THE CONTENDER

October 1987

". . . it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith . . . " – Jude 3

Published for the faithful supporters of County Corrections Gospel Mission

From The Director's Desk

Dear Listening Friends:

I have only a few paragraphs to write, so I will get to my heart's burden immediately. A month at CCGM is overflowing with opportunities, needs and challenges. What ministry of the Gospel isn't? I want you to know that we thrilled to be among the lost and broken, and do know we are praying for the day when heaven graciously bends all knees of all the beloved at all altars and all will cry, "Revive us again!" History has written over and over again the inseparable relationship of Holy Spirit revival and the accompanying fruits of good works. The early years of the Salvation Army, the Young Men's Christian Association and Rescue Missions were all born not of the flesh but of the Spirit!

We continue to want only a yielded servant task under the Bible-believing, blood-bought Church. We pray that eventual facilities for the addicted, young and quickly perishing marketplace will be a reality. I am praying that the burden and constraint for such tangible fruits of revival will be felt and pressed upon the spirit of God's people.

A perishing world is crying out. The cries might be unnoticeable to many — th cry through music, dress, behavior and habits. Men and boys, women and girls cry through their acts of violence, abuse and addictions. Can we really yet believe God for true revival? Could we be so blessed as to see Him mercifully convert our sick and dying nation and cities? I think so! Lord! Please bring us by your most loving Father's hand to the Cross again!

I really love you,

Jack Crans

Prayer Corner

"Our prayer is one of Thanksgiving to Almighty God."

A Letter From Linda

This past month I received a couple of responses from women interested in following up on girls upon their release from jail. We certainly appreciate that, and do know that the need is always there if you are ever interested.

I spent a wonderful day with Dee-Dee this past month at Muncy State Correctional Institute. She's doing well and keeps in close contact.

We appreciate **so much** those of you who support our ministry so faithfully not only with prayer, but also your finances. It is so amazing to me personally and very humbling that I live on other people's money. Only my Lord knows, as it is impossible to verbally express, the depth of gratefulness in my heart to each of you who so faithfully send your money for the spread of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Thank you so much.

Linda Ingham

Coatesville's City Gate Mission Needs Social Worker

"For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward His name in that ye have ministered to the saints and do minister." —Hebrews 6:10

Carla and Roxanne

Mrs. Roxanne Holcomb, as pictured above, served faithfully from 1980 to the present time as the Social Worker of the City Gate Mission in Coatesville, Now due to very soon approaching child-birth, she very prayerfully and gracefully resigns to pursue her growing ministry of mother and wife. We would want to also recognize her dear, faithful husband, Larry, who so unsparingly allowed her to give of her life to so many. We thank our great and marvelous Lord for both of you and love you very, very much!!

Most obviously, a great and vital need for staff has become apparent. Just for the record, City Gate is a street ministry under the support of Bible-believing churches existing solely to present the hope millions have found in Jesus Christ. The ministry does this by making services available which touch critical needs.

Continued on next page.

Adams, 625 Biglerville Rd., Gettysburg 17325
Warden Kenneth E. Sease

Allegheny, 440 Ross St., Pittsburgh 15219
Warden Charles Kozakiewicz

Armstrong, E. Market St., Kittanning 16201
Warden William Laughner

Beaver, 801 Corporation St., Beaver 15009
Warden Dominic Teny

Bedford, 204 S. Thomas St., Bedford 15522
Sheriff Max Norris

Berks, Box 1241, R.D. #1, Leesport 19533
Warden George A. Wagner

Blair, 419 Market Sq. Alley, Hollidaysburg 16648
Warden Gary D. Sparks

Bradford, 109 Pine St., Towanda 18848
Warden Robert F. Fauver, Jr.

Bucks, 1730 S. Easton Rd., Doylestown 18901
Warden Arthur M. Wallenstein

Bucks Rehabilitation Center, (Address same as above)
Superintendent J.R. Henderson

