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# The Washers

Dear Friends and Family,

**Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**

This fall semester definitely did not go as we had "planned" but we are thankful for the prison doors that stayed open, giving us a chance to preach the gospel once again. Several prison events were cancelled and some events in NY and New Jersey on the back end of our schedule didn't open up for us as we had hoped. We have been busy praying and preparing our schedule for the spring and are thrilled to report that we should be very busy in the state of TX. As of

now it looks like we may be able to get into 15 prisons in TX and that only covers a small part of the huge prison system in that state.

We have also been trying for years to get into some prisons in North Carolina. We have a contact now that is pushing to get us approved by several wardens in the Raleigh area so we can hold some events there in January. Please be praying that this opportunity doesn't fall through as it has in the past in other states. Our plan now is to hold some events in NC in January and start heading out to TX in February, hitting a few prisons in AL and LA on the way out.

**Family News**--As you may know, there are several reasons why we stay home in the winter months. One of the reasons is so our two oldest, Ethan and Hudson, can participate on the basketball team based out of our church. My pastor and brother, Mike, is their coach. They have started their games and we are thrilled to be able to see them play and see how sports can help them develop godly character. Austin is playing flag football and is in charge of videoing his brother's basketball games. Emily is once again busy at church organizing ladies church events, special numbers and teaching the kids. Jonathan has already preached at church and will preach again coming up in December. He is also back to his part time job of driving a bus for Champion Coach. His last trip was with the Florida State Football team! If you know our family, you'd know that Jonathan is on the verge of being shunned from all future family events because of this trip.

**Pendleton Correctional (Pendleton, IN)**--We have been coming to this prison for many years and it's always one of our biggest tourneys of the year. We had 20 teams and had enough time to run a triple elimination tournament! There were about 75 guys at the tournament and from their behavior in the morning it seemed like the message would be full of distractions. Praise the Lord they listened well though and around 25 men responded to the gospel message! "To give my life to Christ and confess that He is my Lord and Savior." "My decision is to be Christ-like and imitate Jesus." We were so excited to be able to take volunteers from 3 different churches and they were able to talk to the chaplain about doing some long term Bible studies. A few weeks after the tournament we received an exciting text from one of the volunteers that was heading over the week to do Bible studies.

heading up the push to do Bible studies.

“Hey Jonathan. How are you and the family doing? I just wanted to keep you in the loop that Rick and I have been working with the Chaplain at the Prison in Pendleton to get a Bible Study going in early 2026. I’m thinking we will go through Ephesians or Philippians. Once we get some official dates on the calendar I will send those your way in case you are ever in the area and want to lead one of the Bible studies.”

**Plainfield Correctional Center (Plainfield, IN)**--This was our first time ever visiting this prison. They weren't able to hold the tournament on a Saturday and could only do it on Friday afternoon and evening. This wasn't our first time holding an event in the evening but it has been many years. There were men coming and going in the gym all day but thank the Lord we chose just the right time when rec was shut down so the gospel could be preached without distraction to the 50 or so men that were participating in the tournament. Praise the Lord for several men who were obviously moved by the gospel message and turned to Christ for salvation!

**Correctional Industrial Facility**--This is one of our favorite events every year because of the amount of volunteers we are able to take in and the impact that it always makes on all of us. We had several new young men join us this year and it is always a blessing to see them joking around with the inmates out on the soccer field. A picture of the group that was preached to is below. The men listened very intently to the gospel message but none of them responded when the invitation was given to turn to Christ. We were glad though once again to be able to distribute our Bibles and books to many of the men.

**Bibles**--It's become apparent that we are handing out more and more Bibles and books at the prisons we are visiting. We love it! But, doing so begins to add up financially. We were thrilled recently when a church sent us \$1000 to be able to purchase Bibles to give out. If you'd ever like to help with the cost of that please let us know.

**Assist Program**--We are in need of some more church members (especially men) to write to inmates using our pen pal program. Visit [www.itlassist.org](http://www.itlassist.org) for

more information.

Thank you so much for your faithful support!  
Thank you for your kindness and encouragement!

Jonathan, Emily, Ethan, Hudson and Austin Washer

### Schedule

January 17--North Carolina Prison  
January 24--North Carolina Prison  
January 31--North Carolina Prison  
February 14--North Carolina Prison

### **February-June**

Alabama--3 Prisons  
Louisiana--1 Prison  
Texas--15 Prisons



These men came from several churches in the area and 2 of them were thrilled to let me know that they will be starting a Bible study at the prison!



This is the group of volunteers and inmates that participated in the soccer game. Unfortunately for them, we are now 4-1 against them. Maybe it's because we're allowed to wear cleats and they aren't? It's definitely not because I play!



Inside the Lines



Assist Program



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