



**JAIL CHAPLAINS**  
FREE IN CHRIST



# 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

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[JailChaplain.com](http://JailChaplain.com)

# GREETINGS TO OUR FRIENDS AND FAITHFUL SUPPORTERS!

2024 was a year that included a little more transition as well as a quest to find our footing and set our path forward into the future. With Executive Director Mike Little having had a year to acclimate to his new position, the organization and his board of directors, we were now ready to work on a strategic plan to set our path into the future.



David Todd, Board Chair

Seeking God's will through prayer and engaging a friend and fellow believer as a consultant were our first steps in beginning the framework for a strategic plan. Mel Nelson, the CEO of Executive Management Systems Inc., graciously agreed to guide our board, executive director and staff through a self-exploratory assessment of our personality profiles, individual gift areas and how we work as a team. He then guided us through assessing where we felt God was leading our organization and the steps and timelines we felt were important to map-out in our path forward.

We accomplished these steps through a series of analytical tools implemented in the month leading up to a two-day retreat specifically set aside for a strategic planning summit. The two-day retreat along with Mel Nelson's facilitation allowed us to put together the framework of a strategic plan. Follow-up meetings further put some "meat on the bones" of the framework and we feel great about the experience Mel guided us through. As an organization, we are excited about our shared path forward.

Our staff and volunteers report an opening of hearts and a seeking of God in the jail that far exceeds anything they have ever seen before. The Holy Spirit is working in mysterious ways in bringing people forward who want a relationship with their Lord and Savior and wanting to be baptized in jail. We recognize this is God's doing. We are merely instruments in His Hands facilitating His Ministry, but it is so exciting to be a part of what is happening and glorifying Him.

I invite you to join the Jail Chaplains Organization as a volunteer in God's ministry in the jail or out in our community with our Living Free programming. Or, as a donor, you can help us administer and deliver our ministry and programming to those desperate and ready to receive it.

# STATEMENT OF FAITH

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We believe in one God, Creator and Lord of the Universe, the co-eternal Trinity; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We believe that Jesus Christ, God's Son, was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, lived a sinless life, died a substitutionary atoning death on the cross, rose bodily from the dead and ascended to heaven where, as truly God and truly man, He is the only mediator between God and man.

We believe that the Bible is God's authoritative and inspired Word. It is without error in all its teachings, including creation, history, its own origins and salvation. Christians must submit to its divine authority, both individually and corporately, in all matters of belief and conduct, which is demonstrated by true righteous living.

We believe in the sanctity of all human life from conception to natural death. We also uphold the holy institution of marriage between one man and one woman, rooted as it is in God's creation of man and woman in His image and in the relationship between Christ and His Church.

We believe that all people are born lost sinners and cannot see the Kingdom of God except through the new birth. Justification is by grace through faith in Christ alone. We believe in one holy, universal and apostolic Church. Its calling is to worship God and witness concerning its Head, Jesus Christ, preaching the Gospel among all nations and demonstrating its commitment by compassionate service to the needs of human beings and promoting righteousness and justice.

We believe in the necessity of the work of the Holy Spirit for the individual's new birth and growth to maturity, and for the Church's constant renewal in truth, wisdom, faith, holiness, love, power and mission.

We believe that Jesus Christ will personally and visibly return in glory to raise the dead and bring salvation and judgment to completion. God will fully manifest His kingdom when He establishes a new heaven and new earth, in which He will be glorified forever, and exclude all evil, suffering and death.



# VOLUNTEERS

We have over 150 valued volunteers. Three of them are highlighted below:



David Monsebroten celebrated 25 years with Jail Chaplains! “I’ve lost track of how many inmates were saved by Jesus. My job is just to plant the seeds and trust the Holy Spirit will water them. I’m just a beggar showing other beggars where to find bread,” David said.



Linda Holdman celebrated 9 years with Jail Chaplains! She has led countless women in jail to Jesus. Her favorite Bible verse is Colossians 3:23-24, “Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.”