Butler, 121 Vogeley Way, Butler 16001
Warden Charles Fenton

Cambria, 201 N. Center St., Ebensburg 15931
Warden James F. Oravecz

Cameron, E. 5th St., Emporium 15834
Sheriff James J. Fragale

Carbon, 128 Broadway St., Jim Thorpe 18229
Warden William H. Clarke

Centre, 213 E. High St., Bellefonte 16823
Warden Gerald E. Wilson

Chester, 501 S. Wawaset Rd., West Chester 19380
Warden Thomas G. Frame

Clarion, Madison & 5th Ave., Clarion 16214
Warden Eugene Daugherty

Clearfield, 410 21st St., Clearfield 16830
Warden Robert S. Dombrosky

Clinton, 352 E. Church St., Lock Haven 17745
Warden Arwyn D. Reish

Columbia, 721 Iron St., Bloomsburg 17815
Warden Raymond Yachimowski

Crawford, 360½ Center St., Meadville 16335
Warden Richard P. Gigliotti

Cumbrland, Box 820, 1101 Claremont Rd., Carlisle 17013
Warden Robert H. Egolf

Dauphin, 501 Mall Rd., Harrisburg 17111
Warden Thomas F. Neumayer

Delaware, P.O. Box 23A, Thornton 19373
Warden Kenneth Matty

Elk, 211 Center St., Ridgway 15853
Sheriff Raymond J. Krasinski

Erie, 139 W. 5th St., Erie 16507
Warden Gary Lucht

Fayette, 12 Court St., Uniontown 15401
Warden Joseph Wisniewski

Forest, Box 425, Elm & Helen St., Tionesta 16353
Sheriff Harry E. Tucker

Franklin, 625 Franklin Farm Lane, Chambersburg 17201
Warden Robert C. Holland

Fulton, Box 486, W. 2nd St., McConnellsburg 17233
Sheriff Charles A. Waters

Greene, Box 207-B, R.D. #2, Waynesburg 15370
Warden Andrew Bystry

Huntingdon, 300 Church St., Huntingdon 16652
Warden William Wolford

Indiana, N. 9th St., Indiana 15701
Warden Robert E. Fyock

Jefferson, R.D. #5, Box 101A, Brookville 15825
Warden Robert A. Stowman

Juniata, Box 122, Mifflintown 17059
Warden Glenn M. Leister

Lackawanna, 1371 N. Washington Ave., Scranton 18509
Warden Raymond J. Colleran

Lancaster, 625 E. King St., Lancaster 17602
Warden Vincent A. Guarini

Lawrence, 433 Court St., New Castle 16101
Warden Joseph F. Gregg

Lebanon, 730 E. Walnut St., Lebanon 17042
Warden Robert L. Raiger

Lehigh, 38 N. 4th St., Allentown 18102
Director of Corrections, Jerry Bolin

Lehigh County Womens, 350-A Cedarbrook Rd., Allentown 18104
Director Timothy Carver

Luzerne, 99 Water St., Wilkes Barre 18702
Warden Allyn Sincavage

Lycoming, 277 W. 3rd St., Williamsport 17701
Warden David A. Desmond

McKean, 502 W. King St., Smethport 16701
Sheriff Donald D. Morey

Mercer, 136 S. Diamond St., Mercer 16137
Warden William C. Mifsud

Mifflin, 103 W. Market St., Lewistown 17044
Sheriff Jay R. Laub

Monroe, 34 N. 7th St., Stroudsburg 18360
Warden Bryan L. Hill

Montgomery, 60 Eagleville Rd., Eagleville 19408
Warden Lawrence V. Roth, Jr.

Montour, P.O. Box 163, Danville 17821
Sheriff Fred R. Shepperson

Northampton, 666 Walnut St., Easton 18042
Warden A.S. DiGiacinto

Northumberland, 39 N. 4th St., Sunbury 17801
Warden Clarence A. Bixler, III

Perry, P.O. Box 6, New Bloomfield 17068
Sherrif George W. Frownfelter

Philadelphia, 8201 State Rd. (N.E.), Philadelphia 19136
Superintendent Edmund Lyons

Philadelphia Detention Center, (Same address as above)
Warden Willie Gray

Philadelphia Holmesburg, 8215 Torresdale Ave. (N.E.), Philadelphia 19136-Warden Harry Moore

Philadelphia House of Correction, 8001 State Rd. (N.E.), Philadelphia 19136-Warden Press Grooms

Philadelphia Industrial Correctional Center, 8301 State Rd. (N.E.), Philadelphia 19136-Warden Paul Shuler

Philadelphia Pre-Release Program, 8001 State Rd. (N.E.), Philadelphia 19136-Deputy Warden Thomas Costello

