

# PEOPLES PRESS

## JOYFULLY DEFIANT FOR THE SAKE OF A JUST WORLD

a congregation of the United Church of Christ, the Alliance of Baptists, and the American Baptist Churches

### **Deserving of a Second Chance, featured Lifer: Jamie L. Meade**

In 1993, at the age of 19, Jamie L. Meade (Prison No. 232516) was charged, tried and convicted of accessory (theory) to felony murder. Jamie was sentenced to life without the possibility of parole (LWOP), also known as "Death-By- Incarceration," for his role in the crime. Jamie's codefendant (i.e. the principal) was found guilty of a lesser included offense and sentenced to 12 years in prison. Jamie's trial and sentencing judge, [the Honorable] Sharon Travis-Finch (*retired*) supports his release and called his mandatory life sentence an injustice.

Jamie is presently accepted in the Chicago Theological Seminary Online Master of Divinity (MDiv) program taking online classes at the Macomb Correctional Facility. In May of 2015, Jamie was awarded a Bachelor's degree in Interdisciplinary Studies with concentrations in Criminal Justice and Legal Studies from Adams State University. Jamie also has completed certifications in: Victim Advocacy, Alternative Dispute Resolution and Paralegal Assistant. In addition, Jamie has completed three MDOC vocational trades and over 60 rehabilitation programs.

Jamie is a long-standing member of the National Lifers of America and presently sits on their national board as both the National Resource Director and the Internal State Director. Jamie is a core member of the Chance for Life Organization and is the Inside Director and an advisor to The Adolescent Redemption Project, a trained facilitator for the Alternatives to Violence Project – Michigan. Jamie also actively participates in the TARPPodcast.com with Emma Axtell and AmplifiedSilencePodcast.com with Kyle Robinson, doing regular interviews about criminal justice reform and everyday experiences of a LWOP prisoner. In addition, Jamie is the editor of the Michigan Lifers Report Newsletter, giving those forgotten lifers a platform to be heard.

Jamie is a Member in Discernment in the United Church of Christ Michigan Covenant Association on the path to ordained ministry. He is committed to serving God and the community. Jamie is an activist working hard to end mass incarceration, to reform the criminal justice system, and to tackle the tough social injustice issues people face on the inside and outside of prison. Jamie Meade [turns 49 in August and] is deserving of a second chance.

*(this article was shared by Laura Eufinger)*

You can follow Jamie on social media at:

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

[www.facebook.com/jamiemeade](https://www.facebook.com/jamiemeade)

[www.twitter.com/freejamiemeade](https://www.twitter.com/freejamiemeade)

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