

Point Church Prison Ministry

Purpose

To respond to the call of Jesus to minister “unto the least of these,” Matthew 25:40

Phase 1

We want to point incarcerated individuals to Jesus, help them find their way back to God and then experience the love, restoration and transformation that Christ offers. We will do this through worship services, Yokefellow ministry, retreats and any entry points available to us through the prison gates.

Phase 2

We will help incarcerated residents continue to experience the freedom they found in Christ while in prison when they leave prison and re-enter society. This will involve mentoring, re-entry programs, transition home support, networking with various ministries and more

Central Prison Ministry

Vision

- **Plant a Point Church in Central Prison**

Objective

- To bring the truth of the Gospel, encouragement, hope and love through worship and preaching to men in a dark setting
- To raise up leaders in Christian service

Our Central Prison History and Ministry

- August 10, 2018 – First meeting with the head chaplain at Central Prison in Raleigh. The chaplain had a need for consistent worship service leaders that we could meet.
- August 22, 2018 - Second meeting with the head prison chaplain and we agree to provide 2 worship services on the first Sunday morning of the month for the general population residents and one service on the second Sunday morning of each month for the death row residents.
- October 7 & 14 - we launched our monthly worship services
- In our first three worship services we did a “Life’s 3 Biggest Questions” series - Who Am I? Where Do I Belong? and What Is My Purpose? - to help lay the foundation for our ministry.
- On December 20, sixteen Point Church volunteers presented two 90 minute concurrent Christmas services to the two prison groups. 107 residents participated in the general population service and 41 in the death row service. At the conclusion of each service we offered each resident a copy of *Doing His Time*:

Meditations and Prayers for Men & Women in Prison. These were donated by Doing His Time Prison Ministry.

- In January and February we are preaching 2 of the “Grow up” Series messages and distributing copies of the Life Recovery Bible and the Point SOAP Journal to the residents.

Also

- We serve the Lord’s Supper each week to the followers of Jesus in attendance
- Residents complete Connect Cards each week with their prayer requests and next steps.
- More than a half dozen residents have made first time commitments to follow Jesus as Lord and Savior, and several more have indicated that they wish to be baptized.
- We follow up these commitments with encouraging materials and share all of these names & commitments with the head chaplain. The chaplain’s staff conducts an 8 week discipleship class with residents before they are baptized.

Want to help? We need:

- Instrumentalists, vocalists & AV Techs for our worship services
- Extra greeters, encouragers and prayer warriors in these services
- Prayer warriors to pray for the residents’ prayer requests and next steps
- Prayer warriors to pray for the residents’ request & next steps and follow these up with encouraging notes
- Encouraging people to “adopt” residents as “pen pals”

Other needs:

- Laptop computer for the services
- Money for Life Recovery Bibles, Point Journals, various books, cards, postage, etc.

Training

Volunteers who desire to go inside of Central Prison to serve its residents must undergo training from the prison staff. This Blue Card/PREA Training is not scheduled on a regular basis, but we will post the dates and times when we are notified. Prior to this training, volunteers must submit their Community Volunteer application. The application involves a background check, and the training sessions usually last 60-90 minutes. When you complete this training, you will receive your Blue Card, which will allow you to enter the prison. Female are allowed to participate in this ministry.

For More Central Prison Info go to

<https://www.ncdps.gov/Adult-Corrections/Prisons/Prison-Facilities/Central-Prison>