Pike, 500 Broad St., Milford 18337
Administrator Carl L. Birtel

Potter, 102 E 2nd St., Coudersport 16915
Sheriff Dale W. Russell

Schuylkill, 2nd and Sanderson St., Pottsville 17901
Warden David J. Kurtz

Snyder, 12 S. Main St., Middleburg 17842
Sheriff Richard T. Nornhold

Somerset, 127 E. Fairview St., Somerset 15501
Warden John Bowman

Sullivan, Court House, Laporte 18626
Sheriff Burton R. Adams

Susquehanna, 17 Lake Ave., Montrose 18801
Sheriff Richard Pelicci

Tioga, 114 Main St., Wellsboro 16901
Sheriff Richard M. Hastings

Union, 103 S. 2nd St., Lewisburg 17837
Sheriff Donald Everitt

Venango, 1186 Elk St., Franklin 16323
Sheriff Gene Price

Warren, 407 Market St., Warren 16365
Sheriff D.E. Allen, Jr.

Washington, Box B. 28 W. Cherry Ave., Washington 15301
Warden Joseph S. Pelzer

Wayne, 318 10th St., Honesdale 18431
Sheriff William Bluff

Westmoreland, 110 Vannear Ave., Greensburg 15601
Warden Kurt T. Scalzott

Wyoming, 39 Stark St., Tunkhannock 18657
Sheriff Robert Truesdale

York, 1155 Williams Rd., York 17402
Warden Richard J. Hahn

City Gate - *Continued*

Pray with Jim Davis, Director of the City Gate Mission and us that God would call out the special servant so needed to fill the following responsibilities:

Hours for Ministry: 10:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday

Salary: Weekly salary with benfits

A Ministry, not a Job

Objective of Position: To reach out to the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of those who come for help.

Responsibilities

- Share message of salvation with those who come in.
- Teach Bible study at Pocopson Home.
- Ability to give Biblical counsel to persons suffering through mental and emotional difficulty.
- Discipleship of women desirous of growing.
- Help people to find emergency and/or permanent housing. Refer people with drug and/or alcohol related problems to appropriate programs.
- Help to meet food needs of people from Coatesville community.
- Help the unemployed find work.
- Organize the Annual Christmas Dinner.
- Work with other agencies to meet the needs of people. (A resource guide has been developed by Roxanne for aid in these many areas of referral.)

Please address any Applications to:
The City Gate Mission
c/o Jim Davis, Director
715 E. Lincoln Highway
Coatesville, PA 19320

Chaplain Mike Davis Rings The Bell For City Needs

In light of Roxanne's departure, Chaplain Mike Davis of Chicago's Pacific Garden Mission (Former Director of the City Gate Mission and brother to present Director Jim Davis) clearly echoes the "WHY?" of rescue mission work whether in towns like Coatesville, Chester or Chicago. It is my prayer that we will take the time to read between the lines.

It was 1:30 a.m. Just outside the Mission door, I noticed a man lying face down. I wondered if he was dead and bent over him to arouse him, but he did not respond. He was alive but apparently intoxicated.

Here was an example of a man truly on the brink of despair. Possibly he had let sin and the devil rule his life to the point of being past the point of ever responding to the Gospel and a life-changing experience with Christ.

Every day we minister to many who teeter on the edge of destruction. It is the nature of the ministry. **The rescue mission is one of the last stops in this life for many. The good news is that some hear the Gospel and are born again.** But some, like this poor man just described, pass this point of help. Every day the brink of despair can be viewed at the Pacific Garden Mission.

As I bent over this poor man, a young man came to my side. He told us he had just arrived in the city and had no money and no place to stay. Was he a drifter? Or on the run from the police? Did he run away from home? Was he driven by an addiction to drugs or alcohol? Did he just get out of jail? These and many other circumstances bring men to the Mission every day.

Where can a young man with no money or friend go at 1:30 a.m. in the big city? The street would swallow him up. Crime, violence, diseases and human predators stalk the innocent and helpless. Where can a young man go? Praise the Lord, he had found a place where Jesus is at work. Twenty four hours a day seven days a week we are, by God's grace, a light shining in darkness.

What a great feeling I had as my co-worker Mark, walked him back into the Mission for a safe rest. Shelter, food, and clothing were there for him. The greatest thing, however, is that the life-changing Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ awaited him.

When that young man stood on the street outside of the Mission, he was on the edge of hope. The hope of eternal life. The hope of abundant life here and freedom from sin's shackles. **As I rode home that evening, I reflected that in just a few minutes time I had viewed the brink of despair and the edge of hope.** This is the great challenge and joy of God's work here at Pacific Garden Mission.

