

## “Letter From M.O.M.”

The Quarterly newsletter of **Moving On Ministry**

[WWW.MovingOnMinistry.com](http://WWW.MovingOnMinistry.com) (Since April 2001)

[www.PrisonMinistry.net/movingon](http://www.PrisonMinistry.net/movingon)

Volume 93 –July / Aug / Sept 2016 (Published since Oct. 2003)

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### “I Can Only Imagine”

As you receive this volume of **Letter From M.O.M.**, we are continuing with more of the testimonies of “How God Changes Lives” as well as some more of our own written articles. We can truly say that the “high” that many of our inmates have been trying to get through the wrong methods, is being surpassed by those putting God in **ownership** of their lives.

Watch our website  
[www.MovingOnMinistry.com](http://www.MovingOnMinistry.com)

We are also affiliated with International Prison Fellowship  
[www.PrisonMinistry.net/movingon](http://www.PrisonMinistry.net/movingon)

### Fellowship

With the crashing of the computer, we are building a new mail list. We got behind on letter replies, and may occasionally miss one. Please write back if we do not answer, and write clearly so we can get the mailing information correct.



### Intentions & Wishes

The intentions of this newsletter are to allow an understanding of jail & prison ministries. It is our intentions to get input from those incarcerated as well as those “free” to visit. Life experiences of the faith and fellowship from those locked up in the facilities are always desired to let others know of the value of “visitation”. I am certain that each of us have many stories of the miracles God has done in our lives.

Our wishes are that we would have a list of supportive churches and programs that individuals might look forward to attending, once released.

A list of services, such as housing, employment and counseling services, as well as some individuals available for friendly fellowship are also much needed items (Resource List).

God’s Word says if a man stumbles, how can he continue lest there be another to help him up. **Ecc. 4:10** “For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him [that is] alone when he falleth; for [he hath] not another to help him up.” **Proverbs 24:17** “Rejoice not when thy enemy falleth, and let not thy heart be glad when he stumbleth:” **John 11:10** “But if a man walketh in the night, he stumbleth, because there is no light in him.”

Please help us with input for this newsletter as we strive to serve God. We appreciate any articles or input.

**Pray for volunteers with the same passion as Bob, Linda, Eric, Irie, Jacob, Beatriz and other current volunteers have.**

## **Heather Layne**

(Song writer, Nashville and international recording artist)

Heather and Denny have offered to do some prison concerts on a quarterly basis.

Please have the chaplain or a religious volunteer contact us if interested in a “Heather Layne concert” or a “Take it to the Yard” event

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**Sunday Dec. 18, 2016 – Calif. Men’s Colony State Prison**

**Wasco State Prison - pending**

Ask for a copy of our **56 page (Over 650 listings) “Resource List”**

**Pen Pals Brochure Discontinued**

**SASE with Postage is needed but verified indigent envelopes will be mailed as funds are available.**

Postage  
\$.89 for Resources (6X9 envelope)  
\$1.15 for Resources (#10 envelope)  
(\$ .98 copy fee)

\$.11 for 6” X 9” envelope  
\$.02 for #10 envelope

\$.47-\$.68 for Newsletter postage  
(Donations Welcome)

Many are familiar with the 56 page “**Resources From M.O.M.**” that has **approximately 650 listings in various categories (downloadable online).**

**Can mail with 6” X 9” S.A.S.E, \$.89 postage, \$.98 copy fee, \$.11 for 6 X 9 envelope (Donation of \$2.01 to \$3.00 for all . If using #10 envelope, postage is \$ 1.15**

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## Addresses to contact the Ministry Volunteers

