



# Pacific Youth Correctional Ministries

Serving Orange County Probation Facilities Since 1981

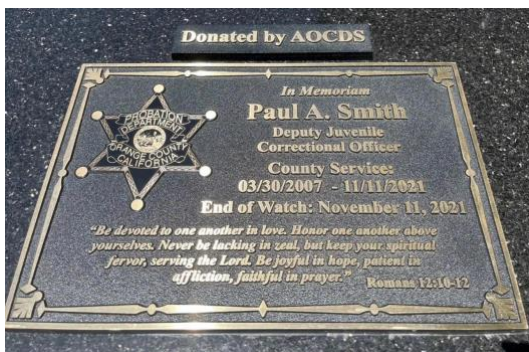
Winter 2022

This has been a really busy season of my life but as long as I manage my time well, I am able to get everything done. One day after I retire I will remember these times and miss them.

For the past 10 months I have collected letters sent to me from those I have worked with in the past and also kept track of the positive comments I hear (see page two). Each of the comments were either from a phone message, a text message, an email, a letter, or heard in person.



The site coordinator for the school at the Youth Guidance Center has continued to allow me to give an invocation at their high school graduations. The ceremonies are held outside in the amphitheater. Part of the reason she does it is because I am able and willing to set up our sound system for the event and even provide the background music.



Paul Smith was a staff at Juvenile Hall who I would see leaving every Sunday morning at 8:00 am after working the graveyard shift. Paul could have worked a normal shift during the day but stayed on the night shift so he could spend more time with his family. Over 100 friends and employees gathered on June 29th to honor his passing of unknown causes. The plaque is displayed in the "Walk of Heroes" garden at Juvenile Hall. His wife shared how he loved Jesus and wanted his co-workers to know him too. She then explained why Romans 12:10-12 was what the family wanted on the plaque.

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One of the Christian staff at Juvenile Hall who helps coordinate the college classes lost a son to an overdose a few years ago. She has turned that loss and tragedy into a mission to prevent further deaths. The poster above and others like it have been hung outside her room for the past several months to warn the youth walking to their next class and give them something to think about.



Last March I ran into the Executive Director for Stanislaus County Youth for Christ (Ken Sylvia) while visiting Modesto Covenant Church. SCYFC is the organization that oversees the ministry I began at Stanislaus County Juvenile Hall. I offered to go over the history of the ministry and its humble beginnings and he arranged to meet with me in August on one of my other trips to visit family and supporters.



Chaplain Steve Lowe and I attended the ribbon cutting ceremony at the Multipurpose Rehabilitation Center (MRC) which contains a classroom, auto shop, visiting center, gym, weight room, kitchen, training rooms, and more. Planning for the \$26 million dollar project began in 2014 and construction started in 2019. Four out of the five Board of Supervisors gave speeches along with the new chief of probation (Daniel Hernandez). Church services for Juvenile Hall will begin on November 20<sup>th</sup>. It will also be used for our Christmas Outreach on December 10<sup>th</sup> and future volunteer trainings.