(Printed with permission from "Pacific Garden Mission News" October 1987)

Warden's Corner

Warden's Bible Fund

We are pleased to report to you that all the Wardens in Pennsylvania have received Bibles. We continue to distribute the Bibles to new Wardens, also.

Warden's Fall Symposium

I recently attended the Pennsylvania Prison Warden's Symposium at Clarion and was pleasantly welcomed by the many Wardens who are progressively learning to trust me. Many new faces lined the lobby as even the veteran officials remarked concerning the rapid turnover of Corrections leaders. Two new Wardens made a special effort to greet me as they wanted to know the preacher who always writes to them. I had several opportunities for personal sharing and can only rejoice in the bond that is growing! My earnest prayer is that Corrections might attain the reputation it so earnestly requires. As was said of John the Baptist's ministry, "... .turning the hearts of the wicked to the wisdom of the just!" May it be men of righteous pursuit who administrate Corrections?

Jack Crans

Do You Know Your County Warden?

Why not take a moment to write an encouraging note to the Warden of your County. These very special men have a most difficult and stressful occupation. The impact of their lives can be the greatest factor in determining the future of God's Word being available towards the reaching of deeply troubled lives. Your letter should be bathed in prayerful support and personal concern for him. They all know who CCGM is so write with the intention of being a blessing. Thanks for caring.

County Corrections Gospel Mission
P.O. Box 1136 • Coatesville, PA 19320

October 1987 Report

Tripler Trivia

I was amazed at the number of people who asked what happened to the Trivia question last month. Somewhere along the way from my computer to the newsletter it got lost! Well, here is the answer from August and a new question for this month: Demetrius from III John. This month's question is: How many ars was it from the time of Paul's conversion to his journey with Barnabas and Titus to Jerusalem?

Our Editor (Linda) thought it would be a good idea to give an update concerning our role in this ministry since the start of the school year. As our support was not complete when September came, the Lord provided the opportunity to teach five classes at LanChester Christian School in the mornings, leaving my afternoons free to work in the office.

Our role (Nancy's and mine) has been multifaceted. Nancy's greatest responsibility is caring for our precious Johanna who just turned one year old. Upon completion of that (ha-ha), she keeps me on schedule. Her favorite time of the week is a Women's Bible Study she attends. As a result, she has had many opportunities to informally share the Lord's direction in her life with several of the ladies. She and Johanna have also travelled with me as we have en searching for property upon which e could start a discipleship facility for those men who need the opportunity to grow outside the atmosphere of Coatesville. Please pray as we seek the Lord's wisdom in this area.

My afternoons in the office have been in some ways frustrating, and this frustration causes me to hopefully see the completion of raising our financial support by next June so as to be able to focus all of our energies to serve the Lord at CCGM. Between talking with realtors, exploring leads for facilities, inputting the mailing lists on the computer, keeping up to date on the youth ministry, attempting to expand the on-going work at SESTU and other opportunities, my days are busy and diversified.

Speaking of SESTU, would any of you be willing to help? One of our goals is to see each boy, upon his release, meet someone who lives in the same geographical area to follow-up with him concerning his relationship with Jesus Christ. This would involve a weekly Bible study, taking him to church, calling him several times during the week, spending social time with him (possibly including him in your family plans), etc. This is all done to build a "Big Brother" relationship. The Lord has provided one man so far to volunteer in this way. Word of this relationship has spread to the other guys and they are always asking if I know of someone who would care for them in the same ways. Please pray and consider if the Lord would have you do something like that. If you are interested, please drop me a line and I will thereafter contact you.

I in no way want to burden you by this letter; it is only our desire to make you aware of the great need, the open doors and the way He is working. It has been so encouraging and a privilege for Nancy and I to see how the Lord has been working in the past months. We would be more than willing to share with your young people, or any age group, about the greatness of our Father.

Please pray concerning our financial support. We presently have $818 of our needed $1500 per month support. Als pray that we will always be yielded serve the Lord and not become like those mentioned in Amos 6:1, "Woe to them that are at ease in Zion".

Because He Lives,

Stu, Nancy & Johanna Tripler

From The Video Shelf

"Children Crying in the Streets", produced by Child Evangelism Fellowship. This powerful documentary (25 minutes) graphically discusses the major arenas of crisis now confronting our children. It is a great discussion booster for Youth and Adult Sunday School or secular outreach. (CCGM will loan its copy) (VCR)

Statistics

Pennsylvania Inmate Population as of 5/31/87:

State	15,743
County	12,976
Total	28,719