

In This Issue

Annual Meeting Invitation P4

This newsletter was printed thanks to an in-kind grant from Allegra of Winston-Salem,

North Carolina!

Yokefellow Prison Ministry is grateful to Allegra for their support!



Gates Continuing to Reopen to In-Person Prison Ministry



Yokefellow Prison Ministry has been hard at work moving to resume in-person ministries in North Carolina correctional facilities. When COVID-19 restrictions began to loosen Yokefellow volunteers were some of the first allowed to resume programming inside the facilities and we have been working closely with our Yokefellow Prison Ministry Local Coordinators, prison facility chaplains and administrative staff, and individual volunteers to determine how we can resume serving the incarcerated population across the state of North Carolina.

In the midst of the struggle to resume our ministry, Yokefellow has seen rays of light — in June Yokefellow Prison Ministry was given permission to bring the Yokefellow model of prison ministry to Franklin Correctional Center in Bunn, North Carolina (Franklin County). Franklin has not had an active Yokefellow ministry but, thanks to a chaplain who knew of Yokefellow from a previous assignment, we were allowed to start ministering to the inmates there. As much as Yokefellow Prison Ministry is focused on resuming the ministries that were active prior to the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the ultimate goal is to be able to reach the incarcerated population at all 56 correctional facilities across the state. As the song says, "I will go, Lord, if you lead me..." and Yokefellow volunteers will go wherever doors are opened to us to come in and serve God and God's people.

Currently, Yokefellow Prison Ministry has the "green light" to resume Yokefellow meetings at 22 – nearly half of the facilities that had active Yokefellow ministries prior to the pandemic. Many of these facilities are in need of volunteers in order to resume the weekly meetings. This means that we need YOU in order to continue the work of Yokefellow Prison Ministry and reach incarcerated men and women in North Carolina's prison facilities and to share the life changing message of the gospel!

If you are a previous Yokefellow Volunteer please reach out to your institution's Local Coordinator to get information about upcoming training that might be available and the specific policies in place at your facility. If you need other assistance please contact Carlton Gooding by email at cgooding@yokefellowprisonministry.org or by phone at 336-740-0392.

Above all, please continue to pray for the Yokefellow Prison Ministry and all who involved in the work we do – pray that doors would continue to open to Yokefellow volunteers, pray for incarcerated people and their families, staff (especially Chaplains) and administrators of the prison facilities, pray for our staff, Local Coordinators, and volunteers. Also, please pray and consider how you might be called to support the Yokefellow Prison Ministry as we continue into the future. Yokefellow Prison Ministry relies solely on the grace of God and the dedicated support of our volunteers, financial donors, and prayer warriors.

Yokefellow Prison Ministry Aftercare Meetings Continue to Grow!



Yokefellow Prison Ministry has been growing the Residential Reentry Aftercare Ministry part of our organization. program now has 8 locations in Durham, Fayetteville, High Point, Greensboro, High Point, Rocky Mount, Wilmington, and two locations in New Bern. We are grateful for the dedicated faithfully serving individuals in the conditional release phase of preparing to fully reentery society. The Residential Reentry meetings are a way to continue to provide small group, active listening ministry services to these individuals - many of the resources available to returning citizens are focused on helping housing employment but Yokefellow is making sure that they are finding support for their spiritual

In order to continue to serve these residential facilities and to be able to continue to expand into more counties and communities we need volunteers!

If you are interested in volunteering at a residential reentry facility please contact Carlton Gooding by email at cgooding@yokefellowprisonmini stry.org or by phone at 336-740-0392.



From the Desk of the Board President

Dear Friends,

My thoughts recently have been about the support and personal spiritual growth of Yokefellow Prison Ministry staff, Board Members, and volunteers across our state. Each member of the "team" adds to the strength and life of our organization. We are all dependent on each other fulfilling God's ministry in our local prisons and aftercare opportunities. When Paul spoke about the Body of Christ, he talked about different members of each church that he had founded on his missionary quests. He witnessed and celebrated the worth of every person; especially those who contributed to the common good. He realized that some had greater gifts that others and he

emphasized that everyone was needed for an effective, healthy, and powerful church.

