

The Kingsway Banner



Our Mission:

“Ministering through the heart of Jesus to the broken hearts of those impacted by the criminal justice system, both those incarcerated and re-entering and their families.”

Chartered 1983
501 (c)(3) tax status



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OCTOBER 2022

From The President of the Board of Directors

Matthew 10:40-42

“Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes someone known to be a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes someone known to be righteous will receive a righteous person’s reward. And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is known to be my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly be rewarded.”

Brothers and Sisters,

Did you ever think of yourself as one who gives that cool drink of water to another? I didn’t either, but I did think of different ministries that supply that cool or cold drink to people that have nothing or, as the Bible calls them, the least of these.

At Kingsway Prison and Family Outreach, that is exactly what is being done all the time. We respond to those who have nothing and offer that cool drink. We offer hygiene supplies, phones, gift cards for underwear and work boots, and vouchers for clothing at Mercy House.

Maybe it’s just an ear to listen with or a space for prayer, but whatever the person needs, we try our best to meet their needs with that cold drink of water. Kingsway even refers them to places such as the Free Clinic for medical problems, or offers for

them to join us on Sunday afternoons at the House of Restoration for some good old-fashioned fellowship.

The one thing Kingsway could not do is to be without YOU! You have provided Kingsway with generous donations that enable us to meet most of the needs these folks are asking for. We thank you for your faith in Kingsway.

We know we are making a difference in the lives of those who come to us, as the rate of recidivism for those who have been helped by Kingsway over the past 10 years is 5.6%. Statewide the rate is 22.6%. We need you to continue to partner with us to make a difference with that cold drink of water.

Serving Him,

Vicki Barb, Board President

November 11: We honor all our veterans. Thank you for your service! Psalm 4:8

November 24: We wish you a blessed and Happy Thanksgiving! 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

December 25: We wish you a joyful Merry Christmas! Isaiah 9:6

Kingsway's Encourager Program

2 Timothy 4:2

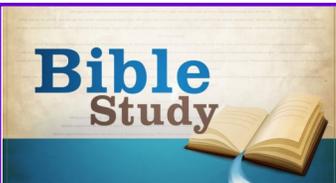
Preach the Word, be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke, and encourage – with great patience and careful instruction.



Probably most of you reading this would say, “I could never get up in front of a group and preach.” But did you know that “preaching” is much more than standing in front of a group of people and expounding the word of God? Rather, it is living your faith and always being ready to “give an answer for the hope that is within you.” (1 Peter 3:15)

Kingsway has developed a program that allows you to do just that. The Encourager Program enables anyone with a willing and compassionate heart to reach out to inmates who have made a profession of faith or are seeking to know more about Christ and the scriptures. It is done through letter writing with inmates who have requested an Encourager. Are you interested?

While it is impossible to explain all the details in this short article, please pray and ask God if this is an area where you can serve. If you feel the slightest nudge to participate, check out Kingsway website at www.kingswayoutreach.org, or you can contact Kingsway at 540-433-5658 and leave a message, or email dpl915@ntelos.net and put *Kingsway Encourager* in the subject line. We'll explain the program to you in more detail.



BIBLE STUDIES FOR INMATES

It has been a great pleasure getting the mail-in Bible Studies going for the inmates. Right now, we have New Beginnings Part 1 and Part 2, signifying the beginning of something new happening in the life of the inmate. Then we have eight parts to a Jonah series. There are some smaller studies that coincide with Jonah. Mark is next, with three parts consisting of four or five chapters each. We have Conquering Life's Giants, which is twelve studies long. Test Your Bible Knowledge Course 1, Biblical Personalities, has eleven lessons. Test Your Bible Knowledge Course 2, Miscellaneous Subjects, has fourteen lessons. There is one lesson in both Hebrews and James. There will be others along the way.

These guys and gals are doing a wonderful job in learning about the love of Jesus Christ, and they are hungry and anxious for the studies.

Again, if it were not for your generous donations, this is something that Kingsway could not do. Postage is expensive. We are allowed to send studies into Middle River Regional Jail directly, instead of having to send them to Texas and then have the studies printed on the inmates' tablets. This is something that is very personal to these inmates, and this is real mail that they receive.

INMATE CHRISTMAS GIFT PROGRAM

We need your help with our Inmate Christmas Gift program!

This year, because many people are still not doing much shopping, Kingsway has ordered 5200 notepads and 6000 tubes of lip balm, the costs of which we need your help in covering.

We encourage churches to collect the items in the list to the right. And we welcome your donations!

We will be delivering these to Augusta Correctional Center, Cold Springs CCAP and Unit 10, Coffeewood Correctional Center, Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women, Green Rock Correctional Center, Marion Correctional Center, Harrisonburg Diversion Center, Middle River Regional Jail, and Rockingham-Harrisonburg Jail.

SUPPLIES NEEDED

Toothpaste

(Individually boxed; 6 ounces or smaller)

NOTE: The inmates really like Colgate and Crest brands; Dollar Tree stores have them for \$1.25.



Pencils: Yellow No. 2

(Any brand; must be unsharpened!)



