



# Alpha Prison Ministries Newsletter

## March 2019 Edition

*"I was in prison and you came to visit me." Matthew 25:36*

## APM on Facebook

In our January newsletter, we mentioned that Alpha is looking to improve opportunities for you to help raise awareness of the ministry and the effect we are having. As part of that effort, we have initiated a highly proactive Facebook strategy.

We encourage you to check us out if you have not already done so. You'll easily notice that we strive to post quality content that is interesting, informative, encouraging, and accurately represents the ministry.

Likes, Shares, and Follows are greatly appreciated.

Many of you receiving our newsletter are already well adjusted to Facebook. The APM Board could be better described as being at the *Facebook for Dummies* stage, but we've had good coaching and excellent response to our published material.

We are now able to share, and enable you to share, the

ministry of APM in ways that far exceed other methods. You are an important part of this adventure. Your engagement with our Facebook page makes it better, makes us better, and gives everyone a chance to see the "authentic" face of prison ministry.

We welcome your input, ideas, and interaction. This is an exciting new venture for us and we look forward to how God is going to use it (and you).

I can pretty much guarantee that many of our volunteers are about as Facebook illiterate as our Board. We're admitting our weakness so you don't feel alone. However, every week you have a story worth sharing. We would love to hear from you. Send us an email and we can tell your story in a way that doesn't violate any rules.

Visit us at [facebook.com/AlphaPrisonMinistries](https://facebook.com/AlphaPrisonMinistries) or click the Facebook button near the bottom of the pages on our web site.

Visit us online at: [www.alphapm.org](http://www.alphapm.org)

- ◆ Inmate prayer requests:
- ◆ Mike: Please pray for people in Michigan Dept. of Corrections (MDOC) who oppose faith based programs. Pray that God will soften their hearts and minds to the truth and effectiveness of the gospel.
- ◆ Wyatt: Today I dedicated my life to following Jesus Christ. Pray that my family will be okay and that my prison family is uplifted and safe.
- ◆ John: Pray for my Aunt Carol. She was in a serious car accident and is completely disabled.
- ◆ Jess: Pray for Jess. He thinks God is too busy to hear him.
- ◆ Jarrod: Please pray for my family. I haven't heard from them in a while. I feel like they have given up on me.

Prayer Requests

MARCH 2019

Please cut around these prayer requests and use this as a bookmark in your Bible.

Alpha  
Prison Ministries

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## The Devil is in Panic Mode

If you notice the first inmate prayer request from Mike asking prayer for those who oppose faith based programs, this is becoming an increasingly serious issue for the prison system. That doesn't come as a surprise to those of us with biblical understanding, but the need for prayer is continually intensifying. God is building his kingdom within the prisons but the devil is heavily invested in defending what he considers his territory.

It has nothing to do with facts or logic. This is spiritual warfare. That alone is strong evidence that the spirit realm is as real as we know it to be. In the early 1980's, I had the opportunity to hear Bill Murray (not the comedian) speak and give his testimony. Bill is the son of renowned atheist Madalyn Murray O'Hair.

I vividly recall him sharing an observation he made concerning his mother that eventually led to his conversion to Christianity. He realized that for anyone to hate God as much as his mother did, God must exist.

That is very similar to the forces at work in the prison system. Statistically, about two out of three parolees getting out of prison will return within five years—most in a much shorter period of time. Some studies place that number as high as 90%. Faith based organizations consistently score about 90% success as opposed to averages of around 30%.

The people who oppose the Kingdom of God being advanced in the prison system are not the enemy, Satan is. Those people, and all our leaders, need our prayers...they need light and truth and understanding.

Following are a couple inmate letters that help represent why the devil is so scared by what Christ is doing through effective prison ministries.

## Brian's Re-sentencing Hearings

I'm just writing to let you know I'm at Saginaw Correctional Facility for my first court date of many on my re-sentencing hearings. My last one is May 21st and I'll know then if I'm going to get out soon or not. That's the sentencing date.

It could change any time though. I gave it to God to do what he sees fit for me. I don't need the worry.

I hope God's been blessing you, your family, and Alpha Prison Ministries. I had my first visit with my family in almost 3 years Friday afternoon. It was good.

I pray that there's a spot for me at Alpha House when it's time for me to get

out. I'm kinda scared, the last time I was out was June 1983 and before that was November 1981. The world's changed a lot since then. I just have to trust in God to show me the way and help me through the transition.

I still believe that my best chance is Alpha Prison Ministries. My pre-release team's not found any other placements for me yet as a backup plan if no rooms are available.

I signed up for Keryx since they have it here. I can't wait to see all the brothers and sisters from the outside again. God's blessed me so much in the last 20 years. Take care of yourself and may God continue blessing you, your family, and Alpha Prison Ministries.

Brian

## William's Discipleship Journey

I'm writing to thank you for sending me the new Bible. I got it today, it is real nice. I'll put it to good use. It is the nicest Bible I've ever had. I will take care of it.

I would like to ask you and everyone to pray for my three aunts. They are having health issues. Their names are Lynda, Jackie, and Connie. They're all I have left on my mother's side of the family.

I'm leaning toward getting to where I feel comfortable talking to strangers so I can talk to people, and tell my story to people I meet, and try to lead them to Jesus Christ. I'm trying to learn the verses I need to know to do it. If you could send me a list to help me out I would be grateful—just an outline to show me the way to do it. I don't want to tell anybody anything wrong. I don't want to face God on Judgment Day and have that against me.

I'm glad I went to Alpha Ministries back when I first got to Level 2. It changed my life. I'm also glad I get to come to Alpha House upon my parole.

I made sure that I have my proper ID, Social Security card, and Birth Certificate so I can get a job and pay my tithes and get people like me Bibles. For the first time I'm preparing to go out there and do things the right way.

Well, keep me in your prayers. I'll be sure to keep you in all of mine. Until next time, God bless you. I'll be looking forward to getting a letter from you soon.

God bless you and Alpha Prison Ministries,  
William

## Easily print this newsletter from our web site

We also offer easy access to an identical version of this newsletter so you can print extra copies. Please feel free to make as many copies as you need. Get it at [alphapm.org](http://alphapm.org).

Newsletter written/edited by APM Board member Steve Chittenden

APM is an **undenominational Christ-centered ministry** to prisoners and ex-offenders

### APM Financial Summary January-December 2018

Total Income: \$78,401.30

Total Expense: \$99,287.17

Net Income: **-\$20,886.87**



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