Bryan Hagen celebrated 12 years with Jail Chaplains! He said, “Jail is a huge mission field. Every week, we get the opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus. My advice to anybody is, listen to what the Holy Spirit is telling you to do and then just do it!”

# STAFF

- Michael Little, Executive Director
- Rev. Mike Sonju, *Lead Chaplain (Started in September)*
- Rev. John Ahola, *Director of Chaplaincy Services (Left in June)*
- Heather Worden, *Office Manager (Retired in November)*
- Eric Johnson, *Small Group Coordinator*

# BOARD

- Dave Todd, *Chair*
- Terinne Berg, *Vice Chair*
- Roxanne Anderson, *Secretary*
- Darlene Burkhardtsmeier, *Treasurer*
- Mike Toomey
- Ellie Steffes
- Prakash Mathew
- Carrie McLeod
- Mark Hulbert

# VISION

Living Free in Christ

# VALUES

Live, Love and  
Lead like Christ

# MISSION



Bring Christ's salvation to jail, serve and disciple  
in the community and connect to His church.

# PLAN FOR 2024-2027

## **P – Prayer, Partnerships, Programs**

- **Goal 1:** Expand our partner network (churches, businesses, housing groups, etc.) with at least 30 organizations by 2027 Q4.
- **Goal 2:** Increase personal growth index for Living Free survey question “I am now relating in more healthy ways with my family and others as a result of this group” from 95-97% by 2026 Q4.
- **Goal 3:** Sign up at least 300 people to commit to pray weekly for inmates, peace officers, volunteers, staff and events by 2025 Q4.

## **R – Resources, Budget, Financial Management, Operations**

- **Goal 4:** Retain at least 100 volunteers annually by 2025 Q4.

## **A – Accountability, Data Analysis, Hearts for Christ**

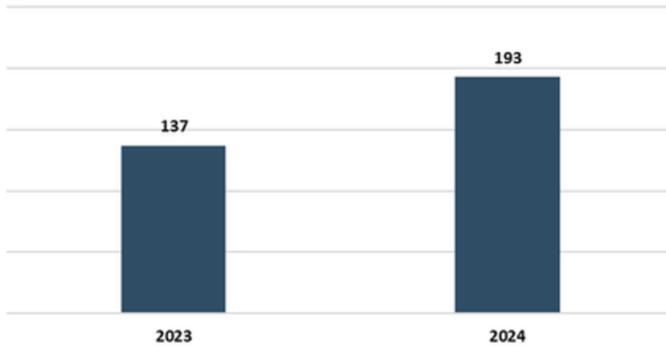
- **Goal 5:** Establish baseline for tracking jail and community impact (i.e. inmate decisions for Christ) by 2027 Q1.
- **Goal 6:** Cast vision, seek feedback, and generate buy-in among original ministry stakeholders by 2026 Q1.

## **Y – Yield, Growth, Marketing, Development**

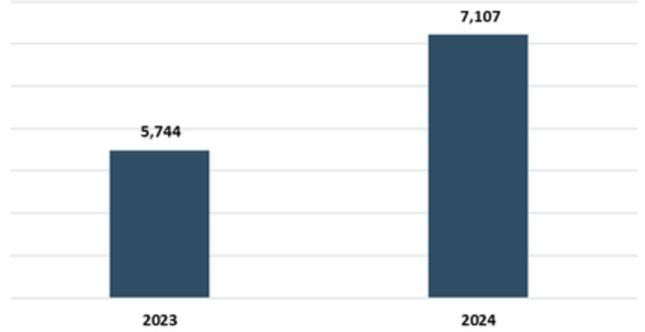
- **Goal 7:** Raise at least 100% of budgeted revenue goals annually by 2025 Q4.
- **Goal 8:** Grow endowment fund by \$1 Million by 2027 Q1.
- **Goal 9:** Update marketing-brand, website, social media and collateral materials by 2025 Q1.

