

ACJC

Allen County Jail Chaplaincy
417 S. Calhoun Street
Fort Wayne, IN 46802

Do you want to help with chapel services?

Chapel services are held on Monday through Thursday evenings. If any church would like to participate, call Chaplain Dick Sievers ahead of time at (260) 449-7215 for information.

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ACJC Banquet Provides Financial Funds for Ministry

The ACJC Banquet was held on May 10, 2011, at Ceruti's Summit Park 2. Approximately 248 people attended the event, including various speakers who promoted the work of the chaplaincy. Officer Valerie Jackson spoke about her work at the jail since December 2007. Judge Wendy Davis shared with the group her thoughts on the Chaplaincy's work from a judicial perspective.



Claude Jackson, a former Allen County jail inmate, shared how God had changed his life and how the people involved with the Chaplaincy helped him make those changes. Jackson was released from jail in August 2004. Today, he is an artist who works at Omni Source.

Ernest Greene Jr. was honored as ACJC Volunteer of the Year.

Davit Drew and his band, Crazy for Christ, provided special music during the banquet, reflecting their love for Christ in song.

Held each May, the ACJC banquet is an important event for the jail chaplaincy. "It serves as the program's sole fundraiser," said Chaplain Sievers who added that profits from the 2011 banquet after expenses helped to meet the ministry's annual budget. "The banquet addresses other needs as well as financial," he said. "It helps us communicate to people what God is doing through the lives of the jail's inmates and officers," he added. "We are thankful to everyone who supports the banquet and the ministry. By doing so, they help hundreds of men and women change their lives for the better."

The New Class on Fatherhood Began at Lima Road Work Release Site

The Fort Wayne Fatherhood Coalition began a new class at the Work Release site at 12103 Lima Road near Byron Health Center in Fort Wayne in July 2011.

The class called STEP is an acronym for 'systematic training for effective parenting'. According to Tomi Cardin, a chaplain with ACJC, STEP is a nationally recognized parenting curriculum. The purpose of the class, according to Cardin, is to direct discussion about various aspects of fatherhood and offer advice and encourage discussion among participants. "The inmates who participate can express individual concerns and offer feedback," said Cardin. "We discuss challenging situations that every father deals with, such as handling teens and their uniqueness."

Cardin is a facilitator for the class, along with L. B. Jones, a former probation officer. Despite its name, the class, which runs each Monday morning for eight weeks, is open to males and females. "We hope to have a dozen members in the class," said Cardin. The class is funded by the Responsible Fatherhood Grant. The same grant also pays for a character-building class taught by the coalition. "At the end of eight weeks we will apply for another grant to continue the class," said Cardin.

Did you know?

1. Upon arriving at the jail, an inmate may need undergarments? These include underwear, T-shirts, white socks, and bras. Jail chaplains provide these necessities when they receive a request. Please consider purchasing one or more of these items to keep the supply stocked.
2. The jail chaplaincy has baptized 131 people in 2011! Many faithful volunteers who are willing to touch the lives of the inmates make this possible.

Several Items are on our Wish List. If you can help, please call Chaplain Dick Sievers at (260) 449-7215

- * Paperback dictionaries, and paper back books with very little color in them.
- * Bibles (\$354 donation purchases 200 Bibles.)
- * Concordances
- * Volunteers
- * Underwear for both men and women

Bible underwriters wanted!

We need individuals or churches to underwrite the purchase of Bibles. Each year, we give approximately 1,200 Bibles to inmates. Through the American Bible Society, we can buy one Bible and get one FREE! That means we can buy two Bibles for \$3.50. The Bibles we purchase also meet the security requirements enforced by the jail. With shipping included, \$354 buys 200 Bibles. If you or your church are interested in helping, please contact Chaplain Dick Sievers at (260) 449-7215. Thank you!

ACJC wishes to say "THANK YOU" to these churches, businesses, and foundations for their financial support

Throughout this newsletter you've read about lives being changed and hearts being put to work for Jesus Christ. The work being done inside the walls of the Allen County Jail is possible because of the prayers and financial support of the churches listed below. If you see your church in the list, give your pastor a big Amen. If you don't see it listed, please ask your pastor or outreach committee to consider helping us financially. No gift is too small.

We have a video and brochure that you can use to help us get the message out to the community. God Bless each of you for helping us bring Jesus Christ into the lives of the men and women in the Allen County Jail.

