



THE Grace Insider

A quarterly newsletter of Virginia's Prison Chaplain Service



From The Executive Director

On Friday, April 24, we were overjoyed to see the baptism of 23 men at Deerfield Correctional Center. I was invited to share a few words, and I opened with a greeting I often use in these settings: "Greetings from the free-world church!" (That's YOU!)

I then shared with the 80-90 men gathered there that whenever I am in front of a free-world church, I open similarly: "Greetings from the prison-church!" In my role as the Executive Director, I remind churches everywhere that our brothers and sisters in prison are not in a different category or separate because of their incarceration. Quite the opposite! They are an integral part of the Body of Christ, and they must not be forgotten!

It was also a joy to worship with Rev. Aaron Brittain, our Director of Operations, who told the newly baptized **"I'm proud of you guys."** Chaplain Eldridge Smith echoed this affirmation, saying again, "I'm proud of you." It was a poignant moment for me; I suspect some of these brothers had never heard those words before. What a privilege to embrace them after their baptism as they came forward to receive a personalized certificate of baptism prepared by Chaplain Smith. They weren't just baptized into a "prison-church." They were welcomed as vital, Spirit-empowered disciples into the Body of Christ.

To Him be glory in the church forever!
~Chaplain Nick Meyer, Executive Director



Chaplain Spotlight: *Chaplain Calvin Corbitt*

Chaplain Corbitt has worked with GraceInside since 2001 at multiple facilities. He is currently a chaplain at St. Brides Correctional Center in Chesapeake.

Favorite Movie:

It's A Wonderful Life

Favorite Bible Verse:

II Corinthians 10:13

Favorite Place He's Traveled:

Mission trips to Costa Rica & Guatemala, family trips to Lake Gaston

Family/Pets:

Married for 37 years, five kids, four grandchildren with two on the way



By The Numbers

Revenue Year To Date: \$731,111
Expenses Year To Date: \$960,541



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Thank you for your generosity!

Welcome

to our newest chaplains:

~**Rob Brown** at Caroline & Sussex I

~**Beryl Jantzi** at Cold Springs

~**Jim Catt** as Special Assignment
Chaplain at Red Onion & Keen
Mountain



A donor sponsored a food truck event for all staff at SFCC in May. Corrections is a difficult environment, and our ministry includes staff. Pictured: SFCC Assistant Warden, Vera Rhyne, Nick Meyer, and JT Clark.

From The Director Of Operations



The theme for me these past few months has been learning: learning more about what our chaplains do and learning more about how I can assist them to do that work. Ephesians 4:12 says "Equip the saints for the work of ministry and for building up the body of Christ."

Accurate invoices, personnel policies, and worker's compensation may not seem like reason for excitement. But I believe that by getting those things right behind the scenes, we allow our chaplains to serve more effectively doing what only they can do--being the presence of Christ within the prison setting. For me, the necessary and routine tasks of administration are building blocks of God's kingdom. I'm grateful to help equip the saints who carry out the good work of GracelInside.

~In Christ, Aaron



Our Fall retreat will be October 28-30 at Roslyn Retreat Center in Richmond.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

*Join with us in celebrating our staff
& chaplain birthdays this quarter:*

July 20 - Aaron Brittain
July 21 - Vera Rhyne
July 28 - Daniel Theiben
August 16 - Nick Meyer
August 22 - Eddie Mullins
August 29 - Clifton Cauthorne
September 3 - Linda Fox
September 11 - Keith Jordan
September 13 - Silvia Hill