



"Restoring lives to the community with the love and compassion of Jesus Christ."

February 2013

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In Loving Memory of.....

The following individuals made memorial donations to The Jail Chaplains in loving remembrance of.....

Elda Symonds Given by Arlyne Symonds
Todd Singer Given by family & friends
Edgar Hinz Given by Michael & Sharon Kratzke
Char Brown Given by Michael & Sharon Kratzke

In Celebration and Thanksgiving for...

Pastor Curt & Kathy Frankhauser's 46th wedding anniversary
Given by Mark and Joy Raven

Harriet Light Family
Given by Catherine Smith

Bev Mondt's service on Thrivent Board
Given by Clay County Board

God has Joined us Together..... by Wil & Mb Dort



My name is Wil Dort. Lacking direction and motivation, after graduation from high school, I began using and selling drugs. In late 2006, I was broken, lost, without hope and incarcerated at the Cass County Jail.

I attended one of the Jail Chaplain programs and met Chaplain Mike Sonju. Mike talked about Jesus and how He loved me, regardless of the bad choices I had been making.

I had been accepted into barber school shortly before I was incarcerated so the jail administration accepted me into the Work Release Program and allowed me to start school. The Work Release Program also gave me the opportunity to attend church at First Assembly along with Sunday school and Celebrate Recovery. Those activities, in addition to the Jail Chaplain programs gave me

hope so that I could begin a new life with Christ's help.

I was released from jail on July 2, 2007 and graduated from barber school just a few days later. There was a job waiting for me and I was determined to live life differently with Jesus.

I quickly discovered that staying away from my old lifestyle meant I needed to change who I hung out with. I continued attending church and a weekly Bible study with Chaplain Mike along with spending time reading the Bible. As I pursued God He was faithful to help me distance myself from the traps Satan designed to trip me up.

Back in 2003, I attended a dance in Detroit Lakes and met a special young lady named Mb. She caught my eye and we quickly became friends. Mb is beautiful both physically and in character. When I was using and dealing drugs I was leading a double life, Mb, had no idea of my 'dark side' until I was in jail.

The Lord blessed me beyond measure by bringing Mb into my life! When I think what she has chosen to walk through with me I am so humbled. She has been so loving and caring. She believed in me when I wasn't even sure about myself!

When Mb was asked what this journey has been like for her she replied, "My first thought when Wil told me he had been using and dealing drugs was that doesn't match with the person I know. What else has been a lie? I prayed a lot during this time and the Lord kept reminding me to look at Wil's heart, it was soft and tender, a good heart. I came to see I needed to be the person Jesus was calling me to be and He could use that to support and encourage Wil to grow in his faith as well.

I could see Wil's skill and passion for his work as a barber and encouraged him to consider opening his own barber shop. As we talked about the possibility I felt the Lord prompt me to write a date on a post-it note which was put on Wil's mirror. Each morning he would see the date and together we prayed asking the Lord for his direction. Fall, 2008 Wil and a partner opened Skill Cutz Barber Shop. He was the first licensed black barber to own a shop in North Dakota. PTL!

While there were bumpy places along the way I never doubted the Lord had brought Wil and I together for a greater purpose. When I look at how God has used us in each other's life I can clearly see He has grown us individually through one another. I struggled with forgiveness and Wil has modeled how to be freed by forgiving.

Chaplain Mike Sonju officiated as we were united in marriage. January 7, 2013 we celebrated our union with family and close friends in Puerto Rico. We are expectantly looking forward to what Jesus has planned for us as life partners! We are confident our cord of three will not be easily broken; Jesus, Wil & Mb.



OUR MISSION



- Provide inmates with spiritual guidance and support
- Share the Gospel of Jesus Christ
- Help bridge the gap between the inmate, their family and a local church
- To assist and help in practical ways, to encourage and help our graduates in a positive spiritual journey with Jesus Christ.

"God is there waiting with open arms. My life didn't work because I didn't have God running it for me."

- Cass County Inmate

The second chance that makes all the difference in life!

DONATIONS TO
JAIL CHAPLAINS
UP TO \$5,000
WILL BE MATCHED
BY GENEROUS
SPONSORS.

DMF
DAKOTA MEDICAL
FOUNDATION
presents

Giving Hearts Day

Hosted By: www.impactgiveback.org

24 Hour Online Fundraising Event

2.14.12

More than 7,500 men & women pass through the Cass County Jail in a year. Jail Chaplains offer them hope through faith based programs including; Bible studies, Celebrate Recovery, ALPHA, Mom's In Touch, Anger Management, Dad's In Touch and knitting.

A CHANGED HEART  A CHANGED LIFE



Photo Provided by Haney's Photography

HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

1. Make a secure online contribution to Jail Chaplains and have your donation matched, simply go to impactgiveback.org on **February 14th** and click on the Giving Hearts Day "Donate" button. On Giving Hearts Day, your donation of \$10 or more will **double your charitable gift** and GiveBack with Impact!
2. Order 'sweet treats' for your family, friends, co-workers or staff to let them know how special they are to you. **For every Red Velvet Cake Donut sold on February 14th Sandy's will donate \$2 to Jail Chaplains.** Pre-ordering encouraged for larger orders. Call Sandy's at 701.281.0430 by Noon on February 13th.
3. Open House at Jail Chaplains office on February 14th 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. 3220 18th Street South, park on the east side and come straight down the stairs. Stop by for a coffee & Red Velvet Donut. If you would like assistance with making an online donation we'll be happy to you.



WE DIDN'T INVENT THE DONUT...
BUT WE PERFECTED IT!