- * Anchor Community Church of the Brethren in Christ
- * Avon Missionary Church
- * Beacon Heights Church of the Brethren
- * Bohler United Methodist Church
- * Blackhawk Baptist Church
- * Broadway Christian Church
- * Brookside Church
- * Calvary Chapel
- * Calvary United Methodist Church
- * Canaan Baptist Church
- * Cedar Creek Church of Christ
- * Christ Temple Apostolic Church
- * Christian Peace Fellowship Church
- * Colony Heights Church of Christ
- * Covenant United Methodist Church
- * Crescent Avenue United Methodist Church
- * Cuba Memorial Church
- * Evangelical Center
- * Evangelical Lutheran St. John Church
- * Faith Based Mentoring Ministries
- * Fellowship Missionary Church
- * First Assembly of God
- * First Baptist Church
- * First Christian Church
- * First Memorial Church
- * First Missionary Church
- * First Presbyterian Church
- * First Wayne Street United Methodist Church
- * Fort Wayne Urban League
- * Friendship Baptist Church
- * Gettysburg Evangelical Lutheran Church
- * Gone Fishing Ministries
- * Grace Christian Church
- * Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
- * Grace Gathering
- * Grace Presbyterian Church
- * Grow Ministries
- * Harvester Missionary Church
- * Heartland Church of Fort Wayne
- * Hope United Methodist Church
- * Huntertown United Methodist Church
- * Inari Baptist Temple
- * Indiana Conference of United Methodist Churches
- * Joy Fellowship Church
- * Jubilee House Ministries
- * King's Daughters and Sons
- * Lily Bridge Church
- * Living Wesleyan Church
- * Living Word of God Ministries
- * Love Church
- * Markle Church of Christ
- * Memorial Baptist Church
- * Monson Chapel United Methodist Church
- * Morning Star Class Markle Church of Christ
- * Mt. Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church
- * New Haven United Methodist Church Women
- * New Hope Worship Center
- * Northeast Christian Church
- * Oakledge Temple Church
- * Plymouth Congregational Church
- * Pines of Peace Lutheran Church
- * Promise Lutheran Church
- * Queen of Angels Catholic Church
- * Salem Christian Church
- * Saint Charles Catholic Church
- * Saint Michael Ev. Lutheran Church
- * Saint Nicolas Orthodox Church
- * Saint Vincent DePaul Catholic Church
- * Sheriff's Chaplaincy Conference
- * Sunrise at Abrite United Methodist Church
- * St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
- * Tabernacle Baptist Church
- * The Associated Churches of Fort Wayne and Allen County
- * The Chapel
- * The Good Shepherd United Methodist Church
- * The River Christian Church
- * The Way to Recovery
- * Three Rivers Wesleyan Church
- * True Love Baptist Church
- * Westview Alliance Church
- * Woodview Church of God
- * Zanesville Church of God

Thank You

ACJC 2010 Board of Directors

- John Alexander
- David Clendenen
- Glenn Emley
- Kenneth Jackson
- David Knuth
- Thomas Szymczak
- Robert Wearley
- Mary Clare Smith
- Denise Porter-Ross
- Denny Williamson

Prayers & Petitions

- * Many inmates were baptized in 2011. Pray for them and their spiritual growth
- * Pray for those making decisions to accept Christ as Savior and Lord
- * Pray for Cell Group Leaders (Bible study volunteers)
- * Pray for the officers and our ministry to them
- * Pray for financial support of the ministry
- * Pray for more churches to financially support ACJC
- * Pray for our Sheriff Kenneth C. Pries, and our jail commander Chuck Hart

Allen County Jail Chaplaincy Newsletter is published two times per year as a communication vehicle for those who care about and support the ministry. Please feel free to submit suggestions for making this newsletter a good servant.
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Enclosed Envelope



The Allen County Jail Chaplaincy is experiencing lots of exciting, new growth on several fronts and would appreciate your support to help us continue to serve and comfort others. Please use the enclosed, self-addressed envelope to send your tax-deductible contribution to the Allen County Jail Chaplaincy, 417 South Calhoun Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46802.

Video Tape Available!



A video tape is available which explains the Allen County Jail Chaplaincy ministry. If your church would like to show the video to members of your congregation, please call Chaplain Dick Sievers at 449-7215. The Chaplaincy can also send a representative to your church to help present the video and answer questions about the ministry.

Denise Porter-Ross ACJC Board Member

In 2011 Denise Porter-Ross was appointed a member of the ACJC Board of Directors. Porter-Ross is the Community Case Manager for the Fort Wayne Urban League. "The Fort Wayne Urban League is an advocacy organization for civil rights and empowerment opportunities for all," said Porter-Ross. The Fort Wayne Urban League is a long-time supporter of the Allen County Jail Chaplaincy.

As a member of the ACJC Board of Directors, Porter-Ross hopes to bring her strengths to the mission's goal of helping the incarcerated rehabilitate their lives. "Representing the Fort Wayne Urban League for the chaplaincy program is a great way for me to use the skills and connections I have developed in previous governmental positions," she said.

