

# Glad Tidings

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE YOKEFELLOW PRISON MINISTRY



## In This Issue

Residential Reentry Ministry ... Page 1

Letter from the President ... Page 2

Daisy Brooks Joins the BoD ... Page 3

Faithful Fifty Giving Program ... Page 3

In Prison Ministry at Carteret ... Page 4

Yokefellow Prison  
Ministry Thanks

**BobBarker**  
COMPANY  
FOUNDATION

**ALLEGRA**  
MARKETING • PRINT • MAIL

## Yokefellow Prison Ministry Lauches Residential Reentry Facility Meetings

Did you know that Yokefellow Prison Ministry launched a new version of our Yokefellow Meetings hosted in partner Residential Reentry ("Transitional Post Release Facilities") across North Carolina?

This new program launched in the fall of 2021, as a way to revision what Yokefellow Prison Ministry is and who it could reach as the ongoing pandemic continued to prevent volunteers from reaching our primary target, incarcerated people in the traditional correctional facilities.

These meeting follow the same Yokefellow Meeting model as what is brought to individuals in the prisons only these meetings are hosted in the common areas of the residences. Meetings are focused on the post prison stage and looking on towards helping individuals be successful once they are fully returned to society in leading whole, productive lives and not returning to incarceration.

Currently, the Transitional Residential Facility Meetings are being held at residential facilities in Durham, New Bern, Greensboro, and Rocky Mount. Yokefellow staff is working towards expanding this program to additional facilities including Wilmington, Raleigh, Fayetteville and more in the year 2022. It is our goal to be able to reach every person possible and to share the hope and redemption that can be found in Christ Jesus when we turn our lives over to Him.



If you are interested in volunteering with the Residential Reentry Facilities Program, please contact Carlton Gooding at [cgooding@yokefellowprisonministry.org](mailto:cgooding@yokefellowprisonministry.org) or call 336-740-0392

## Local Coordinators: We Need Your Help!



As COVID19 restrictions begin to ease, Yokefellow Prison Ministry is working to resume in person ministries at all of the 35 prisons where we were active in the spring of 2020. In person ministries have already resumed at Carteret Correctional Facility and we believe that more facilities will be reopening the gates to volunteers soon. We need the Local Coordinators at each facility to contact their correctional facility leadership to find out what their expectations are for in person volunteers to be allowed back into the facilities and what the availability is for training and renewal of "Blue Cards."

Please contact the leadership at your designated facilities as soon as possible and report the information back to Carlton Gooding. If you need assistance getting in contact with the administration at your facility please also reach out to Carlton by phone at 336-740-0392 or by email at [cgooding@yokefellowprisonministry.org](mailto:cgooding@yokefellowprisonministry.org).



## A Letter from the President of the Board

The phrase "lilies of the field" is part of Jesus' sermon on the mount as recorded at Matthew 6:26-34. His objective using this phrase was to teach his followers to have a more spiritual attitude and outlook. He reminds them that God knows and will always satisfy the needs of those who look to God.

During these times and in times past we have been searching for answers to the unknown. We see illness and need all around us. We have experienced another Christmas and are approaching the start of a third year with many important questions and personal and corporate aspirations. I have found that Jesus' prophetic speech brings something fresh and new into focus... Jesus brings our attention to the beautiful lilies of the field as evidence of God's love. Many might see them as the wonder of nature,

the importance of attraction, the joy of perceiving or something else that has never even been imagined. Poets and prophets live on the edge of this realm and new territory, listening for the unknown unknowns.

Life continuously calls us to learn to trust God. Now more than ever I remain mindful of God's promises. As I seek to find what God has for me to do in the days to come, I rest assured that God is not finished with me yet. We are all called to live out the Great Commission in our lives. And we are promised we are not alone in the process. And God is leading Yokefellow Prison Ministry to new opportunities to fulfill the Great Commission in our world with His prophetic voice.

The foundation of Yokefellow Prison is choosing to be yoked with/to Jesus Christ and with/to the inmates and returning citizens. This image grows out of Christ's invitation (Matthew 11:28-30) to us. We do not have to pull the load alone. We are called to partner with Christ our Lord. And we are called to walk with and share our brother's and sister's burdens. Elton Trueblood, a Quaker, was the founder of Yokefellow. He describes his experience of seeing "the yoke" as a symbol of our ministry. It's been my experience that we can only share with another the amount of grace that we have received ourselves. It is my prayer that we extend the gift of grace to others, as freely as we ourselves received it.

