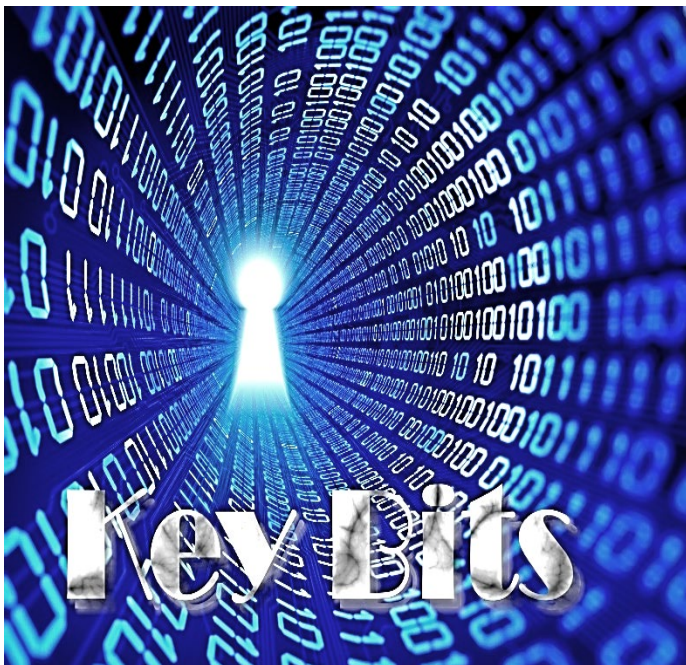


The Year 2022 will go down as one of the most memorable for Less Than The Least Ministries. Marked by the going home of both former Executive Directors, Zeke Young and David Gunter and the full re-opening of Texas prisons post Covid-19, the second half of the year saw the growth of our ministry inside the razor wire explode. In this issue we'll talk about new ministry opportunities, new volunteers, new partnerships and a new member of the board of directors. We provided key equipment upgrades at three units, had our first crusade since 2018 and started ministering in Spanish for the first time in our history. Since over one-third of the inmates are Hispanic, reaching this population is an important achievement. Thanks to our growing volunteer base and content from our new church partner, United City Church in Humble, Texas, we are also now providing discipleship classes called Starting Point. The class was officially approved by the Rehabilitation Programs Division of TDCJ and is being offered at three different units. We hope that you will enjoy these highlights as you ring in the new year!



Over 85 Prison Church Services in more than a dozen units

Over 7,000 Inmates attending

430 First time salvations

829 Rededications to Jesus

Over 1,000 PALs received and responded to

Over 500 Bibles shipped to inmates

244 Inmates baptized

Hundreds of bars of soap, bottles of shampoo, tubes of toothpaste and sticks of deodorant delivered

3 prison chapel upgrades

3 drives for release clothing



In a meeting on November 17, 2022, The Board of Directors for Less Than The Least Ministries voted unanimously to appoint Charity Fyke of Humble, Texas to the board.

Charity is the Operations Director at the faith-based transition home Oaks of Righteousness where she was previously the Program Director. Charity has extensive experience in prison ministry and will be leading Less Than The Least Ministries Sunday services in English at the Plane State Unit with her husband Jeff in 2023. Members of United City Church, Jeff and Charity are active in the UC Riders life group, participate in Celebrate Recovery, Jubilee Ministries and C.H.A.R.M. Prison Ministry.



Upon her appointment Charity said, "I am extremely thankful for this opportunity to serve on the board of Less Than The Least and look forward to being able to serve in what God is doing with this amazing ministry". Charity and Jeff have been married for 13 years, have 8 children, 13 grandchildren and a delightful support dog, Sadie.



Servicio En Español

In the last quarter of this year, we were given a wonderful opportunity at the Ramsey unit in Rosharon. We were given the option of being volunteers for their Spanish services from 5-7 p.m. every Sunday night. Fortunately, our Executive Director, Bill Everts, speaks Spanish and was aware that our church partner, United City Church in Humble, was beginning their own venture into Spanish Ministry. The combo has been successful. We now have several trained volunteers from United City and one from Clearlake Baptist Church who will be leading these services going forward. Additionally, we will have our first baptism at a Spanish service on the third Sunday of January at Ramsey. Pastor Eliel Diaz of United City will lead that service.