**Road Prison Ministry (RPM)**  
Attn. Jail / Prison Ministry  
1021 S. Burke  
Visalia, CA 93292

**Prison Pen Pal**  
P.O. Box 235  
East Berlin, PA 17316

**Calvary Chapel Prison Ministry**  
Attn: Carmine Aleprete  
P.O. Box 1965  
Big Bear Lake, CA 92315

**Little Lambs, Inc**  
John & Eileen Sala  
P.O. Box 32  
Sebring, FL 33871-0032

**Otto & Jennie Ball**  
c/o Crossroads Ministry  
P.O. Box 363  
Hyde, PA 16843

**3 G Company**  
Correspondence  
P.O. Box 1022  
Canfield, OH 44406

**LaVoz de La Esperanza**  
101 W. Cochran St.  
Simi Valley, CA 93065

**Iglesia Puerta de Salvacion**  
202 Lafayette Ave.  
Lindsay, CA 93247

**Set Free Prison Ministries**  
Bible Correspondence Course  
P.O. Box 5540  
Riverside, CA. 92517-9986

**World Challenge**  
P.O. Box 260  
Lindale, TX 75771-0260

**Discover Bible School**  
Attn, Dr. Paul G.  
229 Stormy St. NE  
Albany, OR 97322

A Cup of Water Ministries  
Pen Pals  
P.O. Box 161759  
Ft. Worth, TX 71611

**Crossroad Bible Institute**  
P.O. Box 900  
Grand Rapids, MI 49509-0900

**International Prison Ministry**  
Bible, Dictionary, Concordance  
P.O. Box 2868  
Costa Mesa, CA 92628-2868

**Ministero de Prison**  
P.O. Box 543  
Live Oak, FL 32064

**El Concilio Del Condado**  
301 So. C St.  
Oxnard, CA 93030

## Missing M.O.M. ?

We must constantly remind individuals that we need to be notified of changes of address or facilities. If we get returned mail (about 20 each month), we remove that individual from the files. If you have, or you are going to be moved, please drop us a note to keep your file active. We get mail returned for bad ID #'s, no cell #, and no bed #.

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## Letters that Express it All

We like to post real life situations, because God works in real lives and He is the one that gives "Eternal Life."

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For those of you that communicate with individuals that have computer access, we have added quite a bit to our web site. The "**Resource List**" (56 pages), the "**Pen Pal Friends**" (**discontinued**), ALL past newsletters ("**Letter From M.O.M.**"), inmate lookup links, and artwork are available to be viewed or downloaded.

[www.MovingOnMinistry.com](http://www.MovingOnMinistry.com)

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## Sharing Your Testimony

There are 4 parts to an individual's testimony;

1. What my life was like before I met Jesus.
2. How I realized I needed Jesus.
3. How I committed my life to Jesus.
4. The difference Jesus has made in my life.

The importance is not what you have done, but what God is doing.

1. Your testimony Your life lessons
2. Your godly passions
3. The Good News

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## Readily Available Printouts

Please help with postage

I would like to add that we have shared many wonderful testimonies. Many individuals are afraid to share their testimony because they are not sure what to write or feel inadequate in their writing ability. God's Word says in **Jeremiah 17:9** that "**the heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?**" When the heart is changed by Christ it becomes the center of where God works from in our life.

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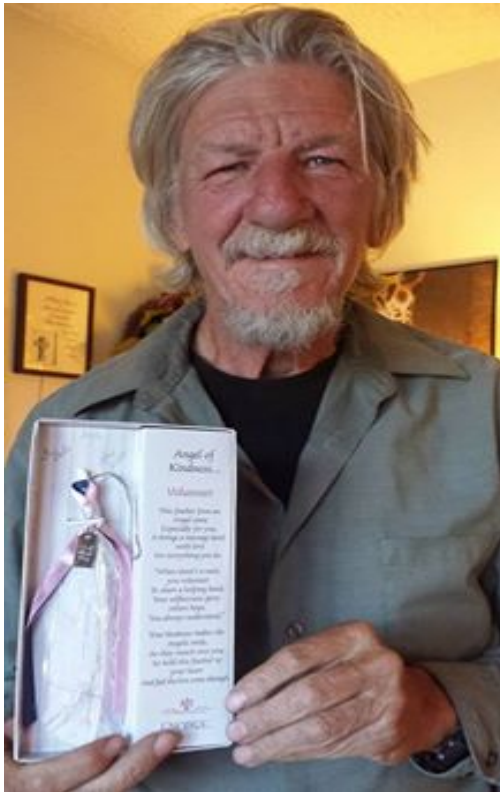
Greetings from “Moving On Ministry” (M.O.M.) and the Bill Glass “Behind the Walls” event. Chaplain Bob was assigned to Corcoran 3A and 3C yards on Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, and Pleasant Valley B and D yards on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>. I enjoyed meeting many of you on those yards. Also what a blessing to be able to take my 2005 Titan motorcycle on the yard.



Hopefully those of you at the event had a chance to share with the speakers, performers and volunteers and enjoy the motorcycles.

Our prayer is that for those of you that are Christian, this was a time of reinforcement and drawing closer to **Jesus**.

For those of you that had not made the decision to follow **Jesus**, we pray that you either have or will give your life over to Christ.



The card from my sister-in-law, Jessica, says it all!

### **Angel of Kindness : Volunteer**

This feather from an angel came especially for you;  
It brings a message laced with love  
For everything you do.  
When there's a need, you volunteer.  
To share a helping hand. Your selflessness  
gives others hope,  
You always understand.  
Your kindness makes the angels smile,  
As they watch over you;  
So hold this feather to your heart  
And feel the love come through.

## **Bill Glass “Behind the Walls” ministry event April 28-30, 2016**

**450** Teammates from **17** states served in **11** correctional facilities at the Fresno, CA Weekend of Champions this weekend!

**2,917** inmates chose to follow Christ....

**1,357** for the VERY FIRST TIME!

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## Update on Chaplain Bob

As some of you know, Chaplain Bob retired from his job with the County of Tulare, CA as the Data Center Administrator in December 2014. He only had 7 years back with the County and had previously worked as a computer desktop technician. As is typical with aging, Bob’s vision was getting blurred and his hearing weaker, so he decided to retire from his secular job. With the large cut in income, the M.O.M. ministry was going to suffer financially, since Bob and Linda were the primary source of money to run the ministry. However, Bob did not retire from his involvement in the M.O.M. ministry. He is still writing articles for the “**Letter From M.O.M.**” newsletter, printing the “**Resources From M.O.M.**” lists and planning to further do visits to facilities. What Bob, Linda and the volunteers are doing in the jails and prison yards must be disturbing the Devil because now Bob was diagnosed in early stages of **Parkinson’s disease** in October 2015. The neurologist has Bob on medication and the quivers are very seldom and mild. The doctor told Bob that he should have at least another 10 to 20 years to go. Looking at it from Bob’s 67 years of life, that is a long time (though it goes fast).

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“Biker Look”  
(Linda says “Grumpy looking”)



All shortened up  
(Linda says “better”)



Many individuals did not recognize me during the Bill Glass “Behind the Walls” event. The reasons for not recognizing me were they had never seen me on a motorcycle before. There was the difference of the long hair for that biker look. As I was entering one of the yards, the correctional officer looked at my drivers license and asked me to remove my hat and then replied “I guess so.” Another missing feature was the cowboy boots. But it is just hard to ride a 112 HP motorcycle in cowboy boots.

Beard & Mustache Gone  
(Linda says “OH YEAH”)

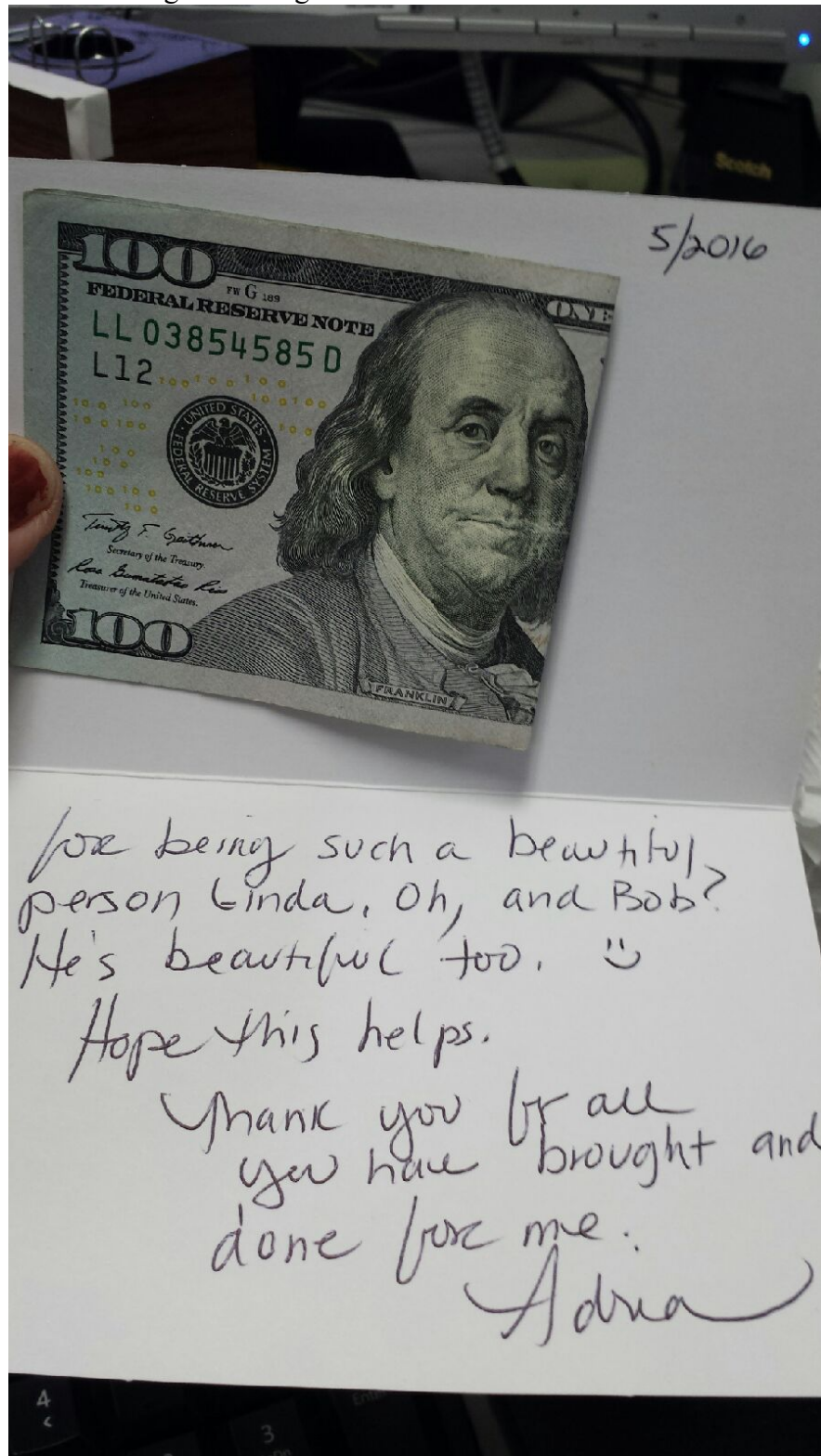
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### **Trials and Tribulation**

Yes, Bob and Linda have has more than a few trials and tribulations. We had Linda’s Jeep tagged by the A.S.K. (All Styles Kings) gang members. Another time some of the lug nuts were removed from Linda’s Jeep front right wheel which caused the wheel to break off in about 20 miles of driving. Bob and Linda were returning from a Bill Glass ministry event. They were traveling on the freeway at about 65 MPH. Luckily Bob observed the light vibration just before it broke off and allowed him to slow to a safer speed in the exit ramp. There was the time that Bob’s 16’ car trailer was stolen in front of his house in broad daylight. There was the burglary of the retreat property where \$2400 in tools was taken and \$3900 in building damage was done. There was the theft of a 6 day old generator out of the back of Bob’s truck while he parked at the Visalia Convention parking for 1 hour and 10 minutes. Most recently was the theft at 3:30 AM on May 3, 2016 where we caught the crime on video cameras. Bob had the dealer for his replacement truck to remove these items from his old truck, to be installed on the newer one. Seems the thieves cut the tie-downs that secured a front bumper, a 12,000 # winch, a truck bed toolbox and a ladder rack. The thieves were only able (could barely handle



the weight) to make off with the bumper and winch and slide them into their SUV. Linda was so upset that she posted a \$200 reward and she and Bob were interviewed by KMPH 26 news for the 10:00 PM news on 5/30/2016. One of Linda's co-workers saw the TV interview and sent the following card and gift:



Then in October 2015, there was the diagnosis that Bob was in early stages of Parkinson's disease. Bob looks at the diagnosis as another adventure.

In February 2016 the computer crashed and was totally inaccessible. Bob's friend, Bryon, was able to repair the computer and salvage the data on the 2<sup>nd</sup> mirrored drive. However somewhere along the line the active mailing list disappeared.

**Chances are that you are receiving this mailing to setup a new quarterly mailing list. It is necessary that an updated profile sheet be received at M.O.M.**

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### **TV Followup Story**

Volume 65 Reprint (March 2011)

Many of you may have seen the television story of **Michael Hess** on "I **Almost Got Away With It.**" Chaplain Bob was so amazed with the story, and the fact that Michael had lived a reformed life for 28 years after his escape from the Florida prison. Bob had to watch the entire program, as he saw

Michael become Charles E. Swiger in the story, and remain out for 28 years. Bob had to look Michael up on the internet and write him.

Michael wrote Chaplain Bob back almost immediately, and the letter was a REAL BLESSING. The following is Michael's letter.

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Greetings,  
I received your letter today and must admit that I was surprised to hear from someone as far as California in reference to the TV program. But I am also encouraged, as my sole purpose of doing the interview was that I hoped that someone of authority here in Florida would see it and perhaps think that perhaps I was rehabilitated and be put out on parole.

I have to say that while I was on escape, I tried to live a decent life, as far as society's values. I was asked how hard it was to stay on escape. It wasn't hard after the first couple of years. I did what you were supposed to do, **(1) work a full time job.** I held one job for 16 years. When I was arrested, I had been the kitchen manager of the largest sports bar in Tampa, Florida. **(2) Mind your own business.** Make it a fulltime job to keep up with yourself. **(3) Don't go to clubs where trouble could start,** and get

yourself caught up in something out of your control. **(4) Leave other peoples stuff alone.** I kinda followed those rules and was successful. I know escaping was wrong, but after that, I am proud of my record. I have tried to tell people in charge that I didn't like prison and would do my darn best to stay out.

I have read your bi-monthly newsletter and I want to thank you for it. I found it interesting and enlightening.

I consider myself a Christian. I was baptized at an early age. As there has only been one perfect person, I have sinned and am constantly asking for God's forgiveness and understanding. When asked – I admit to being a Christian, and that I do believe in God. But one of my shortcomings is not being vocal about it. I have strayed and in all likelihood, will stray again. But I will constantly ask for forgiveness. Luckily, there is not a set number that you can be

forgiven. If that were so, I'm sure I would have used my share long ago.

The release date is a presumptive parole date. I had an interview in December and the interviewer recommended that a 2 year reduction be granted. It's not much, but I am thankful for any blessing. I would really like to think that I'll be paroled before then even. I know, given the chance, that I can be a productive member of society. There will be no return trip for me. I'm hoping that I get released early enough to be able to go back to work. I have been in food service most of my life. I decided at an early age that a good cook will always be able to work.

I hope that you will be able to send me the newsletter regularly. I don't get mail and would have something to look forward to.

My message to other convicts is to use all the gifts God has given us. He has made us in His own image so we have the inherent ability to be successful

and good. Too many of us want the "Quick Fix." And that is usually the wrong road. We need to do our best and soar like eagles. We have the ability.

To all my fellow convicts, male & female, I pray that you will find the way to prosperity. It would be much easier if you have faith in God and let Him lead you in whatever venture.

As I stated earlier, I have seen the light. I believe that God will help me if asked! This is a new year and a chance to start anew.

I hope to hear from any interested person in search of communication, who will write me, and together we use all our strengths to live that Christian life.

God Bless **Michael J. Hess**

**p.s.** Michael has had the Indigo Films Co. that did the video, send us his DVD of the TV program, which we still show. Please all Christians pray for Michael's soon release.

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## **The Beaten Path, But not the Beaten Individual**

Many of you remember when we published the **Michael Hess** story and his video on "*I Almost Got Away with it.*" We asked Michael if we could pray for him and two weeks later he was informed that he had 144 months (12 years) dropped from his sentence after recapture. Michael is out and has done some public speaking. However it has not been an easy road to follow, though Michael is dedicated to follow the path God has given him.

We received the following letter from Michael on **3/28/2014**

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Dear Chaplain Bob & Linda,

I guess you'll might have had a few questions about me since we have not had any contact. I can understand your concerns. So let me try to explain

On Jan. 9, 2014, I had a scheduled colonoscopy at the VA for early morning. I had done all the prior prep work. I don't think I had been any cleaner inside since birth, physically at least. But any way, a while after being in recovery, a little longer then most, they released me.

I went back out where the van was parked to take us back to the T house (Transition) when everybody was done. I had just gotten out there when I threw up. Now I figured I would probably feel better. Haven't you been feeling a little pucky and you threw up and felt better? Well I was hoping that this would be my case. Well about 10 minutes later I threw up again, and I knew I was not feeling very good.

So I make it back up to the second floor of the hospital. As soon as I got there, a nurse that had remembered that I had a procedure done earlier, came over to me and took me by the hand and lead me back to recovery where a couple of Drs. And nurses laid me down on a gurney, taking vitals, getting ready to do the EKG thing. At that moment I had one whopper of a headache and my chest was a little sore. So we finally got things setup, to do the EKG and bingo, I am in the midst of a heart attack.

Well, I have to admit I was pretty shook up. But I'll tell you I was more distressed when I was told that I had to be taken to another hospital, as the VA could not handle things such as heart attacks.

So we rode for about 35 minutes to a hospital that does such things. I'm taken right to the head of the line and I am attended to. The Doc looks at me and says "you are having a heart attack." I told him that I believed him seeing as how the other Doc's had confirmed the same thing and that I believed them. My question was "What are you going to do about it?"

Well Dr. "Casey" (of the Dr. Ben Casey – Dr. Steven Kylee fame) says we are going to get your vitals stable and in the morning take a look at my heart through some catheter and probably take care of the problem and I would be good as new in a few weeks. I said fine.

Well his prognosis was all wet. I sound up with a quadruple bypass. So I woke up with tubes and everything. I have just recently realized how serious it really was. I still have restrictions about movement and weight lifting limits, but I'm getting there slowly but surely. I'm still pretty sore.

After a couple of weeks, I kept complaining how the right side of my chest was more sore than the left side. Well they finally did a bone scan of my chest and found out that I had 3 cracked ribs. While they can't do anything about it, it at least showed that I wouldn't complain about just nothing. The Dr. did increase my pain med though and it helped.

On **Jan, 23, 2014**, they came to tell me I'm being released from the hospital. I was kind of surprised because I still felt like I had been run over by a truck. But I left and moved into a ground floor apartment that the T-House rents under veteran friendly terms. I got out of the hospital on **Jan, 23, 2014** (Thur. PM). After a rough 3 days, on Monday morning I called all as I was feeling pretty bad. And before I knew it, I was on my way back to the hospital. Why? Because I was having another heart attack. Who would have thought?

I went to a different hospital, as they thought I should get to one as soon as possible. A couple of docs were waiting on me to get there and I was in the operating room in about 20 minutes. They tries to work 3 valves but they forgot about right away. Out of the 3 they worked on, only one was completely successful.

So, I'm in the hospital again! Six days later (**Jan, 29, 2014**), while in the hospital, with nothing better to do, I had another heart attack. That was 3 in a month.

Sounds like a lot to me. But on Valentine's Day (**Feb. 14, 2014**) I'm released to a rehab-nursing home in Deland, FL. My first impression was that I had gone back in time to "One flew over the Cuckoo's nest." Really!