# JAIL IMPACT

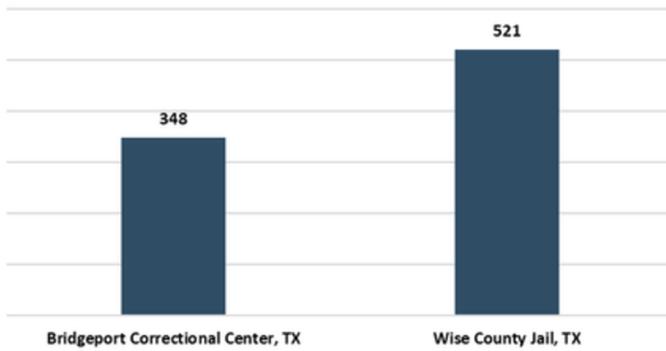
Water Baptisms - Cass County Jail, ND



Total Small Group Attendance - Cass County Jail, ND



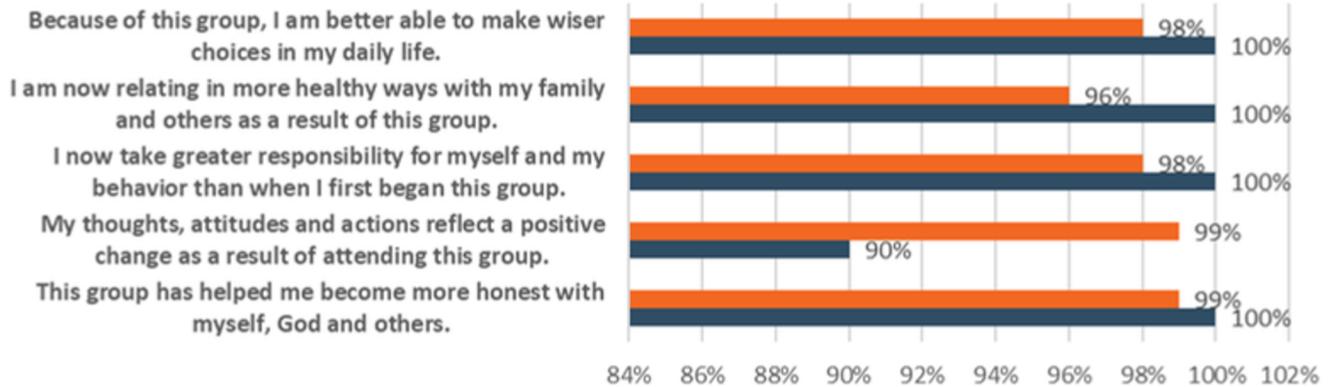
2024 Living Free Group Total Attendance



## Small Groups in Jail:

- Anger, Our Master or Servant – Men
- Anger, Our Master or Servant – Women
- Facing Fear, Anxiety and Worry - Women
- Christian Worship Service – Men
- Christian Worship Service – Women
- Believer’s Truth – Men
- Men’s 33 - Men
- Alpha – Men
- Alpha – Women
- Celebrate Recovery – Men
- Celebrate Recovery – Women
- Discipleship – Women

## Living Free Survey - Jail

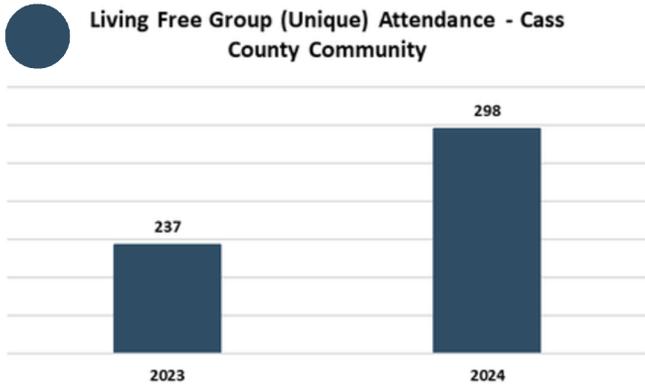


■ National - Personal Growth Index (Strongly Agree/Agree)