Thank you to all who serve as Yokefellow volunteers in NC prisons, our Yokefellow Board, the Executive Committee, foundations, churches, organizations, and individuals who support our work and ministry prayerfully and financially. Thank you, Carlton Gooding, Vita Alligood and Jennifer Burns, who so effectively and generously lead, train, and guide us. And thank you for providing me the privilege of journeying with you as Yokefellow Prison Ministry of NC continues to grow and embrace the opportunities to serve the Lord in 2022. It is such a privilege to do God's ministry in this world. I pray we will be "Yoked" as we serve together. Let's collectively take some time to "consider the lilies." I pray for us all and God's ministry. Thank you as you continue to live out the vision and mission of this great organization called Yokefellow Prison Ministry of NC. God has and will provide.

Bless you all! Be well,

*David Morton*

President of the Board of Directors

*"And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin; and yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these."*

- Matthew 6:28-29

## Daisy Brooks Joins YFPM's Board of Directors

Daisy Brooks has been a Local Volunteer with Yokefellow Prison Ministry at Tabor City Correctional Institution and was voted in as a member of YFPM's Board of Directors at the Quarterly Board Meeting on January 28, 2022.

Daisy Brooks is Senior Pastor of the Facts of Life Church of the Living God, Pillar, Ground, and Truth located in Tabor City, North Carolina and the Facts of Life Church of God in Whiteville, NC. She also owns and operates Daisy's Good Beginnings Daycare, which she has owned and managed for 25 years.

Daisy Brooks is originally from Maryland was raised in the Church of God in Christ. She attended Anne Arundel County public schools and then The Charles Harrison Mason Bible College in Baltimore, MD and Bowie State University.

Daisy is a worshipper and servant who loves God and God's people; she has traveled across the United States serving and ministering to people and proclaiming the word of God. Daisy says that her most gratifying position is her role as a "G.A.P." or God's Anointed Personnel, which means that she is able to fit in and serve wherever she is needed.

In her new role with the Board of Directors of the Yokefellow Prison Ministry Daisy will be serving as Secretary. These records are of the utmost importance as they become the historical record of the Yokefellow Prison Ministry. We are grateful for Daisy's answer to the call to serve and her commitment to the Board of Directors.

You can reach Daisy Brooks by email at [factsoflifechurch2020@gmail.com](mailto:factsoflifechurch2020@gmail.com).



## Introducing the Faithful Fifty Tier as Part of the Faithful Friends Monthly Sustainer Program

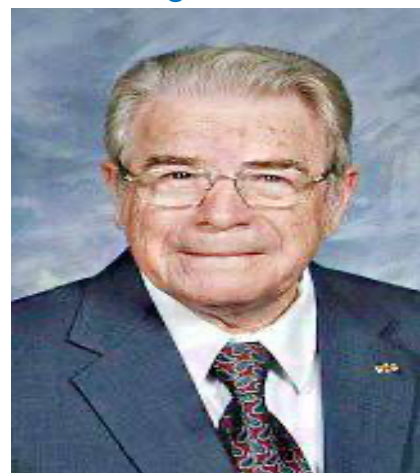
Yokefellow Prison Ministry of North Carolina is blessed and honored to celebrate 50 years as a registered nonprofit organization in the State of North Carolina in 2022. Yokefellow Prison Ministry was established in 1969 by Rev. Jerry Murray (right) and three other pastors who had travelled to Pennsylvania to hear the founder of the Yokefellow movement, Dr. Elton Trueblood, speak about the importance of prison ministry and the need to share the lifesaving message of Jesus with incarcerated people.

Rev. Murray was a lifelong resident of North Carolina and a dedicated Christian who loved God and God's people. Jerry was active with Yokefellow Prison Ministry until his death in 2020. His family, particularly his widow, Mrs. Nancy Murray, continue to support and pray for Yokefellow Prison Ministry and the continuation of the work that Rev. Murray began to reach North Carolina's incarcerated people and change their lives. Rev. Murray believed that, through changing the hearts of people, and leading individuals to renewed and reformed lives Yokefellow Prison Ministry would make a major impact in his beloved home state.

