

WHAT'S MY PASSION

Thank you for taking the time to read my annual report and for your part in keeping me full-time on the mission field. Last year went much better than I deserved it to go with no major disruptions in the ministry.

One thing I noticed in 2016 was how all seven of the outreach activities turned out better than expected. The planning of each outreach began with some type of crisis but then each one was resolved and all went well. For the first time, our ministry was allowed to combine youth from the Youth Guidance Center and the Youth Leadership Academy for the retreat in October.

In September a case of *Purpose Driven Life* books was donated and many of the youth took the challenge to read it. A few days later I realized that I had never read the book myself and needed to lead by example. The *Purpose Drive Life* reminded me again about the passion God had given me to be in the ministry. That passion is to be able to effectively counsel hurting and broken lives by using the truth and wisdom in the Word of God. That is why I do as many one on one sessions with incarcerated youth as possible. Once again my weekly average was twelve one on ones.

WHAT ABOUT PRAYER

Last year I wrote down fifty-nine answers to prayer or things to be glad about. More than once a week I was able to write down something positive that happened. Thank you to those of you who pray faithfully.

Each month I sent out a hard copy of my prayer letter to ten prayer partners. Over twenty others viewed the digital copy sent to their inbox. The email marketing platform I use keeps track of who opens the emails and some people viewed the prayer letter thirty times a month!

MY MINISTRY CONTACTS	
Church Services:	1801
Bible Studies:	783
Chaplain Requests:	407
Counseling:	186
Discipleship:	69
Aftercare:	335
Outreach Activities:	265



Each July I sit down and make a list of the things I am concerned about and then wait until the first of January to revisit them. This past July there were twenty-three items that I wrote down and wondered how they would turn out (rain totals, health issues, election outcome, family concerns, court sentences, etc). Thirteen of the concerns turned out great, eight I am still waiting on, and only two were a disappointment.

WHAT COUNTS

As you can see from the graph below, church attendance at the four facilities did not go down at the end of the year like it normally does. Starting in November I began noticing a lot of new faces at my church services and many of them are unsaved. Prop 57 is probably going to

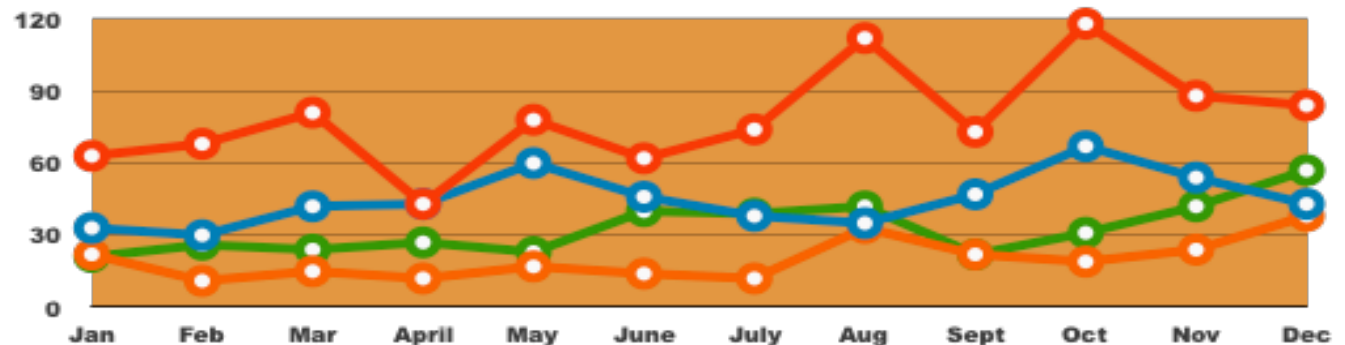
increase the population and the length of stay at Juvenile Hall in the coming years. There have been five youth in the Maximum Security Units that I have been able to counsel and disciple weekly for most of the year that allows a lot of work to be accomplished.