■ Local - Personal Growth Index (Strongly Agree/Agree)

n: 11

# COMMUNITY IMPACT



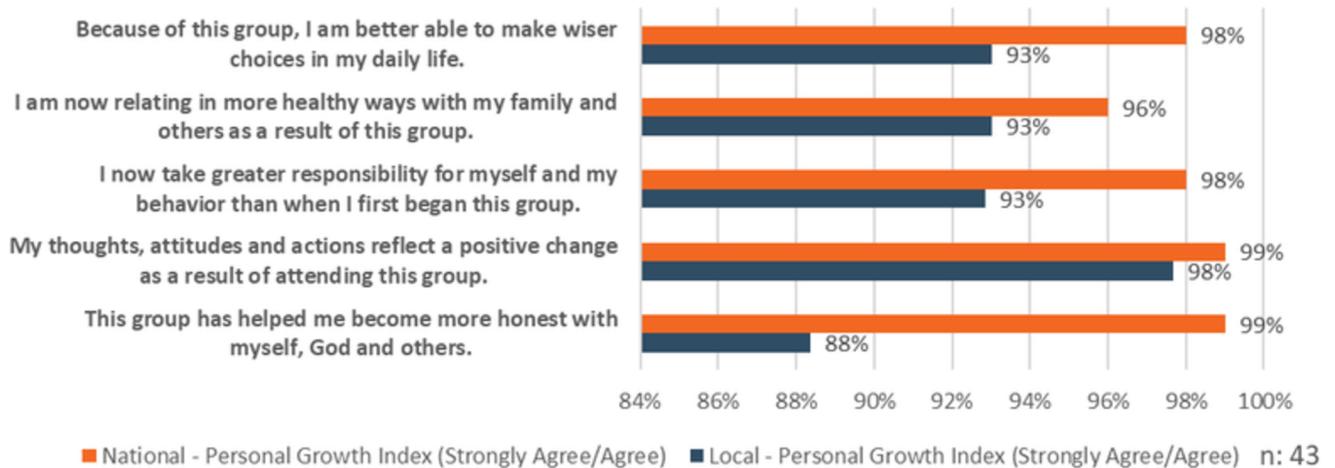
## Living Free Groups in Community:

Facing Fear Finding Faith  
 Practical Parenting & Godly Parenting  
 Walking in Freedom  
 Crossroads  
 Stepping into Freedom  
 Understanding Depression  
 Insight: Building Godly Character

## Living Free Groups in Community:

Free to Grow  
 10 Commandments  
 Caregiving  
 Anger: Our Master or Servant  
 Where is the Image of God in You  
 Fearless Forgiveness  
 Discovering Financial Success  
 Coping with the Losses of Life  
 Authentic Living  
 Single Christian

## Living Free Survey - Community



We host several annual events designed to connect the community with the formerly incarcerated and to support peace officers and their families. These include: • 2nd Chances Picnic • Global Leadership Summit Lunch • Thunder Road Day for Peace Officers • Thankful Lunch for jail staff • Monthly Music for Women of Centre Inc. • National Correctional Officers Week Picnic

