

2nd Chances



July/Aug 2009

New Beginnings Ministry Newsletter

570-364-8391

Director's Blog

Trust is a must!



Pastor Mark Burlingame - Ministry Director

Hi folks,

As we come into the last month of summer we are going through a financial crunch as I suspect many of you are also. For almost three years now we at New Beginnings have been living in Faith and praying for the continued FAVOR OF THE LORD upon ourselves and our supporters. For almost three years God has been faithful to our prayers and needs as we have endeavored to help men get delivered from drugs and alcohol.

Just last month we were getting low on food and I went into my favorite chair for some quiet time and to ask God to help us out with the food problem. We usually do food drives with different churches but had run out of the just about everything. We spend an average of less then 200.00 a month to feed between 8-10 people everyday and do not squander anything the people of God supply to us through drives and donations.

With finances tight and food scarce I had to make a decision what to do and I did. I went to God in my prayer time in the afternoon and asked him for help. It wasn't 10 seconds after I had prayed when the phone rang and a local pastor called me and said God spoke to him to call me about any needs we had.

Before the day was out bags upon bags of groceries were coming into our kitchen! God is able to supply all our needs! (He even brought a bag of Oreo Cookies which somehow got lost in my apartment)

Last week our commercial refrigerator gave up the ghost. When people found out we were living out of coolers they responded so abundantly that I had to call people up and ask them not to send any more refrigerator money! We now have a brand new refrigerator that works great! Thank you by the way to all those who gave so very generously.

The blessing of financial hardships is if we CHOOSE to trust God it's almost FUN to see what miracle he will pull next to prove His love to us when things look dark. I am learning every day that "trust is a must". I guess this would be the time to mention that our quarterly payments on insurance and payrolls are due. We need 6k to break even this month so if you want to be part of an ongoing miracle.....



ALTAR EGO. by Len Jones



The first reported case of 'Mad Cow' disease.

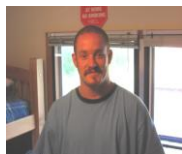
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AND THEN THE FOOLISH MAN SIMPLY FORECLOSED AND WALKED AWAY

Student Testimony

Matthew Burlbaw



Hello my name is Matthew Burlbaw and I am 26 years old. I was raised in Baltimore Maryland by Christian parents. I had a hard time in school and dropped out which was to become a huge mistake. I was working for my father and spending a lot of time running around with older kids from the neighborhood where I was introduced to drugs and alcohol.

It seemed like everybody smoked pot and partied and so I fit right in. Unaware of the long winding road I was about to take down the path of addiction and ruin. This lifestyle was far from what my parents had taught and modeled for me and it led to many jails and rehabs. Everything I loved just slipped away from me. God tried getting my attention on many occasions but I didn't listen. I came close to death a few times with drug overdoses and 2 horrible drunk driving accidents. God spared my life several times in trying to wake me up. These all led to a hard life of sadness, anger and feelings of hopelessness! I cried out to God! I cursed Him! And blamed Him and I asked Him to show me something. It took six months before I found God's answer to my cry for help. But after those six months had passed and I had lost everything, including any place to live, I was at a place of complete brokenness and hopelessness. I was finally ready to surrender!

Ministry Needs List:

- **Restaurant type coffeepot (Bunn Type)**
- **Gas powered weed trimmer, Industrial**
- **Push lawn mower**
- **Air conditioner**
- **Brown porch paint**
- **Used computer**
- **Floor lamp**
- **New frying pans**
- **Pens**
- **Shovels**
- **50 plus inch riding mower.**

Perhaps you have one of these items in a garage or shed... or you may see one at a yard or garage sale. If you are able to donate one or more of these items you will be blessed in heaven and it will be a mighty blessing to us!

My aunt told my mom about her old pastor Mark Burlingame who has a ministry of discipleship for guys who want to find life after bottoming out in addiction. The climb out seemed so far away and impossible to do, but with God nothing is impossible.

