And we thank Vita and Carlton for their service to Yokefellow Prison Ministry. We thank them too for assuming new responsibilities and challenges. And we welcome Jennifer to our ranks in our newly formed marketing position.

We cannot do any of these things without our devoted volunteers, our friends, and our donors. This summer we have been able to upgrade and expand the ministry through aftercare services. And we are excited and grateful for the outpouring, your outpouring, of love for those that we serve despite the chaotic world around us. We are thankful for your prayers and support. We are forever thankful for your energy and insights. We are encouraged by your faithfulness.

Romans 15:6 says, "May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father our Lord Jesus Christ." It is a privilege to be Yoked to all of you today.

Bless you all! Be well and safe.

David Morton,

President of the Board of Directors

Virtual Aftercare Ministry

Virtual Aftercare are online Yokefellow meetings that provide mentoring and support through small group discussions for people who are returning from prison back into society. Yokefellow meetings are provided free of charge using Zoom, which can be accessed over the Internet or by telephone (audio only.). The small group discussions are facilitated by Yokefellow volunteers. Attendees choose the topics to be discussed with a focus on feelings and emotions, such as the frustrations of finding one's place in society after prison.

It is part of the Yokefellow Prison Ministry's vision for the future to expand our Virtual Aftercare Ministry offerings but we are in need of volunteers that are willing to complete the training and to host the meetings. Please be in prayer about how you might be called to participate in or support the Virtual Aftercare Ministry.



Ways to Support the Yokefellow Prison Ministry



The Yokefellow Prison Ministry is thankful for the continued faithful support of our volunteers, donors, and most especially our Faithful Friends. As we continue to operate the Aftercare Ministry and prepare to return to in-person meetings in early 2022 we do anticipate that the costs to recruit new volunteers and retrain returning volunteers will be significant. We ask for you to please be in prayer for the Yokefellow Prison Ministry and to consider how you might be able to support this ministry. Ways that you can support the Yokefellow Prison Ministry of North Carolina include:

- Mailing a contribution via check to PO Box 38964, Greensboro, NC 27438 (DO NOT MAIL CASH!)
- [Donate through PayPal](#) (link available on the YFPMNC website)
- Create a Facebook Fundraiser to celebrate your birthday, anniversary, in memory of a loved one, or to mark another milestone in your own life. [Click here to go to Facebook](#) or find information on the YFPMNC website on how to set up a Fundraiser.
- If you shop on Amazon, ensure that you are using the Amazon Smile platform and that you have chosen the Yokefellow Prison Ministry of North Carolina as your chosen charity. When you shop, Amazon will donate a portion from your order to Yokefellow on your behalf!
- Keep educated about prison ministry and issues that impact those affected by incarceration.
- Talk about the Yokefellow Prison Ministry and your experiences as a Yokefellow. This spreads awareness of the ministry, our mission, and can help us find new supporters and volunteers!
- Above all, keep the Yokefellow Prison Ministry of North Carolina, our staff, Board of Directors, incarcerated people, returning citizens, and their families in your prayers.

We serve an awesome God and God has been faithful to us. We praise God and believe that God will continue to provide for us and bless our ministry and the mission to love God's people!



*Support the
Yokefellow Prison Ministry
This Holiday Season*

smile.amazon.com

*Use Amazon Smile for your
holiday shopping*

Yokefellow Prison Ministry Faithful Friends

Faithful Friends are donors who have pledged a financial contribution to YFPMNC of at least \$10 per month.

It's not too late to become a Faithful Friend for 2021. Email info@yokefellowprisonministry.org or call 336-724-9801 for details

- Brian & Vita Alligood
- Barbara Bays
- Theresa Blount
- Rob Ferry
- Frances Gladden
- Leon & Yvette Morrow
- David Morton
- Clara Murray
- Nancy Murray
- Bruce & Jean Pate
- Cathy Robertson
- Anita F. Smith
- David Stanford



www.yokefellowprisonministry.org | info@yokefellowprisonministry.org

Matthew 11:28-30 NIV

"Come to me all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls for my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

NON PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE PAID
GREENSBORO, NC
PERMIT NO. 992



Yokefellow Prison Ministry NC
PO Box 38964
Greensboro, NC 27438
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED