

WELCOME NEW MENTORS: During the month of August we have gained four new mentors – **Orlando Alfonzo**, **Randell O’Neal** from True Gospel Church (Dalton, GA), **Phil Stricklen** from Grace Pres, and **Jackie Weaver** from Christ Life Church (Dallas, GA). This brings us to a total of 127 active/inactive mentors from 45 churches! Even with this increase we still have ~80 men who are eagerly awaiting mentors, so please remain in prayer for additional mentors to join this wonderful ministry.

FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST...Chaplain Coming! Our next fellowship breakfast is set for this **Saturday, September 17th, 8 AM** at Wally’s Restaurant in East Ridge (6521 Ringgold Road, Chattanooga, TN). This facility is located at exit 1B off I-75 North once you cross the GA/TN state line, convenient for our Georgia mentors. You’ll enjoy a buffet style breakfast (self pay). **Chaplain Jeremy Stroop** of Walker State Prison will be our speaker. Please join us this Saturday to have some good fellowship, meet some new mentors, and hear from the chaplain. Remember...wives and interested visitors are always welcome!



CONTINUED NEED - Indigent Care at Walker State Prison (WSP): We will again be taking up donations (both items and money) at our fellowship breakfast for the indigent care program at WSP called “Home Project.” Chaplain Stroop needs approximately \$350 per month to fulfill this ministry. Specific needs include *toothpaste, toothbrushes, toothbrush covers, shampoo in clear bottles, bars of soap, soap dishes, lotion, baby powder, and deodorant*. Please bring such donated items to the breakfast or get them to your Group Leader.



2nd ANNUAL VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION CELEBRATION: The WSP Chaplaincy Department is proud to announce the 2nd Annual Volunteer Appreciation Celebration for all mentors and their wives. * This will be an evening of music, inspiration and fun. They will have three bands, two choirs, speakers, and some surprises ready and eager to show their appreciation for all you do to make the Faith & Character-Based program a success. The event will be on **Friday, October 7th**, from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. **Registration required before Sept. 27th**. You may register on our website in the “Sign-Up Sheets” or by contacting Doug Craven via e-mail, text, or phone call at (423) 902-2004.

**wives must have an approved GCIC form on file that is less than 12 months old.*

WALKER TALKER – WSP NEWSLETTER: Please visit our website and catch-up on the latest news from Walker State Prison! You'll find all issues of the “*Walker Talker*” in the bottom right-hand column of our “home” page. Recent important news concerning the prison and/or our mentors in the **July Issue #18** include;

- “**Meet My Mentor**” – Calvin Keller & Jeremy Prather
- “**Voci Virili Hits Walker**” – Steve Hawkins sings a solo.
- “**Chaplaincy Report**” – did you know that of the 3,200 volunteers that spend time with GDC residents, over 1,600 are associated with Walker State Prison? That’s half the state’s volunteers!



FAMILY DAY 2016 UPDATE: Family Day at Walker State Prison (WSP) is an unbelievable event where the offenders can invite their family, including children, to spend the day with them. This “picnic-like” event is held outside (weather permitting) and currently has ~1,300 men, women, and children registered to attend. There will be music, games, inflatable amusements for the children, and many other activities that will turn the WSP ball field into a virtual “county fair.” The prison administration allows mentors to serve as “family” for those mentoring partners that do not have family planning to attend; otherwise the offender would not get to participate in this event. Mentors whose mentoring partners have invited family may still attend and serve as “volunteers” to perform certain tasks needed to support this great event. These “volunteer” mentors then have a chance to meet their mentees’ families. Our ministry currently has 30 mentors & wives registered to serve as “family” with an additional 29 mentors & wives serving as “volunteers.” Please plan to arrive on this **Friday, Sept. 23rd**, morning as indicated below:

- **Volunteers – 7 AM**
- **Family – 7:30 AM**

Please contact **Rich Denking** (cell # 423 **605-9676** or e-mail fpeinc@comcast.net) if you have any questions concerning this event.

LESSONS LEARNED:

- **Forwarding JPay E-mail** – Recently, a mentor received an e-mail through JPay and was asked by his mentoring partner to forward the e-mail to other individuals not involved in this ministry. The JPay e-mail system is set-up to prevent the offenders from sending e-mails to “free world” individuals without prior approval. Having a mentor send such an e-mail disables this important safeguard. To help protect the integrity of the mentoring ministry, mentors should avoid contacting individuals on behalf of their mentoring partners through any medium.
- **Providing Money (\$) to an Offender’s Account** – Following a question from a mentor involving possible financial support of his mentoring partner by the mentor’s church, we learned that GDC policy prevents an organization from putting money on an offender’s account. To be eligible to put money on an offender’s account, the person must be an approved visitor on the offender’s visitation list. A mentor cannot be on his mentee’s visitation list. Additionally, a request such as this falls into the realm of personal dealings by the mentor. We should not try to find organizations to donate or help facilitate the transfer of money onto our mentoring partner’s account. If your mentoring partner is indigent, your best way of supporting him financially is to donate either material or money (\$) to the “Home Project.” This allows the chaplaincy to feed and provide hygiene products to those offenders in need. We collect items or money for the “Home Project” at each of our Fellowship Breakfasts.

LAPTOP NEEDED: The Arts & Crafts department of WSP has an urgent need for an old laptop. If you have an old, outdated laptop that you would be willing to donate, please contact **Rich Denking** (cell # 423 605-9676 or e-mail fpeinc@comcast.net).

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Fellowship Breakfast** – Saturday, **Sept. 17th**, 8 to 10 AM at the Wally’s Restaurant in East Ridge
- **No Mentoring Sessions** – Thursday, **Sept. 22th** (prep for Family Day) & Thursday, **Sept. 29th** (5th weekday in month)
- **Family Day 2016** – Friday, **Sept. 23rd**, 7 or 7:30 AM to 2:30 PM
- **Deadline for Registration to Attend Volunteer Appreciation Celebration** – Tuesday, **Sept. 27th**

Link to our website - <https://wspmentoringministryevents.shutterfly.com/>

Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together. (Psalm 34:3)

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