

## Issue 3 | April 2025

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

To empower willing Christians the opportunity to pass the gospel to persons who have been impacted by incarceration inside and outside of the prison walls through initiatives and partnerships with other local churches, prisons, and organizations.



### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Now that we are an Angel Tree church, we will continue to minister to our new families. Shadow Mountain has quarterly events for Angel Tree children and we are encouraging our new families to attend. Please be on the look out for the next event.
- Our social medias are in the process of being set up. Look for them to pop up around feeds. Instagram and Facebook, like, follow, and share - 'nh\_prison.ministry' or 'NH Prison Ministry'

"Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress. He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death and burst their bonds apart. Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wondrous works to the children of man! For he shatters the doors of bronze and cuts in two the bars of iron."



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# Angel Tree Sports Clinic

Shadow Mountain hosts a sports clinic every couple of months for Angel Tree kids. All the volunteers have an amazing time with these Angel Tree kids!! The next sports clinic is Soccer and it's coming up on April 26<sup>th</sup> (see the events page (last page) or the announcement section (first page) for a registration link).

Pictured below are some from the last clinic in January for Baseball and Softball:













#### **PRAYER CORNER:**

<u>Las Colinas Women's Bible Study</u> - Sister Esther is asking for prayers that doors will open for this ministry to allow more volunteers to enter the facility to support the ministry.

Heather Heard - Please pray for Heather, she needs strength and positive surroundings during this difficult time.

<u>Sue Buffington</u> - Continue to pray for Sue's recovery; she is in medically induced coma at Sharp Memorial in ICU for low sodium value.

Jessie Abrahams - Please pray that Jessie's children would seek the Lord and His will.

Richard Owen - Continue praying for Richard's recovery; he is home now with his wife and daughter caring for him.

Richard has been apart of the prison ministry for years.

Pastor Jeremiah - Continued prayers for healing from a virus contracted last year leaving paralysis in his legs.

<u>Mark Kuker</u> - Please continue praying for Mark who suffered a stroke while on a missions trip resulting in quadriplegia; Mark is not doing well. Prayers for him, his wife Sonji, and family.

Steve Hubbard - Continued prayers for our Prison Ministry brother during this trial and his cancer healing.

<u>Christine Bowman</u> - Prayers needed for Christine, Mike Bowman's wife, as she is back in the hospital. Prayers during this trialing time for the Bowman family and her healing.

Brent Shelton - Prayers for quick healing and recovery on his broken leg.

<u>Terry Ulmer</u> - Continued prayers for Terry as he recovers and heals from a possible heart attack; as well as the wisdom for the doctors as they treat Terry.



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## Celebrating Rev. Dr. Sister Esther

Sister Esther was called to prison ministry by the LORD in Kenya in 2010 where she teamed up with some Christian ladies from her local church. They would visit a nearby maximum prison for men every Sunday to encourage and provide spiritual support.

In 2013, Sister Esther supported the Interfaith Council of Clerics organization, in collaboration with Global Ministries University (GMU), coordinating seminars for interreligious and intercultural dialogue for religious leaders. During her service she met the President of GMU, Dr. Gruzden, his wife, Marita Gruzden and the late Dr. Frank Pisciotta who mentored and encouraged Sister Esther.

After relocating to the USA, she became a member of Shadow Mountain Community Church where she met Tom Heyer and started serving in prison ministry at RJ Donovan Correctional Facility. She reconnected with GMU and began her coursework in a Doctor in Ministry specialized in prison ministry.

God enabled Sister Esther to accomplish her doctoral studies and complete her one-year practicum at RJ Donovan Correctional Facility. She continues her pastoral counselling services with other team members at Donovan and also into a San Diego County Reentry and detention facility for women.

Sister Esther affirms God's faithfulness to accomplish the good works that He starts in us while trusting Him to order her steps towards delivery to the indigent incarcerated individuals.



## Missions to Uganda

In mid January Sister Elena, the San Diego Central Jail Volunteer Chaplain, and a team of six set out on a Missions trip to Uganda. They began their ministries with minor girls who have been victims of human trafficking. Continuing on with Prison Ministries and ministering to hundreds of youths at a sports clinic. While preaching at several churches, the team attended a cultural center learning more about the Uganda cultures. During their time they were able to provide training for 300 pastors and other church leaders, in addition to passing out 100 bibles and sharing the good news of Jesus with house to house assignments. Finishing off their trip with some personal shopping and exploring of their own.





