



# Missionary Evangelism to Corrections

Sharing the gospel & Christ's love with those in corrections since 1982

"I was in prison and you came to me" Matt. 25:36cESV

## Darkness-Light and Hunger

How is the ministry doing?

How do you describe something that has so many pieces to it? And how do you communicate across two different worlds? The World is dark, dark things have been done to people and they do dark things to others. This often takes place closer to us than we think, but it is hidden. We hear of it on the news, but it seems distant. They are locked away, but - pay attention - they are not far from us. The light of Christ is needed to break through the very true and very present darkness. The bread of Christ is needed to fill the hunger in these neighbors. They may live on your block or they may be a few miles away.

Every county has a jail or 2 or 3. They might be down the street from you. The Sheriff's departments run the Detention Centers, where most who are arrested go to start with. They may just have to check in or may be detained. Then they go to court (maybe more than once) to get their sentence. Community Corrections works



separately and runs the Workhouse/Workrelease and the Juvenile facilities and programs. Most of these individuals have gone to court and gotten a sentence of less than a year. These individuals **and** the ones who go to prison for longer periods of time, will be coming back to our community.

In Aubrey's story, she describes going from living in a mission environment where there were few Christians to a Christian Collage. The differences are startling. Some are positive, and others are not good. Considering these in our roles as members of the family and army of God can help us grow.

Luke 8:16-18 tells [Dark/light Hunger Cont. on pg2](#)

## MEC Newsletter

### Spotlight: Welcome Aubrey Winey



My name is Aubrey Winey. I am a new employee at MEC and will be working in the office and hope to volunteer with the youth.

I grew up on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota as a missionary to Native Americans.

When we moved to the reservation in 2001, there were very few Christians. I grew up serving in the ministry and spreading God's word to every ear that would hear. During this time, I experienced scrutiny for being a white Christian. People felt that by teaching a different religion, we were taking away their culture. Because of the history of abuse, Native Americans often view Christianity negatively.

Over the years, we provided a safe place for people in the community to go. In time, we also adapted to the culture and humor. After years of being on the reservation and providing people with food, shelter, gas, quality education, and other helps, there was more acceptance and some people consider us family.-- Today that ministry continues and they are working on adding to it. They are in the midst of creating a horse ministry. Currently they have all of the digging for the foundation, fencing, and a pavilion. They will be building housing for staff, a horse arena, and a preschool within the next few years. Pray for the challenges and spiritual battles that are involved with this.

I have always had a heart for ministry. At 17 years old, I felt God call me to go to school at the University of Northwestern. Not being raised in the same environment as most of the other students, upon arrival, I experienced culture shock and feelings of not knowing where I fit in. On the reservation, people are not concerned about being on time, meeting deadlines, or dressing nicely. For example, on the reservation, if I wore

[Welcome Aubrey Cont. pg2](#)

June- July  
August 2024

Spotlight: Welcome Aubrey Winey.....Page 1 & 2

Darkness - Light & Hunger .....Page 1, 2 & 4

Ministry Shout-Out: Presidential Prayer Team .....Page 4

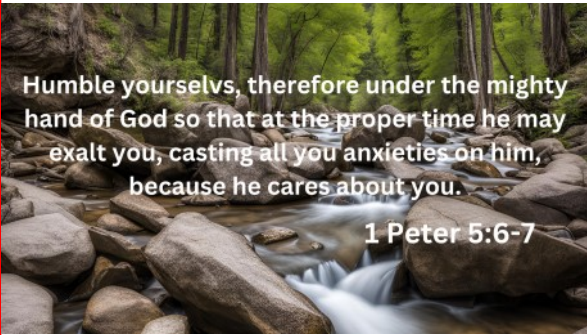
Praying the Names of God: Alpha and Omega and finance appeal .....Page 3

Humor Me.....Page 4

.....

I was showing off for someone and I would get criticized. At University, if I wore sweatpants and a sweatshirt to class, friends would criticize me.

