



JAIL & OUTREACH MINISTRY- JOM

Oakland County MI
Jail Chaplaincy

Summer 2010
Volume I Number 1

JOM A New Beginning

JOM

Greetings! from Oakland County Jail. It has been several months since our last communication. As some of you know, we were in the midst of many changes within the jail relating to building closures, scheduling, as well as, developments within the economic structure of our Oakland County Jail Chaplaincy.

We are pleased to announce that we are now a new non profit association. We are named JOM-Jail & Outreach Ministry. Together, we will continue to build upon the foundation that we have forged over these past thirty years. The other tri-county jail chaplaincies have had non profits. We are unique because we are forming a non profit to structure to embody the diverse programs and all faiths that already exist in Oakland County Jail Chaplaincy and Outreach. Our non profit hopes to be a collaborative voice with and for the concerns and hopes of all faith groups in our area that care about jail ministry and a restorative justice that serves victims, offenders, families, and communities. We have much work ahead of us.

Our JOM mission statement reads:
“Jail and Outreach Ministry is an all inclusive organization. We serve and minister to all individuals affected by crime...victims, offenders, families. We provide hope and healing through an approach to the total person that encompasses quality care, attention to individual spirituality, emotional well-being, and human dignity.”

The 3 R's...Responsibility, Rehabilitation, and Restoration

HIGHEST IMPRISONMENT RATE IN THE WORLD

Last month, a national weekly paper, *Our Sunday Visitor*, featured as their lead story many aspects of Prison Ministry. It was stated that the United States has both the highest prison population and the highest imprisonment rate in the world. They further pointed out the concerns of many that the American view of incarceration relies heavily on retribution in dealing with those convicted of all categories of crime.

The article then offered for consideration the idea of looking at those incarcerated with the concept of having them recognize their responsibility for what they had done, and then introduce programs concerning rehabilitation and restoration when the inmate is open to recognizing the need to change his or her way of life.

JOM is an organization that will attempt when appropriate to implement the concepts of Responsibility, Rehabilitation, and Restoration when working with inmates who demonstrate the desire to change their behavior. JOM's goal is to provide direct service, education, and advocacy for inmates, their families, and the community. JOM plans to continue to support a professional certified chaplaincy within institutions and provide outreach with a particular focus on jails and juvenile detention. JOM will be an advocate for restorative justice through increased communication with decision makers in the hope of reducing recidivism in the criminal justice system.

by Don Michau

Jail & Outreach Ministry – JOM

by Doug Zande

The Jail & Outreach Ministry or JOM formally came into existence with the hosting of the Jail Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast held on April 23, 2010 at The Knights of Columbus Hall in Clarkston.

The purpose of the event was twofold:

First, and most importantly, to recognize the efforts of the many volunteers who provide for the spiritual needs of Oakland County Jail inmates and the material needs of so many Oakland County residents through the outreach ministry.

The second purpose was to announce the formation of JOM and gather input from volunteers for the future direction of JOM

By all accounts, the Appreciation Breakfast was a total success based on feedback from the more than 90 persons who attended the event.

Highlights of the morning according to participants included:

Ann Russell's eye-opening presentation regarding the jail, its administration, recent downsizing actions, and the many statistics that shed light on what we do and how we and JOM will continue to fit in to the system.

Ann expressed appreciation for our ministry and left us with a hopeful sense of how we will be welcomed to continue in the future.

Captain Wallace, an iconic presence at the Jail for so many of us over the years,



Ann Russell and Captain Wallace at our Volunteer Appreciations

also expressed his appreciation for us and our ministry and encouraged us to persevere.

We were also encouraged by several accounts from those who have benefited from various aspects of our ministry.

The JOM presentation by Barb Lubinski and John Middlestadt was positively received. It revealed some truly amazing facts regarding the number and diversity of people involved in the ministry, as well as, different faiths, and faith communities

represented. We conduct church services, visit and counsel inmates, provide assistance upon release and serve the community in countless other ways through the outreach center. Barb also emphasized and explained what JOM is and the hope that JOM will secure our place in the ministry as we plan and develop in the future.



Barb Lubinski sharing our diverse statistics

Finally, feedback received from volunteers present at breakfast was thought-provoking and provides a roadmap and a challenge for what JOM should consider as it matures. A summary is as follows:

Short Term:

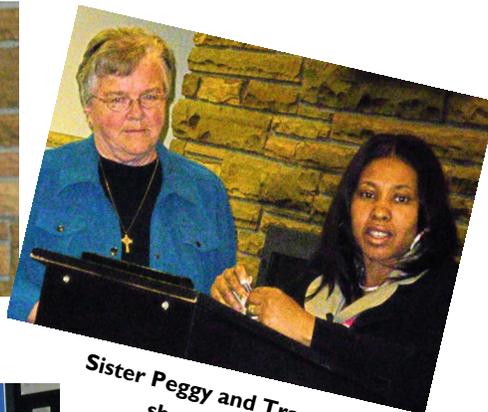
Communication: Improve Jail Administration and JOM/volunteer communications. The Volunteer appreciation is a good example.