TESTIMONIES

Yeshua Kingdom's People,

Shalom! A little over 3 years ago I was released from incarceration. I've watched the Lord work in individual lives and whole congregations. My motto is "watch GOD work". Please read Ephesians 2:1-6. Focus on verse 6: "sitting in heavenly places." Recently I was raised up to unspeakable heights. Recently I participated in a jubilee celebration for prison outreach ministry, I was to give a testimony. The second I walked into the church, all I felt was LOVE, it just got stronger as things progressed, then I was called. My purpose was to read the testimony I wrote for Kingsway ministry, but the Holy Spirit filled me and all I could do was cry. I was not raised to cry. But as you read these few verses, ask the Lord to reveal to your heart the true meaning here... He does all the work, he raises us up as his word promises. GALATIANS 2:20. Since the LORD changed my life almost 34 years ago, it has not been my life, even throughout incarceration; it has been GOD'S life, everything for his glory and good purpose. It has meant surrendering self, family, I mean everything! The Spirit will be there every step of the way. GOD will remind you at unexpected times (my recent experience) that HE is there with you. You are HIS child, His love is overwhelming. A heart that used to be engrossed in sin 34 years ago was broken, cleaned, changed...and it is shining the Christ life now.

Blessings, "Hawk"

Secular music can be one of the quickest ways to descend into darkness. Mayhem awaits those who cling to dark music and lyrics. I know this from personal experience.

When I was on the outside, I used to listen to all kinds of violent songs like "Bodies" by Drowning Pool. I used to listen to it repeatedly, every day, for over a year, and the more I listened to it, the more it increased the darkness within me. These kinds of music inevitably cause one to think negatively and with a violent mentality. I used to deny that, and say things like "It's just music." But the truth is, it's more than that. For me it got so bad that eventually I ended up picking up a shotgun, as I listened to "Bodies" on my headphones, and went downstairs to the basement one night to murder my parents. The music was unquestionably a sort of driving force that fueled my negative emotions. And that's what it is: A force. Don't believe the lie that dark music and lyrics have no effect whatsoever on your mind and soul. If you're truly honest with yourself, you'll admit that it does. It may not cause you to kill someone like I did, but at the very least it will cause you to think negatively with a dark outlook on life. Your attitude, relationships, and perspective will degenerate as well.

So I write this to anyone who is immersed in that type of music. Let it go before it overtakes you unexpectedly. Listen to uplifting Christian music and positive lyrics. It is more powerful than you know to give you peace, love, and strength, and to help you to stay in the Holy Spirit. You will see a big change in your life for the better. I say this as a matter of fact in my own life, being the imperfect soul that I am.

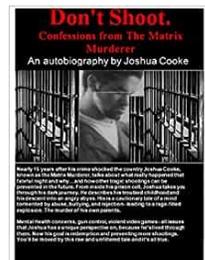
Remember God spoke the universe into existence and created it through His words. Satan destroys through his. Think about that.

God bless you, my brothers and sisters.

Joshua Cooke

Keen Mountain Correctional Center

Note: Joshua Cooke wrote the autobiography Don't Shoot. Confessions from the Matrix Murderer.



SPECIAL EVENT

COME CELEBRATE LOUISE JENNINGS' 87TH BIRTHDAY WITH US

ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2022 AT 6:00 PM

FOR A BENEFIT CONCERT

FEATURING THE MUSIC OF

SMOKEY WILSON

&

3 IN 1 QUARTET

MT. OLIVE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9148 RAWLEY PIKE, HINTON, VA

Kingsway Benefit Concert
Sunday, October 23, 2022



Featuring



Smokey Wilson



3 In 1 Quartet



P.O. Box 2335
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

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Louise's Corner



As I mentioned in our last newsletter about those coming out and the influx it would cause for us, I was really not exaggerating. The first 15 days of September, we had 40 clients looking for help. We were able to help all but 4 who needed housing. The only motel we have been able to work with changed employees, and their rooms are no longer at a price we can afford. Some of the men coming out needed *everything*, even underwear. Most needed hygiene items and a cell phone. Without a phone, they are unable to get a job, or to contact their probation officers, which they are required to do within two days when they are released. We can get a good deal on Boost cell phones from Walmart; however, they won't sell more than two at a time. I can order from Walmart online, but still must order only two per day. Another need now is for gas to get to work once they get a job. Most places hiring only pay every two weeks, so if the ex-offenders do not have any money, they can't put gas in their cars if they have one nor help put gas in a friend's car who is willing to take them to work. It is no wonder they return to prison. If you wouldd like to donate Walmart cards that we can give to those coming to us needing underwear or gas, it would be great.

Kingsway will be helping me celebrate my 87th birthday on October 23rd with a Fundraiser/Benefit Gospel Concert. Check it out on our website, www.kingswayoutreach.org

The Banner is published as a bridge between you, the Kingsway supporters, and the hands-on prison and family outreach ministry of Kingsway.

The Banner welcomes your comments, suggestions, questions, testimonies, and article submissions. If there is something of interest you would like to know more about or have included in this newsletter, please let us know.

The Banner also provides a means of raising funds to carry on the work of Kingsway. Donations can be made by mail or online by scanning the QR Code.



KINGSWAY PRISON & FAMILY OUTREACH

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