



Locked Down For The Lord Prison Ministry, Inc.
Larry & Kathy Medford
P.O. Box 1900, Hope, AR 71802
(870) 703-0465
Email: biker4christ@cablelynx.com
Website: www.lockeddown4thelord.com

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'And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose'. Romans 8:28

This verse just keeps showing up in devotions and even in songs these last few months. I do not understand why God called Larry home and maybe I never will on this side of heaven. But what I do know is that even though it was not the outcome we all prayed for, God knows what is best for us as believers even when it hurts and does not make sense to us. I am so thankful for everyone who continues to pray for me and check on me. I hope you realize how much this means to me!

I met with our board members, Darryl Fox and Wayne and JoAnn Withem and we all believe we need to keep the ministry going. Our chaplain Danny Knick still ministers at the Tucker Unit where Larry was based at. The Arkansas prisons were locked down again due to covid, but they are letting volunteers back in now. We may not ever be able to hold the rodeo/revivals we used to have but we are thankful Danny will be ministering at Tucker. We discussed helping inmates who are released with rent or utilities and the possibility of ministering at some of the juvenile homes in Arkansas. The ministry has one vehicle that we could donate to an inmate if they meet our criteria. We plan to continue the Christmas Behind Bars outreach, minister at bike rallies and Darryl will keep the cross-penny ministry going. We are blessed that the ministry doesn't have any debt and the expenses are minimal.

Christmas Behind Bars 2021 was a success and we want to thank everyone who donated money, socks, and bars of soap. The ministry sent Walmart gift cards to the Tucker Unit; the Delta Unit in Dermott, AR; the women's unit in Newport, AR; and the women's unit in Wrightsville, AR. The Little Debbie outlet store in Gentry, AR couldn't donate anything this year. I met Heavy and Alice Pennington at ALETA in Camden the Saturday before Christmas and we delivered Christmas sacks for the eighteen prisoners housed there. Darryl Fox took seventy-five Christmas sacks to the Hempstead County Jail in Hope a couple days before Christmas. Although we couldn't personally hand the prisoners their sacks, we were thankful the facilities agreed to let us drop them off. Each sack had 3 ramen noodles, 2 packages of peanut butter cheese crackers, 1 pair of socks, 1 bar of soap, 3 packs of hot cocoa, 2 packages of chips, 1 Twinkie, 1 Ding Dong, 4 pieces of chocolate candy and 3 starlite mints. I also mailed out sixty Christmas cards to prisoners.

I have received so many beautiful cards and letters from the prisoners since I lost Larry. It was hard for me to read them at first, but I finally read every card and letter. A couple of the men said Larry was like a father to them and they cried like they did when their biological fathers passed away. One person told me they asked Larry to talk to a family member who later passed away while he was in prison. They don't know whether he gave his life to the Lord, but the fact that Larry talked to him about it gave them comfort. Many of them shared things Larry had told them that made an impact on their life. And so many of them have told me not to give up the ministry and reminded me that they love me just like they loved Larry. We have known so many of them for so long they are like part of the family.

The ministry also recently helped a young man in northwest Arkansas that Darryl ministered to at Southwest Arkansas Community Correction in Texarkana, AR. The young man is a believer. He is married and has a family but had been sick and unable to go to work. He was concerned about not having the money to pay his bills. He didn't tell us how much he needed but told us later that what we sent was exactly what he needed. Don't you love it when God does that!

We are thankful for all of you who have supported the ministry over the years. We incorporated the ministry in 2003 and God has not failed to provide whatever we needed. We have funds in place that we can use as we move forward and see what God has in store for us. Please continue to pray for me and the ministry as we move forward.

Love in Christ,

Kathy Medford