Church and Bible Study attendance was slightly down from last year but requests to meet one on one were up. I was able to make an additional 335 aftercare contacts by phone or in person with forty-six youth. One of those youths was Adan who I met with more than anyone else (51 times) since his release in July.

WHAT WAS NEW

The new ministry opportunity that began in 2016 was providing a weekly guys mentoring group at the Timothy House (Teen Challenge Adolescent Group Home). We went through material on becoming a man, healthy relationships, and a Biblical version of the Twelve Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous.

I recently revised the Temptation Pamphlet that I sent to my supporters last Spring with significant changes on the last section that dealt with how to resist temptation. A pastor friend of mine is giving it a theological review and then I will pray about how else it might be used. My next goal is to revise the pamphlet on healthy relationships and create material that will help youth who are recovering from trauma.



Chaplain Steve Matten approached the Director at YGC about starting a monthly Celebrate Recovery meeting for the Protestant youth. The idea was approved and began in November. It is the best attended PCM activity at YGC and the staff that supervised the activity told me how impressed they were with what took place.

WHAT WAS TAUGHT

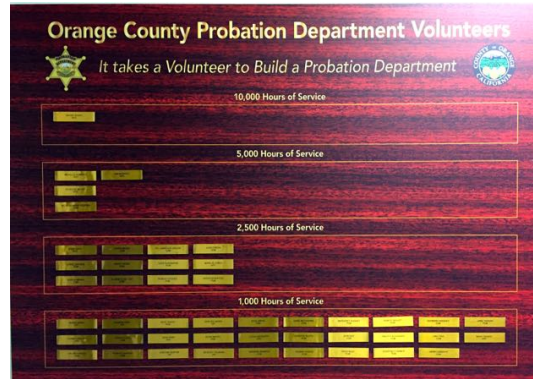
From January to May (except for a break at Easter) I taught through the second half of the Book of Acts in a series called "The Life of Paul." I then switched to the Old Testament and did a ten part series in the Book of Ecclesiastes. Since September I have been teaching on tough bible questions such as:

- Who Made God?
- How Old is the Earth?
- Why Are There Different Races?
- Are Angels and Demons Real?
- What About Hell?

At the Youth Guidance Center's Bible Study I taught a Biblical version of the 12-Steps of A.A. and later put the material into an updated pamphlet. We now have a flat screen television at all four facilities and I always feel the need to create PowerPoint slides to go along with my lessons. Incarcerated youth may not remember all that I teach them but they will remember how it made them feel.

WHAT WENT WELL

St Andrews Presbyterian Church replaced their mission's emphasis weekend with a Community Serve Day in September and I was able to make the Youth Guidance Center one of the serve sites. I was encouraged with the ten adults (mainly couples) who signed up and all the work that took place to refurbish the amphitheater benches. Some of the guys at the facility worked along side us and then afterwards we enjoyed a catered lunch with all the Protestant youth.



Above is a picture of the plaque in one of the Probation Department buildings that honors volunteers based upon their hours donated. Three of our current volunteers are on the plaque for having 2500 hours donated and eight are there for reaching the 1000 hour mark.

This past year I read five books, attended two conferences, had one reflection day, conducted one funeral, had ministry trips to Durango and Wichita, took Trauma Informed Care training, taught a Sunday School class, and presented the ministry at two other churches.

I had to take three separate sick days last year but since August I have felt great. My yearly blood test and check up needs to be scheduled soon but most of my other aches have gone away and my strength is holding up well.

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ANNUAL REPORT

PHOTO OF THE YEAR



Out of all my photos on Facebook this past year, the most viewed one had seventy-two likes and was taken last January at Pastor Chuck Smith's grave in the Fairhaven Cemetery. Let me know if you would like to know where to find it.

QUOTE OF THE YEAR

A servant works for his master
but a servant of God has God
working through them.

Henry Blackaby