"In one of my earliest meetings I noticed that while the board meeting members had compassionate hearts for the mission of jail chaplaincy, they lacked the tools and information about opportunities and resources for faith-based organizations. I have since shared some items that will hopefully help the ministry continue to grow." Porter-Ross is also involved with independent and contract work for other faith-based and community organizations in Fort Wayne.

Porter-Ross has been a life-long member of the Union Baptist Church in Fort Wayne where she has taught new members classes and chaired a hospitality committee. The church's pastor emeritus Reverend Dr. Clyde Adams created the One-Church One Offender program nearly 30 years ago. As the oldest African-American Baptist Church in Fort Wayne founded in 1892, the congregation has often been at the forefront of civil rights and human relationships.

Porter-Ross has also worked on numerous projects that benefit the Fort Wayne community. These include the Three Rivers Festival, Leadership Fort Wayne, Fort Wayne Board of Public Works, and All-America City Awards. She is the mother of a grown son,



Denise Porter-Ross

First Wayne Street United Methodist Church

The First Wayne Street United Methodist Church located at 300 East Wayne Street in Fort Wayne is a long-standing financial supporter of the ACJC. "We have approximately 15 programs at the church which we provide financial assistance for," said Mike Musson, a member of the church's Outreach Committee. "The ACJC is part of that group. The Bible says that we are to ask for forgiveness of our trespasses and forgive others of their trespasses. The incarcerated have trespassed against society so when we forgive them by helping them, we're doing one part of what it means to be Christian."

The church which averages 300 in attendance supports a different mission each month of the year. The ACJC is featured one month each year. The church presents a display of the chaplaincy's work using a bulletin board to provide ACJC newsletters and list the number of baptisms and Bibles handed out to the incarcerated that year. "We try to get information about the chaplaincy out to the congregation," said Musson. "This information may pique the interest of someone who may see the importance of supporting this ministry. They may want to volunteer as a chaplain or know someone who could be helped by the chaplaincy program."

This summer the congregation of First Wayne Street United Methodist Church has collected paperback books for the ACJC book cart. "It may not seem like much to donate books," said Musson, "but we believe reading is an educational experience. It improves a person's vocabulary and stretches minds. Some people like to give something tangible that has life to it like a book and the pleasure it contains that can be passed on to others."



First Wayne Street United Methodist Church

Gray & Friend Law Firm

The office of Gray & Friend Law Firm (<http://www.grayandfriend.com/>) located at 927 South Harrison Street in Fort Wayne is a supporter of the ACJC. The firm handles business and commercial litigation, health law, creditors' rights, foreclosures, personal injury, probate litigation, white collar litigation, and defense of professional discipline matters.

Attorney Travis Friend believes in assisting with placing Bibles among the incarcerated. "As a practicing lawyer in Allen Co, I've had several clients who have gone through jail," he said. "Their lives have been changed as a result of being involved with the chaplaincy. They are concrete examples of the differences the chaplaincy can make. I always wish we could do more."

Friend attends Brookside church in Fort Wayne with his wife Krista and children Joshua and Kyleigh. During the 14 years they have attended the church, Travis Friend has been involved in several roles at the church from working with the children's programming to serving on the congregation's leadership council. "Church is an essential part of my life," said Friend.



Gray & Friend

ACJC Volunteer Roger Macke

Roger Macke started as a volunteer with the ACJC in Fall 2010. His fellow Gideon friend, Gene Detmer, was a volunteer at the jail and encouraged Macke to take his place. "Gene's eyes were too bad for him to continue driving to the jail to do his chaplain work," said Macke. "He asked me to take his place so I did."

As part of his training, Macke followed fellow chaplains Randy Branstrator and Jerry Hetrick for four months, learning how to minister to the incarcerated of cell blocks 6C and 6D. Today, Macke walks through these cell blocks each Tuesday afternoon for an hour with the book cart, handing out Bibles and sitting with men who need a listening ear.

"It's amazing in the short time I'm in there the types of conversations we have," he said. "We don't know what level of faith these kids are at. We don't know if someone has never heard about Jesus Christ or if that same person has known all along about Him and just goofed up his life." Macke hopes to lead a Bible Study someday in these same blocks.

Macke said he volunteers as a jail chaplain for one reason. "We're commanded in the Bible to care for widows and orphans and people in jail."

Macke is an elder at New Life Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne where he attends with his wife Carrie. He works with the church's ministry to the Burmese in Fort Wayne. The Mackes have 10 children, 36 grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren.



Roger & Carrie Macke