# 2024 IN PHOTOS



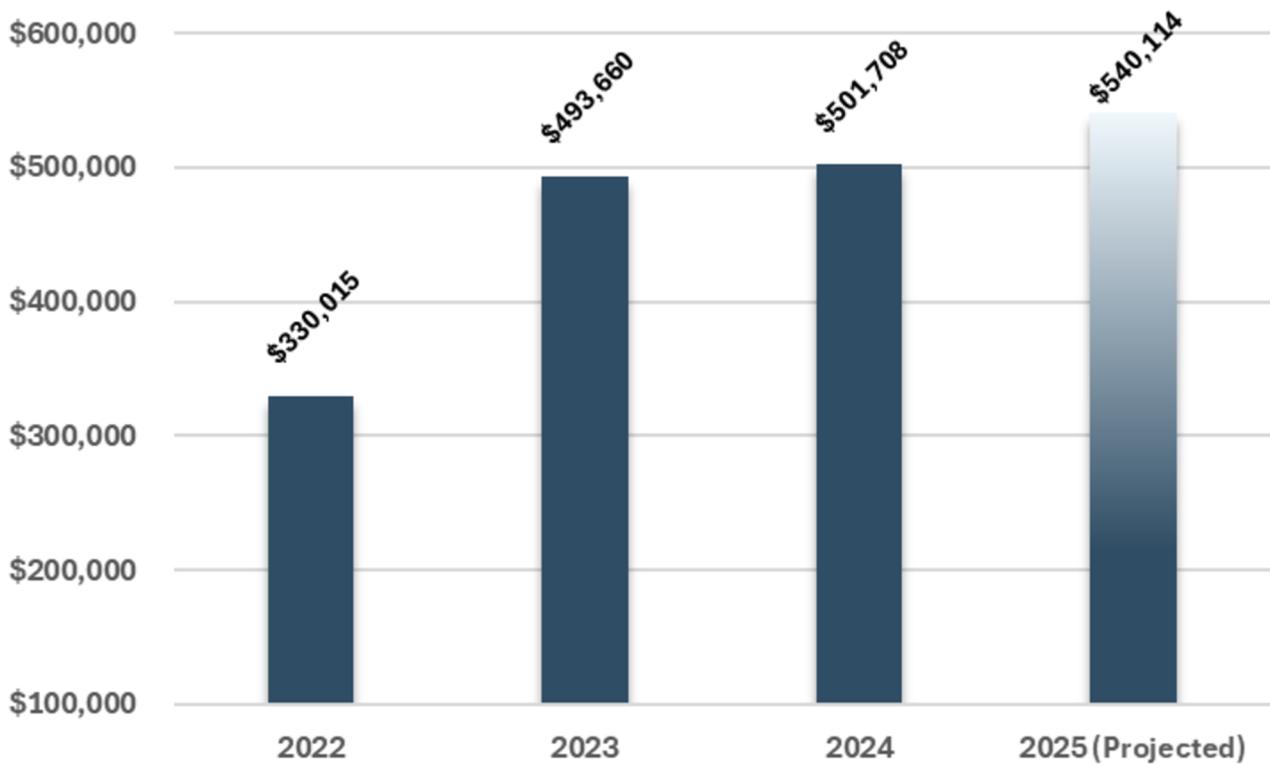
# 2024 IN PHOTOS





**WE MOVE AT  
THE SPEED OF  
GENEROSITY**

## ANNUAL BUDGET



# CALLING CHURCH PARTNERS

**"So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me." - Philemon 1:17**

In this verse, Paul is asking his friend Philemon to welcome back Onesimus (a former slave who had run away after stealing from Philemon). Paul had met Onesimus in prison, where Onesimus became a Christian.

People who have been in jail need Christian community when they get out. Isolation makes recovery difficult. Let's welcome former inmates as we would welcome Christ himself.

Are you willing to welcome former inmates and their families into your church with the same openness you would show to Christ? Jail Chaplains can help with volunteering training, referrals, resources, and prayer.

We ask churches to consider doing four, of five, of the following for Jail Chaplains: 1) Pray, 2) Welcome former inmates, 3) Provide a primary contact, 4) Host a small group, and/or 5) Pledge to support financially.

***Apply today!***



**701-364-0067**



**JailChaplains.com/Churches**



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# GET INVOLVED



## Pray

[JailChaplains.com/Prayer](http://JailChaplains.com/Prayer)



## Volunteer

[JailChaplains.com/Volunteer](http://JailChaplains.com/Volunteer)



## Give

[JailChaplains.com/Giving](http://JailChaplains.com/Giving)

# CONTACT US



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