Not to be left out, we will be leading Spanish services at the Plane State women's facility in 2023. We still need volunteers for this service at 8:30 a.m. on the fourth Sunday of nearly every month. Both male and female volunteers are needed. We need preachers to bring the word, musicians/vocalists for the worship, and volunteers for prayers and support. We have already translated our PALs forms into Spanish. We will need fluent volunteers to pray over them and write back to the inmates.

Over one-third of the 135,000 inmates currently incarcerated in Texas are Hispanic. We would love to expand this important aspect of our ministry. If you can help, please let us know. You can email us at info@lessthantheleast.org.



October 7th-9th, 2022 we held our first crusade since 2018 at the Clemens Trusty Camp 2 in Angleton, Texas. The unit has a capacity of 318 inmates and was at 294 when we held the crusade outdoors on the rec yard. Several bands and artists provided music: Subject to Change, Kist By Grace, Christian rapper Kendall Mahar, our band Witness, the camp unit band and radio personality Karla Jones of KSBj all brought their musical talents to the stage. Volunteer Rodney Garrison and our own board chairman Bob Crites delivered inspirational messages. The visiting bands also gave short worship workshops for the unit band in the chapel. Christian Motorcycle Ministry the Hellfighters of SE Houston brought their bikes onto the unit. Volunteers manned a prayer table throughout the event. On Sunday, we baptized 19 men who were then enrolled in the Starting Point class which is being taught by volunteer Raul Yzquierdo. To top everything off, the entire unit were blessed with Whataburgers with cheese and French fries for dinner on Sunday. We had a peak of 185 men attending on Saturday



and 44 men gave their lives to Jesus that weekend. Photos from the event are in the Gallery of our website, but here are a few highlights.



Kendall Mahar raps about Jesus



Some of the Hellfighter bikes on site...



Jeff Fyke gives his testimony

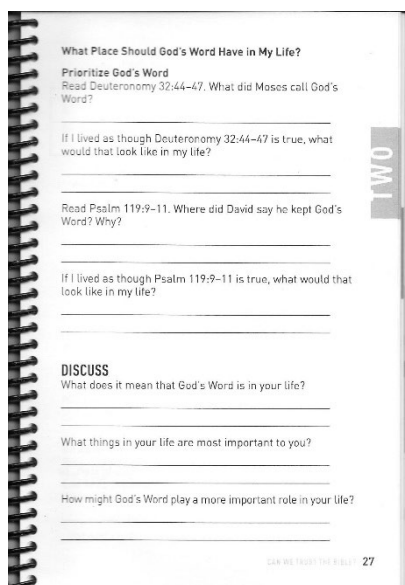
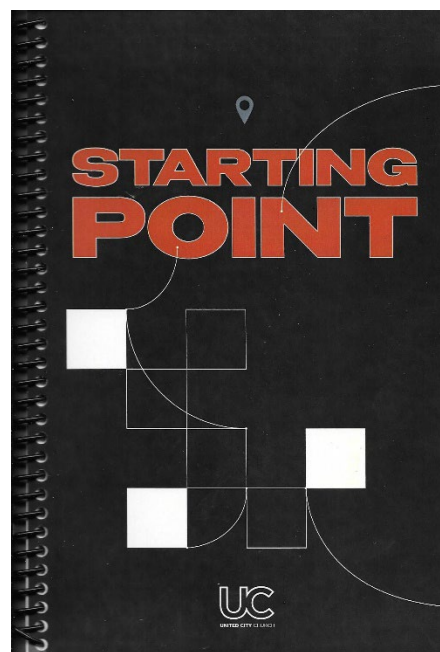


Newly baptized risen to walk in Jesus





On June 6, 2022, the TDCJ Rehabilitation Programs Division approved Starting Point as a program for the chaplaincy department. The content for this class is a booklet assembled by United City Church. The course has six chapters which are taught in 7 weeks. The first week is an introduction where books are distributed, and the first chapter is assigned. Classes have been taught at Plane State by volunteers Stephanie Balfour, Denise Sowders and Diane Miller. Raul Yzquierdo is teaching the class at Clemens Trusty Camp 2 and we are hopeful that the class will be offered at the Clemens main building and Trusty Camp 1 in the near future.



The class is very interactive, loaded with scripture, memory verses and introspective assignments. We are blessed to be able to disciple new believers with this effective tool.

Thus far, we have had over 100 inmates take the class. They are scheduled after every baptism at Plane State for the newly baptized and as needed at other units.

If you are interested in teaching this class or can help offset the cost of printing the books, please contact us.

