

## **Our Mission**

Onesimus Ministries exists for the purpose of introducing prison inmates, ex-inmates, and their families to the lifechanging Good News of Jesus Christ, as well as spiritually supporting and assisting anyone in becoming faithful in their daily walk as Christ's disciples.



www.OnesimusMinistries.org

## Contact Us

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Free Newsletter Subscription: subscribe@onesimusministries.org

Join the Prayer Chain: prayer@onesimusministries.org





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Serving the inmates, staff, and families of Chester County Prison since 1978.



I appeal to you to show kindness to my child, Onesimus. I became his father in the faith while here in prison. Onesimus hasn't been of much use to you in the past, but now he is very useful to both of us.

Philemon 1:10-11

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## History

#### The Story of Onesimus Ministries, as told by Doug Burnette

While in prison, I made promises to God, but they were forgotten after I was released. Over the next three years I served three more prison sentences in Lancaster. On the road of life, I was surely traveling the wrong direction.

Because of my violent temper and no sense of personal responsibility, I committed a serious crime in 1966 which I fully expected would land me in prison for life. I felt I had really hit bottom.

But God had other plans for my life, and I praise Him for all the love and patience shown me until He could get my attention. Through the ministry of a fine Christian pastor who worked with me at Chester County Prison, I opened my heart to the Lord and received salvation. What a difference that made in my life!

During those years I spent much time reading and studying the Bible. I dreamed of helping men in jail and of sharing my testimony with them. I wanted to help others avoid a life of crime and experience the joy of living for Christ.

For the final six months of my term, I was transferred to Graterford Prison, then discharged a free man on July 26, 1970. We prayed earnestly for guidance concerning a prison ministry and shared our hopes and dreams with our pastor and the congregation.

The Lord has opened doors one by one and has cut the red tape, allowing me, an ex-convict, to go back to Chester County Prison and share in a full-time ministry of Christian love.

(Read the complete story at OnesimusMinistries.org)

# Our Chaplains

*Chaplain Heinrich Botes* ministering to men in Chester County Prison since April 2018.



"My ministry is pointing those impacted by incarceration, in prisons and after release, to Jesus Christ."

# *Chaplain Rhonda Soland* ministering to women in Chester County Prison since 2019.

"My desire is to help women find God, whether while incarcerated or afterwards, and to help them grow closer to Him through the study of His Word."



### Board of Directors

- Vernon Myers, Chairman Andy Duncan
- Phil Taylor, Secretary
- Scott Duncan, Treasurer Rick Chiavetta
- Andrew Leatherman

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## What Can I Do?

PRAY

Receive our weekly Prayer update

### PRISON VOLUNTEER

- Join a ministry team on Monday evenings going into Chester County Prison
- Correspond with Inmates
- Christian Counseling for Inmates
- Mentor an ex-offender after release



### DONATE

Onesimus Ministries is a registered 501(c)3 ministry. Make your tax-deductible gift today by check or online at <u>www.OnesimusMinistries.org</u>

### ANNUAL BANQUET

*Come. Fellowship. Eat. Worship. See Changed Lives. Support the cause.* 

Our annual banquet takes place each Fall where the ministry first started –

> Mt. Vernon Christian Church Kirkwood, PA

Dan Turley

Jesse Johnson