There was also culture shock within the churches. On the reservation if a few regular attendees were not there yet, we would wait about 10 minutes or until we heard from the person and then start. In MN, if I was late and



church had already started, I was embarrassed. These things were good to learn, however, it was difficult to adjust to the culture. My upbringing created a mindset that allowed me to not worry about small details such as clothing or rushing from place to place. One way that I escaped these feelings of inadequacy was befriending people who also felt like outcasts.

The week I started UNW, my brother admitted himself into the Minneapolis Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge. He was only 11 miles from my school. I started visiting him four times a week. Even though I was only visiting, Teen Challenge was a place I felt comfortable for once in my life. This was interesting to me. At the NW the university, there were Christians and material needs were provided but there was less openness. On the reservation there were less Christians, but more openness. At MNATC people were open with their issues, open about God, repentant, and humble. I had not seen that combination before.

I met my husband, Chris, and current stepson during this time. After 2 years of courtship, we married. We will celebrate our 5-year anniversary this August. My stepson, Levi, is now 11 years old, and we have a 1&1/2 year-old daughter, Letti. We currently live in Lindstrom, MN and attend Lakes Free Church. God has brought us through many trials in our marriage, but He has been faithful.

I graduated from the University of Northwestern in 2022 with my bachelor's degree in ministry. Through the last two years of college, I worked from home for Bluestone Physician Services as an intake coordinator. One month after graduation we found out that I was pregnant. Halfway through my pregnancy, in order to lower my workload. I became a nanny for a few days a week. In December of 2023, I was ready for a more consistent job again and began working for a daycare.

While there, I felt God calling me back into ministry. I began praying, asking God to provide a job in ministry that would accommodate parenting; allowing me to spend more time with my children. A couple of months ago, I was walking down the street and a neighbor flagged me down to tell me that MEC was searching for a new secretary. I called Karen, and she graciously heard my story and opened her doors to me and my family. I am so grateful for this opportunity and I am excited to see the way God uses me to build his kingdom!

us "No one lights a lamp and covers it with a jar/bowl or puts it under a bed. Instead, he sets it on a stand, so those who enter can see the light. For there is nothing hidden that will not be disclosed, and nothing concealed that will not be made known and brought to light. Pay attention, therefore, to how you listen. Whoever has will be given more, but whoever does not have, even what he thinks he has will be taken away from him."

Pay attention to how we listen. Consider how we hear.

"Will you/we consider the inside of the cup, as Christ indicated those in His family and kingdom are to do?"

Some of the Pharisees were religious, some spiritual and some thought they were spiritual. Their unbelief or misbelief, and ignorance kept people from repenting and led some of them to kill Christ. (Acts 3 & 17) As some in scripture were confronted became offended, it is easy for us to be offended if the dirt on the inside of our cup called to our attention. When we have an ingrained belief that is confronted, our first reaction will be to defend it or dismiss it. The dirt inside the cup is our attitudes and/or beliefs which are counter to Christ's love and truth. This can be about ourselves or about others. We can even be humble enough to admit that these attitudes are there and that they should change, be we may want to avoid the pain of the dirt being scrubbed out.



## Praying the Names of God

### Alpha and the Omega

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty." ([Revelation 1:7-9](#))

"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End." Revelation 22:13

The first and last letters of the Greek Alphabet are used to designate the comprehensiveness of You - God - and the first and last letter of the Hebrew alphabet. You are the first and the Last, (John, Isa.44:6) and everlasting to everlasting (Ps. 90:2) You are God.

The idea of you always having been there, always there with us now and always will be here and with us in the future is more than we can comprehend. Add to that that you are beyond the dimensions of our time and space and it adds something more to what we understand.

Wisdom is more than concrete thinking, it is putting ideas together, creating and coming up with principles in life. Life and belief are more than concrete things we can see. Faith is an actual substance. It is a gift. It is one you offer us, give to us freely. Thank you beyond measure.