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### **Active Prison Ministry Partners:**

Any questions about how to serve within the walls, please contact Nick.

#### Inside the Prison Walls

<u>Shadow Mountain - RJ Donovan Men's Bible Study</u>

Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday morning

Shadow Mountain - Kearny Mesa Juvenile Facility

Wednesday and Saturday evenings POC: Tom Heyer, 619.351.7414

The Rock Church - Otay Mesa Juvenile Facility

Sunday afternoon

POC: Patty Kiser, 858.829.7228

Pastors to Prisoners - San Diego Central Jail/

**George Bailey Detention Facility** 

POC: Chaplain Sister Elena Hernandez, 661.425.3363

**Rock Mountain Detention Facility** 

POC: Chaplain Rick Chavez, 858.761.6396

Shadow Mountain - Las Colinas Women's Bible Study

POC: Rev. Chaplain Sister Esther Nditi. 619.484.7845

Love Bridge - Federal Jail Ministry

POC: Chaplain Benita Martinez, 619.519.4133

### Outside the Prison Gates

<u>Love Bridge - Hope Dealers</u>

Homeless Outreach

Love Bridge - Standing in the Gap Prayer

Prayer Circle

<u>Love Bridge - Celebrate Recovery</u>

Recovery Group

Love Bridge - Ministry Home

Sober Living

POC: Chaplain Benita Martinez, 619.519.4133

The Rock Church - Pen Pal Ministry

POC: Doris Cortez, penpal@sdrock.com

### Looking for a way to get involved?

Pen Pals (men and women)
Providing support materials
Ministry to Parolees & Ex offenders
Referrals for housing and jobs
Counseling
Ministry to Family Members-including children of
inmates
Support Group Meetings
Food to families in need
Special Outreaches
Angel Tree Sports Clinics (4-5 yearly)
Angel Tree Summerd Camping
Angel Tree Christmas
Great Christmas Card mail-out

Do you have an idea for additional ways to get involved? Speak to a Prison Ministry Team Member today.

Mailbox Club



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#### **APRIL**

- Shadow Mountain Prison Ministry Monthly Meeting 7<sup>th</sup>; 6-7pm Rm 245 Generation Building at Shadow Mountain
- New Hope Prison Ministry Monthly Meeting 14th; 6:30-8pm Portable 101 at New Hope
- Shadow Mountain Team/New Volunteer Orientation 21st; 7-8:30pm Rm 245 Generation Building at Shadow Mountain
- Angel Tree Soccer Clinic

26<sup>th</sup>; Set-up 7am; Clinic 9am-12:30pm at Shadow Mountain Ages 6-17 (lunch & other freebies will be provided)

https://www.shelbygiving.com/App/Form/d41dc983-8a23-49e2-bdd9-78199399c532

### MAY

- Shadow Mountain Prison Ministry Monthly Meeting 5th; 6-7pm Rm 245 Generation Building at Shadow Mountain
- New Hope Prison Ministry Monthly Meeting 12th; 6:30-8pm Portable 101 at New Hope
- Shadow Mountain Team/New Volunteer Orientation 19th; 7-8:30pm Rm 245 Generation Building at Shadow Mountain

### JUNE

- Shadow Mountain Prison Ministry Monthly Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup>; 6-7pm Rm 245 Generation Building at Shadow Mountain
- New Hope Prison Ministry Monthly Meeting 9th; 6:30-8pm Portable 101 at New Hope
- Shadow Mountain Team/New Volunteer Orientation 16th; 7-8:30pm Rm 245 Generation Building at Shadow Mountain

### CONTACT INFORMATION:

#### The Rock Church

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Doris Cortez, Director

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Phone: 619.721.2323

### New Hope Community Church

2720 Olympic Parkway, Chula Vista, CA 91945 Jason Hensley, Missions Director Email: jasonh@go-newhope.com

Nick Delgado, Ministry Lead - Phone: 619.586.8563

Email: PrisonMinistry@go-newhope.com

**Love Bridge Ministries** 

Chaplain Benita Martinez, Director

Email: estaguera@gmail.com

Phone: 619.519.4133

Jennifer Delgado, Ministry Lead - Phone: 619.760.7542 Shadow Mountain Community Church

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