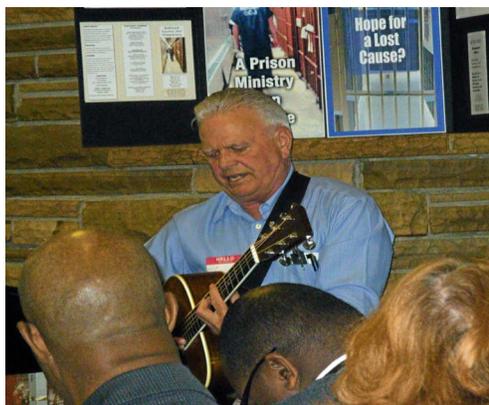
Prudi Hillert and her daughter, Mary. Prudi reminded all of us to support the Jail Holiday Christmas Project. Prudi is 94 years young and has encouraged donors for 30 years to support this project. She knows how hard it is for people to have a heart for the least of these among us. Prudi will be calling!!



Wilberline Street encouraging an expansion of our efforts.



Sister Peggy and Tracey Thomas sharing appreciation from the families of inmates



Meet Jim Bridges, our longest serving volunteer in the jail chaplaincy. Jim has been coming into jail for more than 42 years.



Meet Jan Hughes Smith. Jan watches over all of the requests for materials involving different languages, faith groups, and special requests.

Medium Term:

Public Awareness:

Develop media that publicizes JOM purposes and programs

Spiritual Growth: Continue to expand JOM to include other faiths

Outreach: Continue/Expand assistance with housing, clothing, transportation and referrals for attorneys, and medical and mental health needs

Involve families of victims/offenders

Expand ministry to reach offenders released on tether

Expand ministry to include direct assistance (rides, etc) to offenders released to treatment programs

Development/Education: Develop program for volunteers to learn individual counseling, guidance

Long Term:

Development/Education: Develop spiritual direction skills, techniques of volunteers

Outreach: Provide assistance with schooling, parenting skills

Develop resources for finding employment after release

Develop programs/resources to reduce recidivism

Develop programs aimed at victim/offender reconciliation

Spiritual Growth: Develop religious programs/resources (follow-up, mentoring) for released offenders, victims and families

At our First Gathering of this new organization, JOM, we experienced great support and participation. As you can see, the gathering helped to focus some of our future direction from those involved in this ministry. We will continue to share this ministry and on-going developments with you on a regular basis through newsletter, website, emails, volunteers, and communications. Thanks for supporting us in the past and now, as we venture into the non profit area ourselves, we thank you again.!!!

INFORMATION FOR MINISTERS & FAITH GROUP REPRESENTATIVES



Clergy Clearance and Visiting Oakland County Jail Clergy Clearance

The jail visitation desk uses the Directory of Churches prepared by the Metropolitan Christian Council as a basis for clergy entering the jail to visit a member of your faith community. Changes need to be updated through the Council **313-962-0340** or e-mail **Councilweb@aol.com**.



How/Why to get listed in the Directory of Churches ?

Many denominations and communions update all their church listings annually.

Other faith groups and denominations have to do the updating individually before October.

This usually becomes urgent when you are trying to visit a member in jail. Plan ahead. **313-962-0340**



Tips on Security

- Send materials directly from **publisher**.
- No **staples or hard back** books allowed
- **All** Religious materials need to be cleared and delivered **through the Chaplains' Office**
- Bring **Picture ID**
- Be prepared to place **all personal items** in a locker



CLERGY VISITING A FAMILY MEMBER OR RELATIVE

Clergy Visiting your own Relative or Family Member
Clergy are **required to visit** their FAMILY MEMBERS in a Jail Setting within **FAMILY times and FAMILY guidelines**.
248-858-1800 Prisoner Information



PROFESSIONAL CLERGY VISITATION

Family Visitation is not the same as visiting professionally a member of your local church and faith community. If you are listed in the Directory of Churches you will only need to check on inmate location and clergy times for visiting.
248-858-1800 Prisoner Information

Picture ID is mandatory.

CLERGY/ Faith Representatives needing to **visit and NOT LISTED** in the Directory of Churches need to contact Martha Limbaugh and / or the Chaplains' Office **248-858-5475**



DIRECTORY

Chaplains' Office- OCSO

1201 North Telegraph Bldg.
10 East
Pontiac MI 48341
248-858-5475
248-975-4390 Fax

Prisoner Information and Family Visitation Times

WWW.OAKGOV.COM/SHERIFF
248-858-1800

Jail Counseling

248-858-1731

JOM OutreachCenter

46352 Woodward Ave
PO Box 1366
Pontiac MI 48343-1366
248-338-9310
248-338-2695 Fax
Jailandoutreachministry@gmail.com

Website

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Laurie Kessler
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cjmoutreach@aol.com

**DONATIONS/
CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
Order of Malta (fiduciary) with
JOM Jail & Outreach Ministry
On memo line**

c/o Peggy Devaney, IHM
PO Box 1366
Pontiac MI 48343-1366

PUMP or CHAPEL FUND

Or
c/o Martha Limbaugh
1201 North Telegraph
Pontiac MI 48341