The Alpha also shows or designates authority, dominance, superior over all. That you are also. Thank you for being that and for stooping low to notice, enable, show your love and appreciation and to bless us. Adopting us, raising us as your children, giving us gifts of many kinds. Salvation, faith, forgiveness, relationship, longsuffering, love, joy, peace, growth, roots. Trust and Love - Trust and Love - Trust and Love. Many times you say in Your Word Selah, to meditate on these things. Look!...Don't Worry....Behold....

Help us to see what we can when we are here and to see what we can about your.

One of the definitions of Alpha the principle element in life and you are that. You are that and I love you for that.

Alpha and Omega includes the idea of being faithful in all things. Thank you for your faithfulness. *Amen*

Credits: Merriam Webster / Britannica / Bible Gateway / Heather Adams blog / The Inspirer - God



It is a time-consuming and difficult process to maintain our involvement with the jails. The Christian jail ministry is struggling due to many cultural misconceptions about Christianity. So, what do we do about this? We are in need of more prayer for these situations and asking for more financial support. Which would allow us to pour more time into these inmates and the volunteers. Finances would help us to spend more time in jails at a time they are that are decreasing or rejecting jail ministry. In order to maintain or increase Aubrey's salary is also important in this.

**We know we are not alone in God's work. This month our  
Ministry shout-out goes to:  
The Presidential Prayer Ministry**

**Sign up to pray for our country**

**[www.presidentialprayer.com](http://www.presidentialprayer.com)**

- ◆ **Daily or weekly focus along with prayer for Featured Leaders**
- ◆ **Historical Prayers and inspiration**
- ◆ **National Prayer Needs**
- ◆ **Can also sign up as a first responder to receive texts**



### **Humor Me**

A family was staying overnight at a friends home. At bedtime, the little girl was afraid to sleep alone in a different bedroom than hers. The mother assured the girl that God and her guardian angle would watch over her while she was sleeping. The little one replied, Yes—but I want someone with skin on to sleep here with me.

From Holy Humor Inspirational Wit Cala & Rose Samra, best of Joyful Noiseletter.

Dark/light Hunger Cont. from pg. 2

Soaking in God's Word, worship and fellowship can make the cleaning easier, but only if we do not allow that to buffer us into a comfort zone that keeps us from honest evaluation.

Let's look at some of the differences shown to us in Romans 13 and Ephesians 4 & 6. Some of the ways we miss the mark, need to change or should avoid are obvious. Putting off hot temper, wild parties, impurity, greed, cursing, hatred, orgies, obscenity, drunkenness, promiscuity, sensuality. Others can be harder to see or can be chalked up as just natural reactions, strife, sparring with rivals, jealousy, quarreling, foolish talk or dissention. Dissention, defensiveness or opposition occurs to us and we voice it without listening well or thinking of how it impacts our relationship. I have seen more than one relationship destroyed or prevented in this way

Putting something good in place of the negative, is one way we grow in our spirits and faith. Salvation, thanksgiving, goodness, the gospel of peace, righteousness, truth, psalms, hymns and spiritual songs, submission, reverence, becoming holy (which includes wholeness), speaking words of truth in love, encouraging helpful words, kindness, sympathy and reconciliation are the things that scripture tells us to clothe ourselves with. We need the deception and lies to be exposed in order to replace with the truth and life.

Are there any of these that you can ask the Holy Spirit to grow in the cup of your mind, heart and beliefs?

As you participate with the Holy Spirit in this, would you be willing to pray for those in corrections near you? Will you pray for the volunteers to be able to proclaim the gospel clearly. Pray for the staff at the jails to know God and that there be enough staff. If they are short staffed the volunteers are not allowed to come in. Pray for inmates to come to know Him in a lasting way, to grow and to reap fruit in their lives and attitudes and to bring those in need in our community to Him.

To remove your name from our mailing list, please email us with REMOVE in the subject line, call or write. Please visit our website for articles, studies, prayer aides, resources or to donate.

**[www.mecjailministry.com](http://www.mecjailministry.com)**, [mec@usfamily.net](mailto:mec@usfamily.net) (651) 408-1300 PO 542, Wyoming MN 55092.

*Saul Selby Director, Karen Selby Associate Dir., Aubrey Winey Office Admin.*