



Compassion

Sharing hope...

Celebrating 115 years

2016 - Fourth Quarter

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Special Gifts & Memorials



Institutional Ministries welcomes Pastor Philip Henselin as their new Executive Director.

NEWS

Her Last Supper



LaRae was an elderly lady in the hospital. I had visited with her before as she was very active in her faith and wanting the comfort of Jesus. Her pastor had recently visited to share the Lord's Supper with her, and now she was in her last days. My last visit with her went like this. Upon arrival and at the beginning of our visit, a food staff person arrived and dropped off a tray of food. Time passed, and it appeared as though no one was going to come and help her with the food tray. Since LaRae wasn't able to uncover the tray and eat the food on her own, I offered to help. Soon I was spoon feeding her as I talked about her Savior Jesus. She continued to motion to me for more food, and I continued talking about the Lord. She had become very limited in her ability to talk and move, but she gave thanks for the physical food, devotion and prayers. Her family arrived a little later while we were talking, so I filled them in on our visit together.

The next day when I stopped by to visit, LaRae was no longer able to physically

eat anything, or communicate any longer with her family, and she died soon after. As I thought about our last visit, it occurred to me that I had given LaRae her last physical supper, and perhaps even her last spiritual food from God's Word. What a privilege it is to share the hope of Jesus Christ when people need it most.

All around us, there are institutions filled with hurting souls, who desperately need to hear about the hope that is ours in Jesus Christ. For 115 years, Institutional Ministries has been helping these often forgotten souls to learn about this hope. As we mark this milestone in our history, we thank God for the privilege of being His partner in this ministry, and for all the ministry partners (like you), that he has given to us. With your help, and the LORD'S continued blessings, we will continue to share this hope for many more years to come.



by Chaplain Ken Wenzel

“Our goal is that people who once said, “it would be nice if I were forgiven” will now be able to say, “It is a certainty!””

New Life at Institutional Ministries

Greetings from Pastor Philip Henselin, your new Executive Director at Institutional Ministries!

Once again, the Lord has surprised me. If someone had asked me where I thought the Lord might take me next, I would never have guessed Columbus, MS or South Windsor, CT or Rockford, IL, but God took me to each of those places. Once again, I didn't expect to be the Executive Director of Institutional Ministries, but God had it in His plan. While serving at **New Life** in Rockford, IL, I had also been a volunteer chaplain with the Rockford Police and Fire chaplaincy for over 6 years. That caused me to be nominated to serve on the Board of Directors for Institutional Ministries, where for about the last year, I was the Technology Chair. I was very content with that role, and in fact, did not believe I was qualified to serve in this new office. But it is the Lord who both calls and qualifies us for office, and He will equip me to serve where He has called me.

My wife, Sue, and I have moved to the Watertown area, where I am central to the areas in which we minister. As an added blessing, this also brings us somewhat closer to most of our five children and two grandchildren.

Institutional Ministries is an amazing opportunity to share the message of the One Who changed the meaning of “hope” from “I wish” to “It is certain.” Our goal is that people who once said, “it would be nice if I were forgiven” will now be able to say, “It is a certainty! Christ took all our sins away!” Our greatest joy is when one by one, they profess, “Heaven is my Father’s home, and He loves me! He made it my home, also!”

But many of the people we serve can't look ahead that far. The problems in their daily lives loom so large that they cannot see beyond tomorrow. We also do our best to help them with the problems they experience now.

A growing piece of our work is after-care (re-entry) ministry. Someone who has spent years behind bars finds a strange new world when he or she re-enters society. Technology has changed drastically. But most critical are the needs of food, clothes, shelter, a safe emotional environment, and the sound spiritual instruction and moral example of faithful Christians who will be committed to being a positive and supportive new family to these vulnerable individuals.



These individuals are “bruised reeds” (Isaiah 42:3) whom our Lord is determined not to destroy. We are good at spiritual and moral instruction, but we need community help in providing the other physical pieces. To provide for the real-life needs of our friends, we partner with others. One example is the Bargain Center, at 5005 W. Howard Ave. and 8401 W Lisbon Ave. in Milwaukee. Check them out!

Another area in which I hope to see Institutional Ministries grow is in service to those with PTSD. I have worked with first responders in the past, and I see a continuing and critical need in this area, especially given the current emotional climate of our country. But our work with PTSD will be broader. There are undoubtedly also victims of PTSD who are behind bars or being released, who will also be blessed by a better understanding of how PTSD institutionalizes people even in their own homes.

There’s one more aspect of **new life** at Institutional Ministries which we ask you to consider. It’s you. God made us partners together in this ministry. He chose to make you a vital part of this ministry. Therefore, we ask you to consider carefully four ways in which we might be partners together in the Lord’s work:

Partner by PRAYING for our ministry

Pray for our work in the institutions (approximately 130) where we serve. Pray for our chaplains and our volunteers. Are you unsure regarding things to pray about? Then go to our website, www.IM.life, and read the INSIGHTS found there. They will give you everyday examples of our ministry and the needs for which you can pray.

Partner by PROMOTING our ministry

Tell others about our work! Tell them that we do “boots on the ground” ministry in hospitals, prisons, jails, care centers, detention centers; wherever people are unable to come to us. Clarify for them that this ministry is done without synodical dollars. It is supported by your offerings of love.

Partner by PROVIDING for our ministry

Consider some of the ways that you can make a difference with your offering, not only in the lives of those to whom we minister, but also through your personal ministry. You might give a personal gift. You might set up electronic checking and insure that the ministry to institutionalized continues without stopping.

