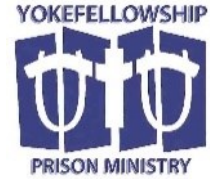




# YOKEFELLOWSHIP PRISON MINISTRY

PO Box 531, REEDSVILLE, PA 17084 [www.yokefellowship.net](http://www.yokefellowship.net)



## INVITATION TO PARTNER

### To Churches Willing to Receive Returning Citizens

**GOD IS WORKING BEHIND BARS** - Many men and women come to faith in Jesus while in prison. In some cases, they might have come to faith in Jesus prior to committing their crime and were not fully living their faith or had not overcome addictions that still controlled their life. Occasionally there are those who are wrongly convicted. These believers often grow dramatically while in prison as they have plenty of time to read the Bible and connect with Christian groups in the prison. Yokefellowship Prison Ministry (YPM) is committed to cultivating a transitional environment where these believers can connect with churches on the outside who will help them keep growing in their faith and put their spiritual gifts to use in the body of Christ.

**WORKING TOGETHER** - YPM brings to the table more than 60 years of experience in prison ministry and working with returning citizens. Local churches bring to the table the fellowship and nurturing that is needed at the local level. They play a pivotal role in the daunting task of successfully transitioning back into society.

*"...the Church can manifest the love of Christ to these ex-prisoners and help them become ambassadors for Christ who are grounded in God's Word, dependent on prayer, anchored in the local church, experiencing freedom from destructive habits, and living out the calling to be salt and light in their families and communities." Pat Nolan, Prison Fellowship*

We are currently in the process of establishing a database of churches that welcome returning citizens. We would like for it to be more than a database; we would like to establish a working relationship with the churches so that we can work together and build on each other's strengths. Below is a general description of YPM's commitment to this relationship and what we ask of the church.

#### **YPM commits to:**

- Be available to assist and answer questions.
- Communicate the times of services and contact information of Partnering Churches to returning citizens.
- Offer a network of information through our website, volunteers and staff.

#### **The Partnering Church commits to:**

- Be in agreement with the YPM Statement of Faith (attached).
- Provide an atmosphere of grace, mercy and nurture for returning citizens.
- Offer opportunities for relationships, spiritual development and personal growth beyond the Sunday morning service.
- Be committed to love and help the returning citizen develop to their fullest potential in Christ.

YPM understands that receiving former sex offenders into the congregation can present a unique set of challenges. So, we would like to specify in the database if congregations are open to receiving former sex offenders.

Attached is a copy of a covenant agreement that documents our partnership. This is not a legal agreement. As in biblical covenants it is meant to preserve the pledge between both parties should situations or personnel change, it lists the roles of each partner, and it serves as a reminder to renew the agreement as both parties have agreed.

**If your church is interested, please submit the attached application.**  
**If you have questions, please contact YPM Executive Director, Carl Geissinger 570-765-3923**  
[payokefellowship@gmail.com](mailto:payokefellowship@gmail.com) [www.yokefellowship.net](http://www.yokefellowship.net)



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## CHURCH PARTNERSHIP APPLICATION

(for Ministering to Returning Citizens)

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

CHURCH NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
street city state zip

CHURCH PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ WEBSITE \_\_\_\_\_

### CHURCH CONTACT (FOR YPM USE ONLY):

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

Phone 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Phone 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

### OFFERING (CURRENT OR PAST):

\_\_\_\_ Worship Service      \_\_\_\_ Mentors      \_\_\_\_ Recovery Groups

\_\_\_\_ Bible Studies      \_\_\_\_ Small Groups      \_\_\_\_ Service Opportunities

\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Spanish/other languages \_\_\_\_\_

Additional information regarding above: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE in ministering to returning citizens: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Would your church be willing to receive returning citizens convicted of sexual crimes? \_\_\_\_ Yes. If so, would you like help setting guidelines to address safety concerns? \_\_\_\_ Yes. **Note:** Information concerning the registration of sexual offenders in PA is available at [www.pameganslaw.state.pa.us](http://www.pameganslaw.state.pa.us).

YPM will work with partnering churches to assure, as much as possible, an effective ministry.

Submit Application to: Yokefellowship Prison Ministry, PO Box 531, Reedsville, PA 17084. Any questions contact Executive Director Carl Geissinger 570-765-3923. Completed applications may be scanned and emailed to [payokefellowship@gmail.com](mailto:payokefellowship@gmail.com)

Upon receipt of this application, a representative from YPM will meet with you to discuss the impact of the ministry and how we can minister together, address any concerns, and answer any questions.