But I didn't have much of a chance to form a true opinion about the place. You see, Sunday AM (**Feb. 16, 2014**) I remember standing up from the breakfast table and the next thing I remember was being strapped to one of those wooden boards with a head stabilizer. I had apparently fainted and banged my head on the floor. I had wound up fracturing my skull in two places. So, "Back to the hospital I go."

I was there until **Feb. 25, 2014** and then sent to the Metro West Nursing & Rehab Facility. I don't know when I am getting out of here. Naturally my chest is pretty sore, but I think the skull fracture is the worse right now. I never seem to completely lose my headache. Its worse sometimes than others, but never completely goes away. They tell me it will. It'll just be a while.

My stuff is in 3 or 4 different places. Cell phone in Deland with some clothes. Most stuff is at the apartment that I lived in 3 days. I'm going to be here either 3 more days or 17 more days. I would prefer the 17 as I have seen and felt some improvement in my old beat up body. I've heard the old axiom – "What doesn't kill you, will make yo stronger." I don't think that is true in my case. Not that I ever was the construction type, but heavy duty stuff is recommended against.

I know we get tested throughout our lives and such, this was a tough one physically, spiritually and mentally. The physical speaks for itself. The mental is that I should have been in culinary school and received my Pell Grant check. Been on my to really transition back into society. Spiritually? Was I supposed to curse or question God? I tell myself, if it is His way or desire for some reason, perhaps the reason will be known to me later. It's been a heck of a couple of weeks Chaplain Bob. But my faith is still strong. But I've got a couple of really ugly scars. Once I track down my cell phone, I'll call you.

**Michael Hess**

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### **UPDATE FROM MICHAEL HESS**

**July 2014**

Dear Chaplain Bob & Linda

It was really super being able to talk to you'all this past weekend holiday. I really can't put into words you'all's influence on my thinking and such. I mentioned you'all in my interview to gain admittance where I am presently living. You'all came up in conversation with my parole officer. The social worker from the V.A. that drove me up here to Lake City urged me to never loose contact with you'all. I told him there was no worry of that.

But on another thought. This past weekend was Memorial Day week-end. We take time to honor our veterans. To people that did their patriotic duty. Not all of us vets did so well when we first got out of our branch of the service. I know I didn't, and I paid for it.

But I'm out of prison and this past Wednesday (May 21, 2014) was 1 year out. Doesn't sound like a lot, but to me it as a pretty big deal (most inmates are only out 2 to 8 months), and a step towards my re-integration into society.

While in prison I kind of kept to my own little area, and that worked for me. But in society, if you're a hermit like existence impedes your growth. Too many different things are happening for you to stick your head in a hole, hoping for the best.

If you want to achieve your maximum ability, you have to have your eyes, ears and heart wide open. If not, some really good opportunities well might pass you by. You have to be receptive to new ideas. Our old ones (mine anyways) didn't turn out so healthy for us. We need to change. We probably could use some help. Its out there. You just have to look for it when it is in your environment. Please don't stop looking. It usually doesn't happen overnight, but you never know, it might be right around the corner.

Don't get held back by past mistakes. They happened, learn from them and let that make you stronger. Realize your full self-potential. Don't short change yourself. God bless you all.

Michael Hess (2268A-7)  
Robert H. Jenkin's Dom.

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My name is **Michael Hess**. I have been a **Soldier of M.O.M.** (Moving On Ministry) for a few years now. Needless to say, I became acquainted with M.O.M. while I was in prison. I was in for about 14 years. I did 7 ½ (on a 35 year sentence) and 28 years, and 4 months later 6 ½ year. No I wasn't on parole, nor had I been released. I was an escape. Perhaps some of you that have been associated with M.O.M. know my story. But that's not the real point of this article.

On **March 23, 2013**, I was given a parole and I've been enjoying freedom ever since. There is nothing like it. Just the joy of the little things. Being able to change the channel on the TV. Wearing what I want to. Making my own menu.

