

Free Inside
A Christian Prison Ministry
A Partner with Vision New England Prison Ministries
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Free Inside News - June - July 2004

“Weddingitis” - a happy summer ailment

Summer is for being outdoors as much as possible, summer is for vacations, it is also the most prolific period for weddings. Although June, the busiest month for weddings, has come and gone, churches and wedding halls are still booked solid for summer nuptials.

The Dewberry family is also in wedding mode this summer, Anne, our oldest daughter and second child, will be married on July 17 at 3:30 pm to Steve Ciccalone. The wedding will take place at First Baptist Church, Hillstown Road, Manchester, Connecticut. We would love to have invited you all to the wedding but that was not possible, however if you are so inclined, you are most welcome to come and witness the ceremony. “Weddingitis” and all that goes along with it is one reason why we are sending out a combined June/July Newsletter.

New Developments.

Since our last newsletter, some interesting new developments have taken place for Free Inside. On Tuesday July 13, a team of 14 men and women will have their orientation at York Correctional Institution, Connecticut’s only women’s prison. Some of these 14 were part of our team that went into Gates C I earlier this year. This orientation session brings us one big step closer to starting Alpha at York. The only remaining hurdle is the opening up of a time slot in the prison’s program schedule.

Leading worship in a prison environment. At the request of the Chaplain at Bergin, I have been able to arrange for the worship team from The Worship Center in Hebron to lead worship at the evening service at Bergin C I on the first Sunday of the month, beginning in September. I have had inquiries from others who are interested in doing something similar. If any of you are interested in such a ministry in prison, please contact me; I am willing to help you get through the approval process.

Volunteer Team Training. The training of volunteers for Alpha in a prison setting is an important aspect of Free Inside’s ministry. I am very glad that the Rev. Dwight Anderson, retired pastor of Norwich Alliance Church is going to train the York team. Please pray for him, he has lead numerous Alpha courses, he is experienced in training Alpha small group leaders.

Consulting in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Sounds pretty impressive doesn’t it? I have unexpectedly been asked to assist a few individuals in Mass. and R I to get started with prison Alpha. I am glad that the Lord has opened this door for me.

Alpha Prison Advisor for Connecticut. I am now one of Connecticut’s Alpha in Prison advisor’s. It is strange that I, who in many respects is a newcomer to the scene should have these opportunities, perhaps the saying “In the land of the blind, the one-eyed man is king” holds true in my case.

Connecticut Prison Workers Conference August 14. The theme of the conference is “Chaplains and Volunteers – A Partnership in Ministry”. I am the conference organizer; the venue is St. James Episcopal Church, Main Street, Glastonbury.

Free Inside Website debuts. Check www.Free-Inside.com for the launch of our website. From now on you will be able to access our newsletter and other information on the ministry each month on the website.

I want to thank our friends, Dave and Michelle Mussari, of Azzurro Design for doing such a great job with the website. I highly recommend Dave’s work to all of you, check out Azzurro Design’s own website www.Azzurrodesign.com for the services they offer.

Praise God for each of these developments.

Prayer needs. As you can see we have a very busy summer ahead of us. Please pray for each of the above and that the Lord will give us strength to fulfill each of these opportunities and responsibilities.

Preaching opportunities. I enjoyed the opportunities I had in June to preach at River of Life Christian Fellowship in Tolland CT, and at Glastonbury Community Church. I am grateful for the interest and support for Free Inside shown in these churches. I look forward to receiving invitations to preach and speak at services and meetings.

Sincerely,

Peter
For Christ and His Kingdom.