

True North Ministry Newsletter

July '20 to October 2020

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Check us out on FaceBook!
and our website:
www.truenorthministry.org



TRUE NORTH MINISTRY

NEEDS:

1. Prayers: Pray for all affected by COVID-19, especially the incarcerated youth who are now completely isolated from family, TNM and any outside support.
5. Pray for the staff at Dan Street, Indian River and Cuyahoga Hills as they work to stay healthy during this pandemic.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to the following for their continued support of the ministry:

- Our BELOVED volunteers
- Our many donors, who faithfully give of their resources for God's good work

YOUR TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AND WILL ALWAYS GO TOWARD THE SPIRITUAL LIBERATION OF IMPRISONED YOUTH.

TNM Program Highlight

Dan Street:

As you may know, all in-person visits with youth from Indian River and Cuyahoga Hills has been stopped due to COVID. True North Ministry was prevented from visiting the youth at Dan Street as well; however, about three months ago, we were allowed to provide ministry to the youth via an on-line platform. Since then, True North Ministry volunteers have been providing weekly ministry to the youth at Dan Street on Tuesdays and Sundays.

The youth really seem to be grasping the ministry which has been beneficial in decreasing their fear, uncertainty and loneliness. God's love is being spread and the kids are receiving!!!

Volunteers are scheduled through September 2020, however, if you'd like to participate, please contact the office, 330-896-2700

MESSAGE FROM BOARD CHARIMAN, JIM LOVE:

Please pray with us as we seek God's guidance for future ministry opportunities and direction. As you know, we have been unable to host young people at the farm since the beginning of the COVID crisis due to youth not being allowed to leave the correctional facilities. God graciously opened the door for us to continue doing ministry to incarcerated youth at the Dan Street detention center via very successful and meaningful on-line Skype meetings.

In the meantime, we are praying as a board about the future of continuing our presence at COMPASS Center (the farm). We have so many great memories of youth visits, Dusty Donkey festivals, and the farm has served as the community interaction point and the face of the ministry. However, with no opportunity for ministry, both now and perhaps into next year, we are concerned that our continued presence is not the best use of ministry resources.

So, please pray with us as we consider new ministry options. We will always be anchored as a ministry to incarcerated youth, but we also are praying about expanding into the community with a focus on at-risk youth.

Thank you for your continued support of what God is continuing to do at True North, both now and into the future!

*Jim Love
Chairman*

Volunteer update:

Matthew Reid – Volunteer at Dan Street (Summit County Juvenile Center):

My first visit to Summit County Juvenile Detention Center was tinged with anxiety. The guards walked our group through the facility to the dorms. “The dorms” is an odd moniker for a place of confinement. My anxiety changed to purpose as I entered the corridor. I realized our team had perhaps a onetime opportunity to share about a future with hope in Jesus Christ. I was immediately hooked.

My most heartbreaking moment was finding my neighbor’s eldest child at the detention center. He lived with his two younger siblings, mom, and her girlfriend. I received permission from the guards to spend extra time speaking and praying with him. I requested that True North Ministry connect us through the mentorship program. It devastated me to find out that his mom missed over a month of their appointments with the parole officer. They were gone. I remain overjoyed that True North Ministry provided us with one last opportunity to share Jesus Christ and pray together.

While my experiences have varied over the last several years, the joy remains. These young people are coping with unimaginable stress that would shake adults. They crave honesty, transparency, and a relationship with God and show great appreciation that someone showed up to spend time with them.

The fresh opportunity to provide a technology-rich experience is excellent. However, it does not replace the impact of looking a defeated person in the eyes and telling them they have profound worth to a personal God. The responsibility of fulfilling the Great Commission through True North Ministry is sometimes what brings me through struggles of faith. I will forever appreciate True North Ministry’s volunteer for his guidance and encouragement that led me here.

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Upcoming events:

2020 Spring Banquet

Cancelled-however, True North Ministry is exploring other options for our 2020 Banquet. Keep an eye out for updates coming real soon.

Please call Jennifer DeWeese, 330-896-2700, with any questions and for details.

WHO’S WHO AT TRUE NORTH MINISTRY

True North Campus Operations:
Jennifer DeWeese, Ministry Manager

Dan Street Ministries:
Duncan Othen, Activities Supervisor
Michael Ray, Activities Supervisor

TNM BOARD MEMBERS

Jennifer DeWeese, Ministry Manager

J. Michael Ray

Rick Crouse

Duncan Othen

Jim Love – Chairman

Bill Heitman - Treasurer

Jim Rios

Julie Buckeye

Our Beliefs

At True North Ministry, we believe Jesus Christ is the key to recognizing the value of ALL peoples, achieving justice and that Jesus is the ONLY perfectly just person who has ever lived. We know this because from the words of Jesus, all have been made in His image and with that, the barrier of the dividing wall that separates races, classes of people and sexes has been abolished. Through the cross, all people groups are made ONE in His church. We believe God loves everyone, as He said, “God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten son, that whosoever believes in Him may have eternal life.” We believe the solution to achieving reconciliation and justice for all people groups is for individuals to come to a saving faith in Jesus Christ - by being born again to a living hope, a hope which is un-perishable and will not fade away and is reserved in heaven.

We believe True North Ministry is a part of that solution. Since our founding over 10 years ago, we have offered without any bias the saving hope of Jesus, and we are actively engaged in building disciples of Christ. We will continue to strategically invest in the lives of young people, building a foundation of faith, hope and living skills as we strive to obey Jesus’ command to make disciples of all nations.