

*“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.”  
(Matthew 25:35-36, ESV)*

River North Ministry Council  
Rev Terri Johnson Gregory  
6878 Carrollton Pike  
Galax, VA 24333  
276-233-1800

August 6, 2018

On behalf of the River North Ministry Council, the chaplain, administration, staff and offenders at River North Correctional Center, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support of chaplaincy ministry inside the walls of River North Correctional Center.

Unlike other states or the federal government, the Commonwealth of Virginia doesn't pay chaplains. Chaplains are provided by a non-profit, *GraceInside*. Unlike *other* prisons in Virginia, *GraceInside* does not fund through Virginia Department of Corrections the chaplain's position at River North Correctional Center. Chaplain Randy McDaniel is 100% funded by the community. Thank you for being a blessings as you and/or your church make prison ministry at RNCC possible.

I invite you or a representative from your church or organization to attend a donor/volunteer recognition event on *Thursday, September 13, 2018 at Flat Rock United Methodist Church, Independence, Virginia. The event begins at 6:00 p.m. with a light supper. There will be a speaker, certificates of appreciation awarded and the opportunity for you to fellowship with other volunteers and donors.*

The ministry inside River North Correctional Center has always been a partnership between the community, the administration, the River North Ministry Council, the chaplain and the offenders since 2013 when the prison opened. God continues to move inside the prison walls and disciples are made and lives are changed. Thank you for making that happen. If you have questions, please contact me.

In Christ Service,

Rev Terri Johnson Gregory

## River North Correctional Center – Ministry Report

### ***Unique Within Unique***

Unlike other states or the federal government, Virginia doesn't pay chaplains. Chaplains are provided by a non-profit organization Gracelnside. There are three prisons in the New River District; River North Correctional Center, Pocahontas Correctional Center and Bland Correctional Center and in addition New River Regional Jail. Unlike *all other* prisons in Virginia, Gracelnside does *not* provide the funds for a chaplain at River North Correctional Center.

River North Correctional Center is 100% funded by churches, individuals and community organizations in our area. Since the prison's opening in 2013, the River North Ministry Council has raised over \$100,000 for chaplains' salaries for River

North Correctional Center. Rev Dr. Randy McDaniel is the chaplain at RNCC. He was hired in July 2016 after the retirement of the late Rev R.B. Anderson who served as chaplain from 2013 – 2016.

The chaplain works 25 hours a week and is responsible for the spiritual needs of approximately 1,300 incarcerated men. Part of his job description is to also be available to staff and administration for chaplain services.

### ***Parts of a Whole Body:***

Christian Services at RNCC are held every Friday morning with two services. One at 8:15 a.m. and again at 9:15 a.m. with an average attendance of 47 men at each service. A Thursday morning Bible Study is also offered each week.

In May 2018 the first "All day revival " in any Virginia Correctional Center was held at River North. It was offender planned and led. Eighty nine offenders attended. Professions of faith and/or rededication of lives were made.

+There is an outside team of volunteers who preach and teach inside River North each week. Prayer is another part of this mission – offender prayer requests go out each week to churches and supporters. If your church would like to be part of this ministry please e-mail Rev Terri Johnson Gregory at [fumc@wiredog.com](mailto:fumc@wiredog.com).

+A ministry team of 12 people, two women and ten men come inside each week to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. They are pastors and lay leaders from local churches.

+VFW Post 7726 works inside with the RNCC Veterans Group. This group was started by the late Rev. Lt. Col. R. B. Anderson. This group continues to prosper.

+Kaiors Prison Ministry comes one day each month to work with offenders and twice a year, conduct four day retreats with about 40 offenders.

+A Catholic priest comes once a month and a Catholic lay leader comes once a week for services.

+All the above is good but some of the best work for the building of the Kingdom of God is performed by **offender lay leaders** in the pods and cells who "walk the walk",

lead additional Bible Studies, and bring fellow offenders to Christ. Disciples making disciples.

### ***Thank you for Being a Blessing as you are Blessed***

On behalf of the offenders, the River North Ministry Council, and River North Administration, we thank you for your continued support of the ministry inside the walls of RNCC.

If you would like speaker for your church or your group or would like more information, please contact Rev Terri Johnson Gregory. If you would like to make a donation to the ministry at RNCC please make checks to GraceInside, Virginia's Prison Chaplain Service, 2828 Emerywood Parkway, Richmond, Va 23294, earmark it for River North.

If you are interested in making a donation to River North Ministry Council for cards, postage, commentaries and basic needs of the chaplain;

donations can sent Carroll County Ministerial Association, P.O. Box 1941, Hillsville, Va 24343. Earmark the check for River North Ministry Council.

We are in desperate need of greeting cards. Thinking of you cards, religious cards of all sorts (Not Christmas), and blank inside cards.

They must not have any sparkle or bling to them; no raised fronts or pop out middles. Call the Rev Terri Johnson Gregory if you would like a speaker or more information.

Rev Terri Johnson Gregory

Rev Dr. Kevin Richardson

Rev Steven Cornett