



Pathway To Freedom, Inc.

August 2020

With grateful hearts, we keep the fire alive



Coty Morrison emerges as a new man. Read his testimony on page 2.

By Scott McLean

We persevere by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ through a challenging season in the life of our ministry. In early July, we had our first occurrence of the coronavirus. Due to the obvious difficulty of social distancing in prison, the virus spread quickly. All three of our barracks are on quarantine. We are thankful we were able to honor Group 29 with their completion certificates on July 1 prior to the outbreak.

Members are allowed to go out on the yard in shifts for a couple of hours daily and there seems to be less anxiety than there was initially. Classes have been halted and counseling staff has been temporarily working out of the PTF administrative office at the prison. Staff has been able to help fill in the gap where our members were working on our front lawn and in cleaning our office areas. We are thankful we have some form of communication with our members while they are going through this process without directly exposing ourselves. We have been able to get encouraging letters, scriptures and inspirational videos to them weekly.

Prayer requests for a time of trial

- A way to enable our volunteers to teach remotely until they are allowed to teach in the unit.
- Our members and their families as they cannot have visitors and as they are concerned for each others' health during this period.
- Members' relationships with each other and with ADC staff as they experience the frustrating changes required under these virus conditions.
- ADC leadership, including Warden Watson and Deputy Warden Bolden who replaced Billy Inman, who transferred to the McPherson Unit in Newport) as they work to manage the prisons.
- ADC officers, health care staff and kitchen staff as their duties have been significantly altered by all the changes required to protect and care for our members.
- Our new staff members, James Dalton, former PTF counselor who has returned and replaced Joe Bruton as re-entry specialist in NWA, and Jon Justice, who replaced Luke Cummings. (Luke plans to return as a volunteer when the door opens.)

God closed other doors to me; this one He opened

By Coty Morrison

The first four times I got out of prison I left with a \$100 gate check and without a clue. The fifth time will be different.

You've heard the story: My parents divorced when I was 9. By 15 I was a high school dropout with a serious meth problem that sent me to juvie several times as a teenager.

I am now 32 with more than 22 arrests, a habitual offender on my fifth prison sentence. Doing time never made my life or my character better. Actually, it made them worse. On each of those four occasions I left prison on the Boomerang Express. I needed something different. I needed true change, inside-out change.

Early on in my current sentence, I kept hearing about Pathway to Freedom. When I was denied work release I really felt I had no other option. It was like God closed the doors he wanted closed but opened the door he wanted open. So I started doing my research on the program and re-entry kept sticking out to me. I signed up and was accepted.

I gave my life to Christ here on September 27, 2019. This was a game-changer for me; this was when I started to see God move. Throughout the 18 months I've been able to identify

and work through my issues. I started forming new habits and my whole paradigm changed. Now I can say — proudly — I'm a PTF graduate.

Say hello to our new guys



Program counselor Jon Justice (l) and re-entry specialist James Dalton have joined the PTF team.



Jon Justice holds a Bachelor of Arts in Bible from Harding University. He has worked in several ministry positions, serving as a youth and family minister in churches in Florida, Virginia and Alabama as well as program director at Michigan Christian Youth Camp. He has been teaching, leading and investing in others for the Kingdom of God and its transformative work in our world for the past 20 years. Jon has been married for 23 years and has two children.

James Dalton earned a B.A. in Ministry from Central Christian University. He served as a chaplain resident at UAMS Hospital in Little Rock, serving those undergoing traumatic, life-altering events. He also served as staff chaplain for Hospice Home Care in Little Rock, helping families journey through their grief in the midst of loss. James served as a program counselor with PTF from 2009 to 2016, when he entered private practice. He returns as re-entry specialist for NWA.



Members of Group 29, with counselor Luke Cummings, gather to celebrate completion of the pre-release phase.



Contact Us:
ADC-Wrightsville
Hawkins Unit for Males
P.O. Box 1010
22522 Asher Road
Wrightsville, AR 72183

Phone: 501-897-0764

Mail Donations to:
Pathway To Freedom
17200 Chenal Parkway
Suites 300-319
Little Rock, AR 72223

E-mail: info@ptfprison.org

Web: www.ptfprison.org