

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Multiple teams...One ministry...One message



Mission Statement

To present the Gospel of Jesus Christ to prisoners through athletics, and to mentor them towards spiritual maturity and a successful transition into family/community.

Vision Statement

Our vision is to be a national and international ministry dedicated to making a lasting change in the lives of individuals, their families, and communities through the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Core Values

- To honor God both individually and corporately
- To minister with passion and Biblical conviction
- To prudently and effectively carry out our mission
- To serve with love, compassion, humility, and integrity
- To pray and evangelize with urgency
- To cultivate Spirit-led leadership
- To honor our volunteers, prayer partners and financial supporters as valued stakeholders in our ministry
- To trust God to fulfill our ministry's potential
- To convey God's hope and celebrate what He is doing in the lives of individuals
- To maintain a God-focused perspective
- To come alongside the local church body
- To be responsible stewards of God's resources
- To faithfully meet Departments of Corrections and other external commitments

Letter from the Director

Dear Fellow Servant,

35 years. You've seen or heard that number often in 2022. The logo on the cover of this report conveys the message: through God's blessing and protective hand, this ministry has withstood the test of time for 35 years. To put that in perspective, let's consider what else those 35 years represent.

When the Saints Prison Ministry was founded in 1987, the price of gasoline as 95¢/gallon, a first-class stamp was 22¢, and the Federal minimum wage was \$3.35. In 1987, the Golden Gate Bridge turned 50 years old, the average new home cost \$92,000 and Ronald Reagan challenged Mikhail Gorbachev to "tear down that wall!".



Fun facts no doubt, but there were also serious markers in 1987 that bear noting. PA State Treasurer Bud Dwyer ended his own life on live television rather than face a prison sentence, and Northwest Airlines Flight 255 crashes shortly after leaving Detroit, killing 156 people on board.

We know our enemy, Satan, *"prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour"* (I Peter 5:8). In 1987, he set his sights on the PTL Club and toppled Jim Baker, causing him to resign after the affair with Jessica Hahn became public fodder. Also in 1987, the US Supreme Court ruled 7-2 that schools teaching evolution do not need to teach creation, overturning a Louisiana law that required equal time for creation in the classroom.

There are many more markers along the way, but the picture is clear: much has changed in our world over the past 35 years. The exciting news is that our God has never changed. He remains the omniscient, omnipotent, omnipresent ruler of all creation.

His mighty hand has guided the leadership of this ministry through challenges and blessings over those 35 years and along the way He drew more than 34,000 men and women behind prison bars to Himself!

I expect 2023 to be a year of immense blessing and an amazing harvest for the Kingdom; not because of anything we can do ourselves, but because I do not believe God kept his ministry protected through 35 years, just to abandon us now. God has sustained us, He has protected us, and He will pour out His blessing on us as long as we continue to follow Him, wherever the prison doors may open!

Serving Him gladly, Frank Zeidler, Jr. Executive Director

Letter from the President



There are times when each of us take time to look back into history and reflect. In 2020, words like pandemic, quarantine, and Covid were part of our everyday vocabulary. In 2021, we began words like 'supply chain' more frequently, and the word booster no longer meant an avid sports fan. Prisons nationwide have been heavily impacted by the pandemic, therefore the opportunities for a Saints Prison Ministry event were near impossible. As a Board, we wondered, "when - if ever will be able to return to normal and send teams into prison to minister?"

But sometime in the more recent past we were introduced to a word that I still have trouble grasping - "new normal."

In 2022, God continued to bless the ministry. First, God opened the doors to enough prisons that by the end of the summer all of our softball teams had returned to the field. Though the opportunities were not to the pre-Covid levels to which we had become accustomed, we were able to send teams back into prison. Secondly, God burdened a group of men in West Virginia with the vision of proclaiming the Gospel in prison through a softball team on a regular basis. Their inaugural season had them visiting 8 prisons and seeing 114 men indicate a profession for Christ. God also opened the prison doors through a newfound relationship with a privatized prison company, The GEO Group. The Saints were able to send teams to Florida to preach the Gospel throughout the year.

The fall and winter sports had not, as of this writing, returned to the mission field as yet - but God's timing is perfect, and those invitations will come in His time. But even without those opportunities, the Saints Prison Ministry distributed over 9,000 Gospels of John and witnessed 769 decisions for Christ in the past year! God continues to provide in every facet of the ministry - spiritually and financially - using a resolute staff and a strong, godly Board of Trustees.

So, I guess this is where I struggle with "new normal." God has provided for the Saints Prison Ministry for 35 faithful years. He has opened doors, provided finances, provided personnel, and a lengthy list of other things. This report is typical and normal for a faithful God. He hasn't changed.

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, and today, and forever." As we stop looking back and focus on looking forward, how do we not trust is the same God who has been so faithful in the past? For God to provide for His People is normal... and there is nothing "new" about that!

In Christ, Jeffrey B. Marthins President, Board of Trustees



Ministry Highlights

1987 THROUGH 2022

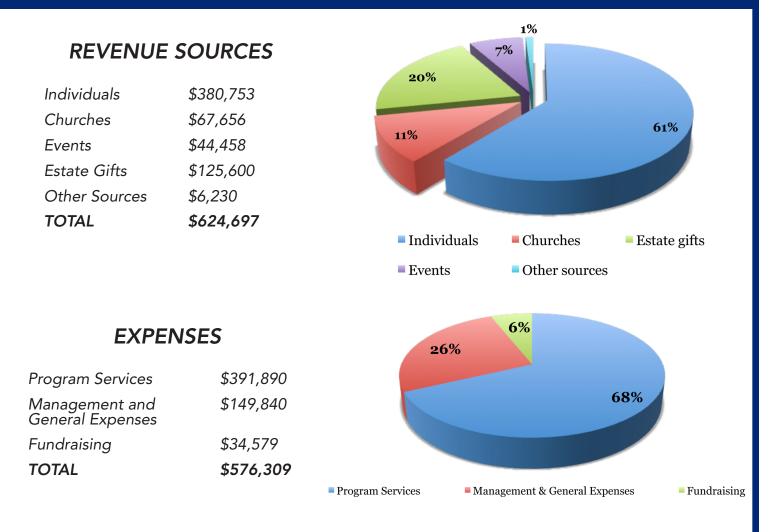
- 4,892 games played
- 475 institutions visited in 33 states and Canada
- Approximately 461,500 inmate spectators
- More than 418,070 Gospels distributed
- > 35,570 professions of faith

OCT. 1, 2020 THROUGH SEPT. 30, 2022

- 19,930 inmates in our database
- ▶ 769 professions of faith
- 9,455 Gospel's of John distributed



Financials







Board of Directors

Jeff Marthins, President Robert Bartosz, Vice-President David Kammeyer, Treasurer John Ackley, Secretary Robert Brown David Crozier Ashley Couey Rev. James Korth Stephen Schoch Rev. Frank Zeidler

Professional Staff

Frank Zeidler, Jr., Executive Director Jimmy Cochran, Director of Team Operations Janice Arcaini, Administrative Assistant Rebekah Bailey, Communications Manager Karen Brown, Personnel Manager Jill Deighan and Carrie Myer, Database Administrators Tom Gibson, Illinois Coordinator

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