Or maybe God has a bigger plan for you. Perhaps you are the influence God wants to use to speak to a group of your friends or your Bible class or your church, inviting them to join you. Together, you can share the joy of seeing the gift of giving exercised. You can act as mentors to others in the same manner that St. Paul used the Macedonians as mentors to the Corinthians. What a powerful impact you might have in your congregation if a dozen of you picked an amount and agreed together that you will support the ministry for a year, taking turns giving a gift each month.

Partner by being an Active PART of our ministry

Has the Lord given you a heart which burns for this ministry? Could He be calling you to serve personally? Your words, retelling God’s comforting truth, will work “to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness.” (Isaiah 42:7)

God bless us, as together, you and I partner in the work of our King!

Pastor Philip Henselin
Executive Director



Sharing hope...
with those who need it most!

Celebrating
115 years

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OUR MISSION

*“To share God’s law
and the saving
Gospel of Jesus
Christ with all
individuals who
are or have been
institutionalized,
and their families.”*

Special Gifts & Memorials 8/24/2016 - 11/24/2016

IN CELEBRATION OF 115 years of service

Mrs. Marcella Wenzel
Michael A. Nelson
Ms. Ann Nelson
Institutional Ministries 115 years.
Mr. & Mrs. Norm Froehlich

IN HONOR OF

David & Sandra Strohschein
Mrs. Leta Krueger
Ken & Gay Poetzel
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Reineck
Lloyd Hoeffner
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Meyer
Luis Trujillo
Mr. & Mrs. Steve A. Ahrens
Osburne Guetzke 85th birthday
Mr. & Mrs. Osburne Guetzke
Pastor Philip Henselin Installation
Mr. & Mrs. David Strohschein
Robert & Clarice 60th Wedding Anniversary
Mr. & Mrs. Alan Doerflinger
Pastor Paul Cole for his ministry at the Menominee County Jail
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Limberg
God’s Blessings to my family
Mr. & Mrs. Russell Geiger
Our Savior, Jesus Christ
Mr. Waldemar Loescher

IN MEMORY OF

Allen Krause
Prof. & Mrs. Steven Westphal
Mr. & Mrs. Arlyn Miller
Ms. Sue Miller
Arnie Benzow
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Mueller
Audrey Johnsen
Mr. Richard F. Johnsen
Bernice A. Schwalbe
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Avery
Bob & Ethel Weiss
Sandy Anderson

Carl and Mary DeNicola
Ms. Julie DeNicola
Carol Davidson
Mr. Daniel Davidson
Carolyn Schaser
Mr. George Schaser
Chester Benck
Mr. & Mrs. Roger Ehke
Dale Gehring
Mrs. Karen Gehring
Don Babinec
Mrs. Geraldine Babinec
Donald Schinker
Mr. & Mrs. James Garske
Dorothy Seifert
Mr. Loyley Seifert
Edwin A. Sell
Mrs. Lois Sell
Eileen Larkee
Mr. James Larkee
Elizabeth Ann Sievert
Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Sievert
Patricia Sievert (Mom & Grandma)
Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Sievert
Art & Gert Duerr
Mr. & Mrs. Jerre Duerr
Elsie Phillips
Mr. & Mrs. Jerre Duerr
Pastor Frederick Mueller
Mrs. Lois Mueller
Gerald Schuelke
Mrs. Lois Schuelke
Gordon E. Graper (Saint Triumphant)
Mr. Kevin Graper
Henrietta Stiemke
Mr. David Beyer Sr.
Henry Berg
Mrs. Shirley Hilden
Jim Hilden
Mrs. Shirley Hilden
Jeffrey Anderson
Mr. & Mrs. David Anderson
John Larrabee
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Zastrow

John Martin Steinke, PhD.
Mr. Paul Steinke
John Vircks
Mrs. Betty Vircks
Karen Bartholomew
Mr. William Bartholomew
Ken & Lee Weber
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Weber
Lloyd Lemke
Mrs. Dorothy Lemke
Lu Ann Lauersdorf
Mr. Duane Lauersdorf
Margaret Byrd
Ms. Diane Bryant
Martha Sonnenburg
Mrs. Sue Wehner
Martin Haemker
Mrs. Ione Haemker
Marvin SeEVERS
Mrs. Joann SeEVERS Wolfgram
Melvin Kruse
Ruth Zittlow
Metz Gerbitz
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Hegg
Nathan Prell
Ms. Elizabeth Prell
Oscar Barthels
Ms. Bea Pamperin
Otto Frey
Mr. Hardy Frey
Patricia Sievert
Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Sievert
Walter Sievert
Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Sievert
Robert Kramer
Barbara Bohn
Robert Young
Mrs. Dorothy Young
Ronald & Lois Frailing
Mark Frailing
Sandra Stuedemann
Mr. Roland Stuedemann
Stewart & Leona Golner
Mr. David Golner

Terry Allen
Mrs. Connie Allen
Tom Mueller
Rev. & Mrs. Steven Stern
Trreva Rauch
Mrs. Ruth Rauch
Vilas Hoague
Mrs. Shirley Hoague
Walter & Amanda Voss
Rev. & Mrs. Carl Voss

IN THANKSGIVING FOR

Our children, Blair & Jerry Haddle
Blair & Barbara Haddle
Dan Krause
Mr. Robert Hoffman
Institutional Ministries ongoing ministry
Mr. David Beyer Sr.
The work Institutional Ministries does
Mr. & Mrs. John Sullivan
God’s Blessings
Attorney & Mrs. Larry Liezeit
Pastor Paul & Sharon retirement of ministry and 50th wedding anniversary
Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Wendland
Institutional Ministries
Mrs. Shirley Hilden