EQUIPMENT NEEDS

The Mark W. Stiles Unit in Beaumont needed a new mixer and wanted a Behringer X32 Digital mixer (below). The Behringer X32 is one of the most prolific mixers found in churches today. One of the key features of interest to prison chapels, this mixer allows them to store settings as “scenes”. That means

that every different volunteer organization that comes into the unit, can have their own settings stored and recalled each time they serve. Two volunteers from other churches

that go to Stiles, donated \$1,000 each and Less Than The Least Ministries took care of the rest of the cost and delivery. We delivered this mixer to the unit in September.



However, that’s not the end of the story. Their old 32 channel Peavy FX-2 mixer, although it had its problems, still offered an interesting possibility. The Plane State Unit was operating with a very small six-channel mixer, needing something larger that could meet their growing demand. Chaplain Ewing filled out the appropriate paperwork and sent their Peavy mixer to Plane State. After we installed that mixer in November, Plane State Chaplain Hrebik wrote the following to Chaplain Ewing, “You have done a great thing donating this board. I wish you could hear how great it sounds and see how completely it has met the need for Plane State. Many thanks and God’s blessings to you.” To which Chaplain Ewing replied, “All the ladies at Plane are dear to my wife and me. I am happy to have had the opportunity to help you in your ministry.” Making one mixer donation help two units was a wonderful ministry opportunity for Less Than The Least.

In November, we were also able to deliver a new Yamaha MGP32X mixer to the Mac Stringfellow unit in Rosharon. Again, volunteers stepped up to donate the funds needed to make this possible.

The MGP32X is a serious upgrade for the aging Presonus mixer they previously had, which had several channels unusable.



There are still many unmet equipment needs. Perhaps you can help fulfill them. Visit lessthantheleast.org/donate.php to donate.

Plane State's chapel needs new powered speakers at a cost of about \$600 and a major video upgrade that includes two 65" monitors and a 70" monitor to be able to see song lyrics and class material that are presented on-screen. With the mounting brackets, cables, other technical equipment and professional installation, this upgrade will cost over \$6,000.

The Mark W. Stiles unit needs new powered speakers for their portable ministry which allows them to minister to inmates who are not allowed to attend church as they are segregated from the general inmate population. This will cost about \$800.

The Wainwright unit in Lovelady also needs \$2,000 to upgrade their video equipment.

Message from the Director

As 2022 comes to a close, and I reflect upon the past 7 months after being appointed as the Executive Director of Less Than The Least Ministries, I am a bit overwhelmed at the breadth of the reach of this ministry. As a volunteer, I really had no clue how much this ministry does, how varied, talented and dedicated its volunteers nor how effective the programs. I had so much to learn – and have even more to learn going forward. I want to make a point of thanking our volunteers. You truly are the hands, feet and voice of Jesus in some very dark, lonely places. You go and go, write and write, speak, sing, cry, baptize, photograph, hug, love, and most importantly pray with and for “the least of these, my brothers and sisters.” You’ve responded to the call immediately time-after-time.

Let me give you one instance of the way you have been synchronized with God’s call. I received a call from Chaplain Miller one Monday afternoon, asking if we could find a volunteer to oversee the new faith-based dorm at the Clemens Trusty Camp 1. I said I would ask around, while in my mind I was thinking, “Lord where is this person going to come from.” I was clueless. The next day I received a call from Richard



Pifer. He had spoken with me at our fundraiser about volunteering with us. He had volunteered before and wanted to start again. He was calling to say that he had completed his retraining online and was ready to help. I asked him what he had done before. He said, "I used to go to the Stringfellow trusty camp, and I helped some with their faith-based dorm too." He is now leading the LTTL efforts at the Clemens TC 1 faith-based dorm and has recruited other volunteers from his church, The Legacy Church in Alvin to go with him, respond to PALs, pray, teach... So many times this year needs have popped up and someone pops up almost immediately to answer it. As our board chairman Bob Crites said at our fundraiser, "the fields are indeed ripe for the harvest" and workers continue to arrive. I am hopeful that God will continue to lead donors to our doorstep as well to fund these vital programs. If you shop with either of the merchants who make charitable donations to us, Amazon and Kroger, I ask you to prayerfully consider making Less Than The Least Ministries your charity of choice with them. Details of these programs are on the "Donate" page of our website and there is absolutely no cost to you to give in this way.

I want to thank the board for giving me this opportunity to serve. It is an honor to serve the God who reached into this prisoner's cage, pulled me out and made me new.

With deepest respect,

William Everts

William Everts

Executive Director, Less Than The Least Ministries