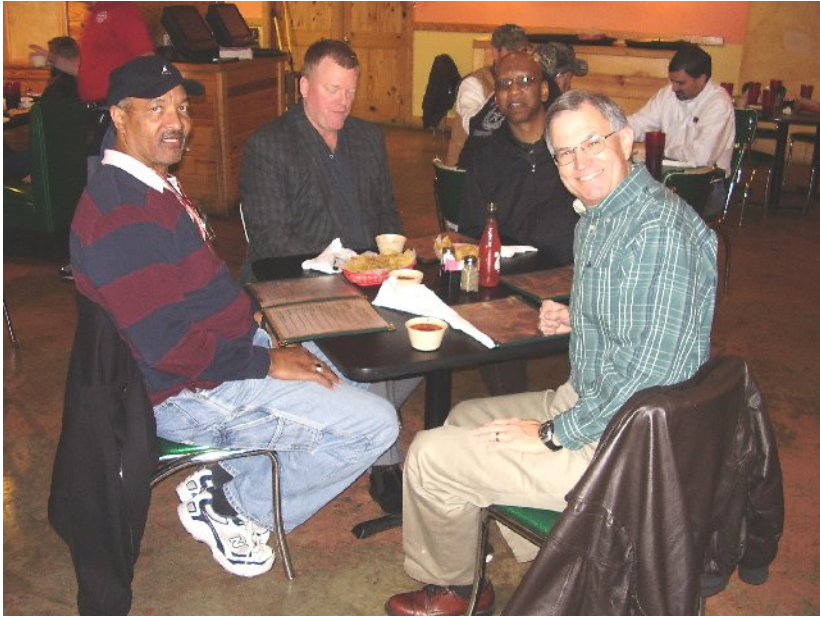


Telford Prison Ministries, Inc.

Restorative Justice **Newsletter** of Northeast Texas

Volume 14, Number 3 - December, 2010



Chaplain Larry Gardner, Volunteer Scott Overstreet, Chaplain Evan Spencer and Ken Cox (left to right)



Scott Overstreet, Larry Gardner and Evan Spencer

Goodbye to Gardner

Chaplain Larry Gardner has transferred to Dallas to serve Texas Dept. of Criminal Justice parolees. We will miss Larry's sense of humor and servant spirit.

Chaplain Gardner began at the Telford Unit in December 2009 after prior service at the Beto Unit in Palestine. We will miss him.

An informal goodbye luncheon was organized by Chaplain Evan Spencer at the El Inca Mexican Restaurant in New Boston on Tuesday, November 30th. Scott Overstreet and Ken Cox attended.

We hope TDCJ will quickly fill the vacancy created by Larry's transfer. The chaplains are crucial to TPMI's work at the prison. With just one chaplain a heavy workload will be shouldered by Evan Spencer.

In the past we have been blessed by the long tenures of Chaplains Donald Brown and Tom West.

Would you please stop right now and pray for this important matter? Thanks!!

Visitation Center Needs

We need paper goods, cleaning supplies, coffee, creamer, sugar and individual snack items.

We also need volunteers to man the Visitation Center on Saturdays and Sundays. If you would like to volunteer for one day per calendar quarter, give Edna a call at 903-276-2193.

Year-End Financial Gifts

During 2009 and 2010 we have made great strides in gifts to our annual budget. We had to make a \$3,000 transfer from the operating reserve during November to cover expenses. We almost made it to the end of the year. If you have given for 2010 we thank you!! If you have yet to make your gift for 2010, we would appreciate your prayerful support.

Officers Elected

TPMI officers were elected to serve 2 year terms at the Annual Meeting and Volunteer Appreciation Banquet on October 5th. Ken Cox was elected president, Jerry Davis, treasurer, and James Bracken, secretary.

Goody-bags to Telford Staff

TPMI is partnering with First Baptist Church, New Boston, Wal-Mart, Conner-Duffer Insurance and TEXAR to provide goody-bags to TDCJ staff that work Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

TPMI seeks to minister to inmates, inmate families and security staff.

Email addresses needed!! Our online monthly Newsletter has begun. Please send your and friend's email addresses to kencox@valornet.com

**Financial Summary
Jan. 1st to Nov. 30, 2010**

Operating Fund:

Beginning	\$14,077.61
Donations	39,700.43
Trans from Op. Reserve	3,000.00
Expenditures	<u>-51,535.63</u>
Ending	\$ 5,242.41

Overnight Facility:

Beginning	\$34,276.50
Donations	<u>3,697.69</u>
Ending	\$37,974.19

Operating Reserve:

Beginning	\$12,846.43
Transfer to Operating Fd	-3,000.00
Interest income	<u>21.92</u>
Ending	\$ 9,868.35

From Edna

It's hard to believe the holidays are upon us again. Unfortunately, the families we minister to find themselves spending at least a part of it at the Telford Unit. We had 207 guests through the Visitation Center Thanksgiving weekend. As Christmas is approaching we will see even greater numbers of family members visiting their loved ones. Since Christmas falls on Saturday this year there will be a huge number of visitors since they can actually visit on Christmas day and that doesn't happen very often. We will be open and will have the opportunity to minister to them on that special day.



We began our annual Christmas candy mugs distribution to the children last weekend. One little boy who couldn't speak English just squealed with delight. The parents and grandparents are so appreciative that the children are remembered. Next weekend Santa will be at the Visitation Center distributing the mugs. I can't wait to see the children's faces. We are also heavy into the candy collection for the offenders' Christmas bags. This is the only time during the year that many of these men receive anything in the way of treats. Many do not have the opportunity to buy things at the commissary. It is a major task collecting that much candy but it is a tremendous blessing to show Jesus love in such a small way to these men. Please continue to pray for us and consider becoming a part of this ministry.

Blessings,
Edna Walker.



Buck Strawn, left, receives Volunteer of the Year award from Chaplains Larry Gardner, center, and Evan Spencer, right. The Presentation was made at the Volunteer Appreciation Banquet at First Baptist Church, New Boston on October 5th.

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