

WSP MENTOR MESSAGE #42

March 2017

WARNING About Use of Photographs Taken In the Prison. Chaplain Stroop reported that photos taken in the prison were placed on social media without prior approval. Permission was granted to use the photos for a specific purpose, but overreach occurred and the shots were used for other than the approved purpose. ***This goes beyond the mentor ministry! Posting of photos and making use of them for other than specifically approved purposes without approval may cause harm/suspension of the Faith and Character program at Walker.*** The leadership at Walker declared that access to pictures for outside use will be restricted and be highly controlled by prison officials. ***Furthermore, they will recommend suspension of the ministry, church, and complicit volunteer from all Georgia Dept of Correction facilities if pictures again are used without permission for marketing or personal purposes.*** If you have questions or doubts about use of photos pertaining to our ministry, ASK me. If you are one of the many many mentors who are engaged in the numerous other programs at Walker, independent of mentoring, I am always available to field questions, but you are responsible in your personal ministries to ASK Walker staff if you have any questions or doubts about any plans of yours. *Alan Bonderud*

WATCH ITEM Entry with Smart Watches Disallowed. WS F&CB Security will not allow smart watches into the prison. These are web enabled, cell phone capable, with cameras. Even if what you wear only looks the part, you will probably be asked to return it to your locked vehicle. Many thanks.

Approved Book Lists. We must begin to track all books given to mentees. Prior approval is required all books except Operation Timothy and books already on an approved list. Watch for further details.

Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) and Badge Expirations. WS F&CB complies with all Federal & State regs. If you're asked to sign PREA statements and give badge numbers, cooperate as quickly as possible.

SORRY!!!! Cameras Still Not Allowed Inside WS F&CB. Since we use a free *Shutterfly* website to post our materials, calendars, etc. many of you received a message saying something to the effect that, "If you plan to attend the Five-year Celebration of the Metanoia Community Mentoring Ministry at WS F&CB, do not forget to BRING YOUR CAMERAS!" It caused quite a problem at Security. Doug Craven and I are SORRY for the confusion. A glitch occurred that permitted *Shutterfly* to market directly to you by sending such a note. It may happen again, so remember, no cameras are permitted at the prison.

Ministry Growth Continues. We recently trained 10 new mentors, thanks to YOU for passing along the word. Among these are two mentors who will engage Catholic prisoners on the waiting list. We will work with WS F&CB staff and Father Bill at St. Gerard Majella Catholic Church, Fort Oglethorpe until he is free to take over administration of this new ministry to Catholic prisoners.

Do You Want to Attend Sunday Night Services In Chattanooga? Rev. Cal Keller is a mentor and pastor of Cornerstone Presbyterian Church, a congregation of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church in Chattanooga's Southside Neighborhood. His is one of the few churches offering a Sunday evening service. He says if any of you want to take advantage of this opportunity to spread your worship throughout Sunday, you are extremely welcome to attend. Find them at <http://www.cornerstone-opc.org/>.

Calendar Items

Bi-Monthly Mentor Breakfast, 8:00 a.m. Sat, Mar. 18. Wally's@East Ridge. Spouses WELCOME. Cost \$10 w/tip. Bring \$\$ and soups/noodles, etc. to contribute to indigent prisoners. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THE PRISON HAS A NEW STATE SOURCE FOR HYGIENE ITEMS SO WE NO LONGER WILL COLLECT THESE.** New mentor, Scott Dale, will bring a devotion and testimony, and share first impressions of what it is like to be a part of this unique ministry.

WS F&CB Job Fair, Friday, May 5th. Mentors asked if we know of any companies or institutions that might set up tables to meet with prisoners during first ever Job Fair. Advise if you can help coordinate. Details TBD.

NEW State of Georgia New Mentor Orientation and Training Classes. Once mentor candidates complete our in-house training, they are to attend the NEXT mandatory training provided by the State of Georgia Department of Corrections. Once this is complete, your FORMAL relationship with the prison is established and you will be issued a Certified Volunteer Badge and separate Prison Locator Badge. You will be given advanced notice via email several weeks in advance to put your name on the attendance roster, which must be done for you to attend. Note the following scheduled dates:

- 1) March 18 at DoC Headquarters in Forsythe, GA. This is a regional training event. Let me know if you are planning to be in the area and I will notify you of details.
- 2) May 20, at WS F&CB Prison Training Trailer, 1:00 p.m.

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