As our staff, Board, and its committees and volunteers work together this fall, we depend on your prayers, that God would form and create us into His instruments of service and righteousness. Life, for all of us emerges, and God beckons us, giving opportunity to grow in Him. With each new day and experience I have observed a fresh perspective of how God is able to accomplish His tasks through His people. Each person on every level of our team (staff and volunteers) needs your support and prayers, so that we may be obedient and pleasing to God. It's my firm belief that each of us gives their best in service for the Lord. I've witnessed it with my own eyes and I am convinced that as we continue to work together as the Body of Christ as Yokefellows we will become stronger in mission to our communities and the world. Intercession and prayers for each other, the institutions we serve, the aftercare opportunities we enjoy and the inmates and returning citizens we serve are essential. I certainly need your prayers and it is my prayer that God will bless you. Our opportunities are many and great and our service and presence are needed. When your institution calls for you to participate in Annual Volunteer Training please respond affirmately and attend the training. Praise be to God who leads us to serve. Praise be to God who prepares us to go and serve. I pray that opportunities of service will abound and that we will be prepared to heed that call.

Grace and Peace,

David Morton

"There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work."

1 Corinthians 12:4-6 (NIV)



Remembering David Canady

Longtime Yokefellow Prison Ministry volunteer and Board Member Emeritus David Canady was called home to the feet of Jesus on July 19, 2022.

David dedicated 36 years of service to Yokefellow Prison Ministry serving in the in-person Prison Ministry and on the Board of Directors as the President of the Board. In 2021, David retired from volunteer service and was installed as Yokefellow Prison Ministry's first Board Member Emeritus. Yokefellow volunteer and Board Member Ken Ripley shared these words about David, "David was a great man, a great Christian, a great leader of Yokefellow, and a great friend. I will miss him tremendously but he is now whole and healthy in the company of his Lord."

David was laid to rest in the cemetery at Green Springs Baptist Church in Parkton, North Carolina on July 26th. You can read the rest of his obituary at www.fayobserver.com/obituaries/pfay0260067. Please keep David's family, especially his loving wife Jeanne, as well as all who loved David and mourn him on this side of Heaven.

Calling All Local Coordinators!!

WE NEED YOU!!



As doors to the prison facilities continue to open to Yokefellow volunteers we need your help to ensure that Yokefellow Prison Ministry staff is getting prompt and accurate information on available training opportunities and location specific policies. As the current COVID-19 situation varies in different parts of the state so does the operational status and approach of the different correctional facilities. Please contact your Chaplains or administrative staff contacts to find out what they are requiring in order for volunteers to reenter the prison. Also, if you are contacted by prison administrators please ensure that you complete all requirements promptly. We are relying on you! Please contact Carlton Gooding at cgooding@yokefellowprisonministry.org or 336-740-0392 to share any information that you gain from your contacts.

YFPM Receives a Major Grant From the Bob Barker Company Foundation

In July, Yokefellow Prison Ministry was blessed to receive the award of a \$15,000 grant from the Bob Barker Company Foundation. BBCF has been a supporter of Yokefellow Prison Ministry for over seven years. The Bob Barker Company is located in Fuquay-Varina, North Carolina and is one of the country's largest suppliers of inmate uniforms, bedding and healthcare items, and cleaning products and other items for use in correctional facilities. The Bob Barker Company Foundation shares in Yokefellow Prison Ministry's mission of reducing the rate of recidivism across in the state and of sharing the gospel with people experiencing incarceration.

Yokefellow is grateful for the ongoing support of the Bob Barker Company Foundation. If you would like to learn more about the Bob Barker Company or the Bob Barker Company Foundation and the work they do you can visit their website at www.bobbarker.com



FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

(as of July 31, 2022)

INCOME:

Individual Contributions: \$4,247.66

Board/ Staff: \$2,660.00

Churches: \$1,960.00

Denominations: \$81.50

Corporate: \$5,018.40

Foundations: \$25,540.45

Other: \$1,903.22

TOTAL CASH CONTRIBUTIONS:

\$41, 411.23

EXPENSES

TOTAL EXPENSES YTD: \$30,129.37

PERFORMANCE TO BUDGET YTD:

58%

nave you made a contribution to support the Yokefellow Prison Ministry this year? If not you can do so by:

- Mailing a check to PO Box 375
- https://www.paypal.com/d
 onate/?hosted_button_id
 =A6TZGXK4ZHJKA or
 scan the QR Code below





Coming Saturday, October 22 10:30 AM

Virtual via Zoom

The link to join will be available on the Yokefellow website and social media profiles or scan the QR Code to join from your phone.



Please mark your calendars and plan to join us as we look back at what we've done this year and pray and plan for the year ahead!

For technical assistance with Zoom links please email Jennifer Burns at

jburns@yokefellowprisonministry.org.

www.yokefellowprisonministry.org

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