I am a disabled Veteran (happy Vet's Day to all vets no matter where you are) so I don't work and pretty much have the freedom of planning my own day's activities. The exception being the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month when I have to report to my parole officer, and I thank God for the opportunity to do that. I could still be locked up. So I don't mind reporting. One of the questions asked on the report is to name two goals, and what steps you've taken to achieve those goals. My #1 goal is to stay out of prison. Besides my faith, that is the most important thing to never loose site of. I learned very early that the 'joint' was not the place I want to go back too because I've messed up. I have been trying to go back and tell my story and perhaps lend some insight to how really easy it is to stay out. I'm not a person that needs to be told when to eat, sleep and go to the yard. Regretfully there are people who function best under those conditions. Not me! Freedom is indescribable. It's the other end of the spectrum. I hated prison, I love freedom. And this journey hasn't been without some pitfalls and set-backs.

In January 2014, I had a pretty good size heart attack. In February 2014 I passed out and fractured my skull. In March 2014 I suffered a bout with colitis (most unpleasant). And I topped it all off with pneumonia. A rough four months. I was out of the hospital for 3 days and what happens? I had another heart attack. Back to the hospital. But looking back at all this stuff, I used it to measure how well I am doing now. I only have about 45% heart function (along with getting old), so I am not able to do some of the things I could before.

I go to a Life Enhancement Center at least 3 times a week. I work-out with exercise machines. I intermingle with people that can't do what I can do. I use this to remind myself just how lucky and blessed I've been.

I also have a partner of the female gender that I wake up beside every morning. We aren't a "Leave It to Beaver" family, but we love and look out for each other. We've been away from the Veterans Domiciliary for a year. We are still doing things for the first time. Carol is very important to me. We have some different views on stuff, but in the end, I'm a better person because of her.

We go to a Baptist Church in the little town we live in. It's a church where just about everyone knows each other. It's a warm spiritual experience every time we go to church. All in all, I've got a pretty blessed situation that I'm thankful for. Even in prison some good things happen. You have to make the most of those things – I DID!

I hope perhaps something I've said has made you feel like it was meant for you. I know that "God is good all the time; All the time God is good."

It was special when Chaplain Bob and Linda came into my life. Let knowing them be special for you too. **Michael Hess**

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In 2009, the Dutch justice ministry announced the planned **closing of eight prisons** in the Netherlands due to a declining crime rate which was expected to continue.

In 2013, a staggering **19 prisons were scheduled to be closed**. This is caused, in part, by a continued decline in crime rates. Additionally, those who are convicted are choosing electronic tagging instead of incarceration. This allows people to go back to work and continue as productive members of society. It also saves about \$50,000 per year per person (about \$50 million saved per year for every 1000 people).

Johnson County and the Netherlands have something in common. The average incarceration rate in the Netherlands is about 163 people per 100,000. In Johnson County, we have about the same rate of incarceration – slightly lower.

Counties and countries with low incarceration rates typically take a different approach to criminal justice and their investment in social services. In the Netherlands, for example, the focus is on "detering and mitigating crime" as well as "sanctioning those who violate laws with . . . rehabilitation efforts.

This is similar to the approach taken in Johnson County with **jail alternatives** and **investing in local social services**. The county recently **invested approximately \$2.3 million** into a portfolio of local organizations that have demonstrated a history of success with improving the quality of life in Johnson County.

While progressive drug laws in the Netherlands may be partially the reason for a decline in arrests, other social factors are also at work. This points to crime reduction through changing social behavior as a key to reducing incarceration — rather than just changing the laws or telling police to stop arresting people as a method for artificially creating the perception that there's less crime .

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**M.O.M. Ministry “Do’s and Don’ts”**

**What we don’t do:**

Send money to you or family  
Trade personal information  
Contact people for you  
Look up information on people  
Spend time doing research for you  
Set you up with individuals for romance

M.O.M. is NOT a dating service  
Do not do legal work  
Will not give our phone numbers  
Will not accept collect phone calls  
Will not send pictures  
Pen-pal list discontinued

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**What we will do:**

Chapel service at prison facilities  
Ministry program for churches  
Transitional Planning class  
Send newsletters with S.A.S.E. (\$.49)

Take it to the Yard event  
Platform speakers  
Motorcycles  
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