I have been here for two months now and have re-devoted my life to Jesus Christ, my lord and savior. I am rebuilding my personal relationship with Him, learning how to listen to Him through His Spirit and His word every day. I have found a new hunger for the presence of God in my life that grows stronger each day!

I would like to see the manifest presence of God in our churches flow out into the streets! I want to see the sick healed and the lost saved. I want to be a part of it in a big way! I want to be sold out for Christ!

I would like to say thanks to God! Thanks to Mark and Alisa Burlingame, and all the staff at New Beginnings for their help, wisdom, encouragement and support.

WILLING AND WAITING

Hello all you Christian Businessmen ! One of the blessings and challenges of having a successful ministry is what to do with students who have progressed to the place of being able to work but can't find jobs. Quite frankly we have in the past let men go out to work but because of the outside influence of the workplace have lost them to the wiles of the enemy. We find ourselves wanting to keep them here longer but knowing they have fines and bills to pay just like us.

We are currently working on the Detail Shop but realize that as we grow it won't be enough. We have prayed and believe that the answer is in the local church. We are putting out a Macedonian Call for help to the many businessmen that are out there. We believe that if our guys could "pair up with you" they could earn and learn from you in a more protected environment till they have fully matured in Christ.

Our men are hard working and have to be free from drugs and alcohol for 3 months before they earn the privilege of working . Then all they need is a chance to prove that they are capable and trustworthy. If you own a business and would like to know more about this ministry opportunity please call us at 570 364-8391 and let's talk about it.

New Beginnings Updates

- Since our last newsletter we were proud to graduate Matt Baynard and Aaron Elliot in April who are both doing fine with Aaron doing carpentry work and Matt working at Pisgah State Park and looking to go to college this fall at a vocational school in Johnstown.
- We have added a full-time staff whose name is Mike Naghdi. He has recently graduated from Elim Bible Institute and loves to counsel with the guys and evangelize when he has the chance. (Any churches looking to support a home missionary?)
- Our detail shop is finished and our 2 work ministries are available to serve you. We run a car detailing shop and a Hallelujah Handyman work crew to pay for guy's rent which helps to fund the ministry. If you need a car detailed or some work around your house done give us a call!
- For some time now every Thursday has been community service day at the Troy food bank. This gives our guys a chance to minister to others and be a blessing to the community. They help pack grocery bags and arrange and move food coming in.
- We would like to thank our volunteers for all their help. Bill Cronk, Eric Husted, Lou Brackman, Brad Crane and Tom Ambler.



Hallelujah Handymen

We are here to help you with your summer yard work. We will paint, mow, haul and clean up whatever you need to have done. Help us to help ourselves.... All proceeds go toward the students' tuition and benefit the ministry of New Beginnings.

Call New Beginnings today for an estimate:

570-364-8391



TWO LITTLE BOYS

A couple had two little boys, ages 8 and 10, who were excessively mischievous. The two were always getting into trouble and their parents could be assured that if any mischief occurred in their town their two young sons were in some way involved.

The parents were at their wits end as to what to do about their sons' behavior. The mother had heard that a clergyman in town had been successful in disciplining children in the past, so she asked her husband if he thought they should send the boys to speak with the clergyman.

The husband said, 'We might as well. We need to do something before I really lose my temper!' The clergyman agreed to speak with the boys, but asked to see them individually. The 8 year old went to meet with him first. The clergyman sat the boy down and asked him sternly, "Where is God?"

The boy made no response, so the clergyman repeated the question in an even sterner tone, '**Where is God?**' Again the boy made no attempt to answer. So the clergyman raised his voice even more and shook his finger in the boy's face, '**WHERE IS GOD?**'

At that the boy bolted from the room and ran directly home, slamming himself in the closet. His older brother followed him into the closet and asked what had happened. The younger brother replied, 'We are in **BIG** trouble this time. God is missing and they think we did it.'

New Beginnings

Detail Shop

570-364-8391

Suggested Donations:

Basic Car Wash & Interior

\$20.00

Basic + Wax Job

\$40.00

Plus Spot Buff Out

\$60.00

With Full Buff Job

\$80.00

