



Jump Start Prison and Jail Ministry Grant Program

Jump Start helps LCMS congregations and districts explore or expand their prison/jail ministry through grants of up to \$1000. Jump Start is supported by LCMS Specialized Pastoral Ministry (SPM) and managed by the LCMS Southern Illinois District (SID) Task Force on Prison Ministry.

Possible uses of grant funds are:

- › Help an LCMS congregation/district enhance or begin prison/jail ministry.
- › Assess/develop additional ministries such as re-entry, aftercare or temporary work programs.
- › Assist in networking with other prison/jail ministries.
- › Help fund training for a circuit or region interested in prison ministry.

To request an application packet, contact prisonministry@lcms.org

For more information, contact:

Email: prisonministry@lcms.org

Mail: LCMS Specialized Pastoral Ministry
1333 S. Kirkwood Road
St. Louis, MO 63122-7226
314-996-1312

Online: lcms.org/spm



THE LORD SETS THE PRISONERS FREE.

- PS. 146:7C



LCMS SPECIALIZED PASTORAL MINISTRY
Prison and Jail Ministry



"I WAS IN PRISON AND YOU CAME TO ME."

-MATT. 25:36C

How can you serve in prison ministry?

1. **Share with inmates** (and staff) how Christ loves them as you reflect His love for you.
2. **Communicate** through instruction and spiritual care the importance of repentance, accountability and forgiveness in Christ.
3. **Help the inmate grow** in biblically-based self-esteem by being an instrument of God's grace, love and acceptance.
4. **Point to Jesus** as the key to true freedom that honors the rights of all through accountability to God and one another.
5. **Teach hope** by encouraging inmates to use their gifts, talents and blessings for God and others as well as for their own development and well-being.

Prison and jail ministry may include:

- > Leading Bible study
- > Leading worship services
- > Instructing in the catechism
- > Preparing for Baptism and Confirmation
- > Teaching both men and women
- > Working with re-entry programs
- > Visiting prisoners
- > Reading to or with prisoners
- > Follow-up ministry
- > Mentoring

Possible facilities for ministry:

- > **County jails**
where inmates may be seen only once;
- > **Work camps**
where assistance is given to someone in preparation for returning to society;
- > **Medium security facilities**
where the inmate is working and/or going to school;
- > **Maximum security state or federal prisons**
where the inmate will never see the outside of prison again.

How can I help?

- > **Pray!**
 - For inmates and their families
 - For the staff
 - For the volunteers
 - Privately and in corporate worship
- > **Get acquainted** and work with your district prison ministry coordinator.
- > **Volunteer** at a facility near you.
- > **Collect materials** to use in facilities.
 - Bibles
 - Catechism books
 - Foreign language materials
 - *Portals of Prayer*
 - Greeting cards
- > **Take a mission offering.**
- > **Have a mission Sunday** at your congregation that focuses on prison ministry; invite a prison chaplain or district coordinator to speak.



"REMEMBER THOSE WHO ARE IN PRISON,
AS THOUGH IN PRISON WITH THEM."

-HEB. 13:3A