The Faithful Friends program was launched in 2021 in Rev. Jerry Murray's honor. Your financial support of the Yokefellow Prison Ministry in just the last two years since Rev. Murray went on to glory has helped to launch the Virtual Aftercare Ministry which reaches returned citizens and enables them to participate in Yokefellow Meetings from wherever they are with the use of a computer or smartphone and the launch of Yokefellow Meetings in Residential Reentry Facilities across the state of North Carolina. The COVID19 pandemic has severely hampered Yokefellow Prison Ministry's ability to reach our target population which is incarcerated people in traditional correctional facilities, but the staff, Board of Directors, and our dedicated volunteers have worked tirelessly to ensure that we continue to honor the vision of Dr. Trueblood and Rev. Murray as we work to move into the future.

Your continued support of the Yokefellow Prison Ministry is vitally important for us to continue to be able to serve incarcerated people and released citizens in North Carolina. This is why, for the year 2022, Yokefellow Prison Ministry is adding a new tier of support to the Faithful Friends Program. You are invited to join the top echelon of Yokefellow Prison Ministry supporters, the Faithful Fifty, by pledging to donate at least \$50 a month during 2022, in honor of Yokefellow Prison Ministry's 50 years as a registered North Carolina nonprofit organization.

You can become a Faithful Fifty donor at the \$50 a month level (or make a one time gift of \$600 for the year) or join the Faithful Friends program at the entry level of \$10 a month by filling out the form below and returning it by mail. You can also give electronically using a credit or debit card via PayPal by going to <https://tinyurl.com/h6w7c7h8>; make your gift a recurring contribution and include in the notes that it is a Faithful Friends/ Faithful Fifty donation. If you have questions or need assistance please email Jennifer Burns at [jburns@yokfellowprisonministry.org](mailto:jburns@yokfellowprisonministry.org)



### Yokefellow Prison Ministry Faithful Friends Sustainer Program

☐ I pledge to give \$50 per month to Yokefellow Prison Ministry in 2022

☐ Check enclosed for first monthly installment (\$50)

☐ Check enclosed for entire 2022 pledge (\$600)

☐ Charge my credit card \$50 per month for 12 months

☐ Charge my card for entire 2022 pledge (\$600)

☐ I pledge to give \$\_\_\_\_\_ per month in 2022

or

☐ for entire 2022 pledge

☐ I would like to give a one time gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_

☐ check enclosed

or

☐ charge my card \$\_\_\_\_\_





## In Prison Ministry Returning to North Carolina!

It has been a long two years of this pandemic but hope is not lost! The Yokefellow Prison Ministry of North Carolina has been hard at work ministering to inmates and returning citizens in North Carolina in other ways.

In the last few months, correctional facilities have slowly but surely begun to relax restrictions and reopen to in person volunteers within the prisons. YFPM has had in person volunteers inside Carteret Correctional Facility in Newport, North Carolina since mid December and we are blessed and grateful for the ability to get back to the heart of the Yokefellow Prison Ministry mission.

We continue to believe in an end to this pandemic and the ability to fully resume our ministries in all locations. Yokefellow Prison Ministry's staff is continuing to work with the administrations at each correctional facility to determine not IF but WHEN our volunteers can return to serve incarcerated people inside the prisons.

In the meantime, the staff and the Board of Directors has continued to revision and pivot to other methods of ministry to reach formerly incarcerated individuals and returning citizens in new ways.

The work is important, the harvest is plenty, and help is needed. We hope that you will prayerfully consider how you can support the Yokefellow Prison Ministry as we move forward in grace and truth to serve the Lord and the Lord's people.

Visit [www.yokefellowprisonministry.org](http://www.yokefellowprisonministry.org) to find out how to get involved!

## A Prayer for the end of the Pandemic

*Lord Jesus, give us the grace to hear your voice,  
and the strength to continue working for your  
kingdom in this time of pandemic.*

*Do not allow us to become indifferent to those  
who today suffer the loss of a loved one or who  
suffer from the absence of work, but give us the  
courage to accompany and side with those who  
suffer violence or injustice.*

AMEN.

- Javier Eduardo Martinez Rueda

NONPROFIT ORG.  
US POSTAGE PAID  
GOLDSBORO, NC

YOKEFELLOW PRISON MINISTRY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
PO BOX 375  
GOLDSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27533

