

Florida Prison tour 2023

October 7th through the 16th YELoLine Initiative sponsored another edenlight tour of Florida state correctional facilities.

They played seven concerts at six different facilities:

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| • Florida State Prison | October 7th |
| • Zephyrhills Correctional | October 11th |
| • Polk Correctional | October 12th |
| • Union Correctional | October 14th |
| • Okaloosa Correctional | October 15th |
| • Holmes Correctional | October 16th |

We are thankful to report a VERY successful tour. There was an outpouring of God's spirit upon each service. We are grateful for the guidance and inspiration He gave edenlight as they prepared for each service and the interactions with individuals within the prisons where they led services.

Many hearts were touched by God's presence and turned towards Him. In addition, great connections were made with chaplains and inmates. These concerts provided edenlight the opportunity to have deep and beneficial conversations and times of prayer with both inmates and chaplains.

"But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them."

Acts 16:25

"Can a mere song change a people's minds? I doubt that it is so. But a song can infiltrate your heart and the heart may change your mind." *Elvis Costello*

Quotes From the Florida Tour

"Just a little light overcomes the darkness. Music does that, it brings in the light and overcomes the darkness of this place. Thank you for coming here."

"Please keep doing what you're doing. It's really important. Please don't stop."

"What you are doing is a blessing. It's just a blessing that is more than you could know. I have to leave early to go to my job, but I couldn't walk out of here without saying how much this means to me, to us." *(From an inmate who stood up in the middle of a concert before leaving to go to his work assignment.)*



SCAN TO GIVE

"It's been 30 very dark years but tonight is the night. God led me to this altar and I have to start again and recommit my life to the Lord. It is time."
(From an inmate who prayed to rededicate his life to Christ.)

ROAD REPORT: It's Always Christmastime

Peace on earth, good will towards men." sounds like a trite cliché as 2023 comes to close. With bombs and bullets impacting so much of the globe, it seems "The same as it ever was." *(To quote the Talking Heads)* This is especially true walking past coils of razor wire strung atop chain link fences and being searched by armed guards. All of these realities can make the world look bleak. But it is exactly into this bleak world that Jesus willingly chose to be born; into a time and place much harsher and harder than ours. To bring light, to bring hope and to bring salvation to anyone who would accept it.

So it was a great privilege ending 2023 with two Ohio Christmas concerts in, Southeastern Correctional on December 16th and Noble Correctional on December 17th. We fellowshiped with about 90 guys in a packed chapel at Southeastern and approximately 150 guys at a packed chapel at Noble. It was great seeing familiar faces at both institutions as well as a lot of new ones. We came into these concerts with some pretty heavy personal burdens....just like the guys we were fellowshiping with. The opportunity to share the humble beauty of Jesus' birth was healing to us all.

Many of the songs focused on offering gifts to the Christ child. The Little Drummer Boy beating out a welcoming rhythm to the new born Jesus or the shepherd in Christina Rossetti's "In the Bleak Midwinter" offering a lamb. In our song "Christmas Day" modern day Wise Men empty their pockets to offer the savior all the precious things that this world will rip apart if they hold onto them themselves. Our newest song "20 Steel Gates" offers Christ our "Shackles and chains"....something many in our audience are all too familiar with.

As we move into 2024, what do you have to offer the Savior, not just on Christmas, but every day? What shackles and chains prevent you from participating in the fullness of the Kingdom of God? What God-given gifts are you clinging to so tightly that they are twisted and manipulated by a world opposed to "Peace on earth, good will towards men"? Our prayer is that we can all release these things to our humble Savior who will turn them into more than we can image. The Savior is here, The Word came down. Christ is with us. Do not fear.

WHERE WE'VE BEEN LATELY

12/16	Southeastern Correctional	Lancaster, Oh
12/17	Nobel Correctional	Caldwell, OH
11/01	Trumbull Correctional (Camp)	Leavittsburg, OH
10/16	Holmes Correcectional	Bonifay, FL
10/15	Okaloosa Correctional	Okaloosa, FL
10/14	Union Correctional	Raiford, FL
10/12	Polk Correctional	Polk City, FL
10/11	Zephyrhills Correctional	Zephyrhills, FL
10/07	Florida State Prison	Raiford, FL
09/20	Trumbull Correctional (main)	Leavittsburg, OH
09/17	Ohio Reformatory for Women	Marysville, OH
08/27	Ohio State Penitentiary	Youngstown, OH
08/26	Hope Festival	Summerville, PA
08/20	Faith Community Church	Rock Creek, OH
08/13	Southern Ohio Correctional	Lucasville, OH
08/04	Thunder in the City	Meadville, PA
07/29	Richland Correctional	Mansfield, OH
07/22	Sonshine Fest (event cancelled)	Erie, PA
07/12	Trumbull Correctional (Main)	Leavittsburg, OH
07/09	SCI Rockview	Bellefont, PA
07/08	SCI Benner	Bellefont, PA
06/24	Holy Grounds Coffeehaus	Erie, PA
06/10	Second Saturday	Meadville, PA
06/07	Trumbull Correctional (Camp)	Leavittsburg, OH
06/04	Nobel Correctional	Caldwell, OH

We are always actively booking more dates. Please check YELOline.org or edenlightmusic.com for additional events.
Call 814.853.3687 to book a concert.

"I just wanted to send a thank you. I met you at Trumbull correctional. Please continue to do what you do. Those guys there need your light. They need God's praise and what you both do brings that. It makes a difference, it touches hearts. I hope to hear you one day on the fish. (Cleveland area Christian music radio). Keep rocking, keep being incredible. In Jeremiah God said "'I knew you before I formed you in your mother's womb. Before you were born I set you apart....." you are doing what he set you apart to do. God bless."

Former inmate and brother in Christ

EVERYTHING FOR NOTHING

We are often asked if prisons pay us to show up and perform. No they don't. The next question is usually "Who does?" The answer to that is:
"You Do!."

All prison concerts that YELOline sponsors are entirely free to the institutions and inmates and always will be. edenlight performs for free using their own equipment and travels to the prisons in their own vehicle. YELOline pays for their lodging, fuel, and food.....and that's it.



SCAN TO GIVE

This ministry relies on people who believe in the power of music to break down barriers and build bridges of hope to share the reality of the gospel with people who are living in hopeless and difficult circumstances. Please prayerfully consider being one of those people, churches, or organizations.
Thank you and God Bless.

"I was in prison and you came to me."

Matthew 25:36