

A ministry of hope...



Correctional Institutions Chaplaincy



Supervisor Ken Yeager Sponsors TRANSFORMATION Art Exhibit

2/15/14

Dear Louann,

Much has been happening in the facilities this year. Below is an update on how God is blessing inmates through CIC so far this year. May the Lord continue to bring us faithful volunteers who add new dimensions of blessing and help to the prisoners.

Sincerely,
The staff of CIC Ministries

**THANK YOU to
Board of Supervisors- Ken Yeager
for Sponsoring the TRANSFORMATION
art exhibit!!**

By Rev. Louann Roberts
Elmwood - Women's Chaplain



Sheriff Laurie Smith meets with ex-inmate artist Victorene, and Elaine Bondonno of the Art and Spirit classes.

Art from CIC Ministries Art and Spirit classes has been displayed for the past month at the county government building on 70 W. Hedding.

Supervisor Ken Yeager sponsored the exhibit in the breezeway. It has been a

tremendous boost for CIC Ministries. The art speaks volumes about our ministry of hope to prisoners and the value of a human being.

Sheriff Laurie Smith who has championed this exhibit, was present at the opening reception. The Sheriff's department funded the framing of the art, which was done by male inmates in the Correctional Industries program.

Many thanks to all who have given of their time, resources and talents for the Transformation exhibit.

Calvary Los Gatos - Bible Donation

By Rev. Jennifer Bales
CIC Chaplain

**Attendees at the
CIC's art exhibit**



From left to right:
Sheriff Laurie Smith,
Willie Chan - Manager of
the Correctional Industries
Program,
Members of the Jail's
command staff - Lieutenant
April McHugh and Captain
Troy Beliveau.

**Thank you to CIC
volunteers who go
above and beyond...**



CIC volunteers set up a reception table at the Transformation art exhibit at the County Government building.



50 cases of Bibles
for jail

Every Tuesday night, I find myself in the Main Jail infirmary leading a men's Bible study and talking with other inmates at their door. Some are fighting cancer as well as a court case. Others have AIDS and are facing questions of life and death. Still others are recuperating from surgery with very little human interaction and support.

Occasionally I also see both older men and women come in with some form of dementia, struggling to make sense of why they're locked in a cell and who the people are that continually pass by their window.

It's a simple Bible study that I lead. Sometimes we talk our way through one of the Psalms. Other times we read through and meditate on the day's lesson from the Daily Bread. We're able to lay the unique situation these men find themselves in on the table and see how God's grace intersects with their day to day experience.

They love using study Bibles that provide some commentary notes on the different passages. The study tools allow the men to confidently explore the Bible for themselves and be able to share something unique in the discussion. They also love checking in with each other and asking what everyone's resources say on the different passages. One of my regular participants is sending his study Bible home before he goes to state prison, so that it's waiting for him on the outside when his year is finished. I'm also hoping that their positive experience with this Bible study will help build their confidence in group participation, so that upon their release, they may feel prepared to enter into the same experience on the outside with whatever church home they settle into.

We are so thankful for the churches and volunteers who donate Bibles for this ministry. Recently, Calvary Church Los Gatos was able to collect more than 50 cases of Bibles, some with study tools, for the inmates to use. They were also able to incorporate their youth in this endeavor and experienced the joy of giving, particularly with the generous number of Bibles that were collected and donated. In picking them up from the church, I

Thank you, Ginny Johnson,
Sheri Woodhouse and Lou
Woodburycatcott!

CIC Ministries is a 501c3
organization and your
donations are tax-
deductible.

DONATE

Join Our Mailing List!

The
TRANSFORMATION
art exhibit
has moved!!!!



to the
Santa Clara County
Valley Medical
Center
in the lobby.

Please stop by.
Let us know you were
there!
[Email us](#)

Thank you to Calvary
Los Gatos who Donated

noticed an energy emanating from the church member with whom I interacted. This Bible drive seemed just as meaningful for them as it was for the inmates receiving them.

Reflecting on this generosity brings a passage from 2 Corinthians 9 to my mind: *"The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, **for God loves a cheerful giver.** And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work."*

Thank you for your generosity to the Lord Jesus Christ by giving to CIC ministries and the impact your donations are making in the lives who find themselves incarcerated.

Juvenile Opens a New Unit for Youth

by Rev. Ra Amen

Juvenile Facilities Chaplain

Chaplaincy Services provides a weekly one-hour orientation class for the boys who are just admitted to Juvenile Hall. The orientation, generally led by Chaplains Ra Amen or Evelyn Vigil, provide a time for building positive relationships with the boys, allowing us to know them as individuals and allowing them to know us as chaplains as people who care deeply about their well-being. We inform them of the religious services that are provided by Chaplains and volunteers and the faith resources that are available to them. For the youth as well as for us, it has been a joyous time for connecting, grappling with religious and life issues, laughing and looking beyond our differences as we explore new ways of being family and community and working with the rest of the A&O team toward the youths' positive and Godly transformation into becoming healthy and productive adults.

The Assessment and Orientation (A&O) Unit opened last year to provide an environment for agencies to assess the boys coming in before they are assigned to a housing unit.

50 cases of Bibles and books!



McKenna Raasch - the Director of Missions at Calvary Church and Rev. Ra Amen - Juvenile facilities Chaplain

Please keep the art moving!



Sheriff Laurie Smith is toured at the art exhibit by TRANSFORMATION's artistic director - Elaine Bondonno.

[Click here to donate online to CIC Ministries](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Bible and Book Ministry Help Needed!



Volunteers to help with the Bible and book ministry

- sorting
- distribution of the Bible and books in the facilities.

Call Chaplain Jenni Bales for more information - 408-957-5995

The next Jail Ministry Training is:

Sunday, Feb 23 - 1:30 - 5:30 pm

Grace Baptist Church

484 E. San Fernando St

(Small parking lot faces 10th street) San Jose.

All are welcome.

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