

Christmas 2017

Prison Ministry Newsletter



“I was in prison, and you came to visit me.” Matthew 25:36

Our Vision:

Our vision is to provide unconditional love and hope that is free of any personal conviction or judgment to prisoners regardless of any gender, nationality, religion, or accusation. We seek to show love and God’s forgiveness, not only through words but through actions.

Our Ministry:

The Prison Ministry team from the Episcopal/Anglican Church visits Al Kanater prison, located outside of Cairo, on a weekly basis.

The prison administration cannot meet all the needs for the inmates. Most of the inmates have many needs, not only material needs, but also moral and spiritual needs. Family and friends are very important during these hard times and help relieve some of the suffering, but many inmates, especially the foreigners, do not have any kind of support from family or friends. The Episcopal/Anglican prison ministry team takes on this role of being like family and a friend for foreign inmates by meeting their various material, emotional, and spiritual needs.

Our Activities:

- Weekly visits
- Marketing the handicrafts created by the inmates that are made inside the prison
- Providing plane tickets for the inmates when they travel back to their countries
- Buying personal material things that the inmates need
- Providing food, sanitary items, and medicine



Examples of beadwork done by the prisoners

Please Pray With Us

Please pray for:

- Condolence for one of the inmates whose father died suddenly in Sudan.
- The prison ministry team, that God would give them wisdom and strength to help the inmates even with differences of their nationalities and the prison administration.
- The sick inmates, especially for the ones who have chronic diseases and are dependent on continuous treatment such as blood pressure treatment or diabetes medication.
- The inmates who escaped from their countries because of war and mistreatment, and came to Egypt to feel secure through illegal immigration but were caught and are now in prison. They will spend 3 to 7 years here, but don't want to return back to their home countries, because if they do return they will be sentenced to prison for the rest of their life. Please pray that God opens up another way for them to travel to another country.

Answers to Prayer:

- Our ministry was approved to organize a monthly communion visitation to all inmates besides our weekly visitations
- We thank the Lord for the celebrating spirit that He gave to the inmates during the Christmas party we organized for them. When Bishop Mouneer spoke about the coming of our Lord to our world, including the Kanater prison, to fill us with peace and joy, the inmates were rejoicing and their faces were filled with big smiles.
- We thank our Lord and Saviour for providing 53,000 L.E. to purchase the tickets for the released inmates.
- 5 inmates were released during December and they were able to spend Christmas with their families in Ethiopia

Current Challenges:

- Team challenges, such as the lack of volunteers
- Financial challenges, especially in regard to high changing prices
- More donations are needed to cover the expenses of 2018.
- There is an increasing need for medical drugs.

Financial Report

Financial Details:

Income

General Donations	38407 L.E.
Currency Differences	10826 L.E.
Tickets Donations	66555 L.E.
Total	115788 L.E.

Expenses

Visit Costs	53783 L.E.
Flight tickets	59870 L.E.
Christmas Party Costs	22046 L.E.
General Expenses	2937 L.E.
Administrative Expenses	46816 L.E.
Total	185452 L.E.

Deficit: 69664 L.E.

(covered from the equity capital)

Notes:

- The report shows a shortage in the budget with 69664 Egyptian pounds. This is because of the variation of the prices of the visits, plane tickets, and administrative expenses.
- The current money available for 2018 is 36685 Egyptian pounds (our remaining equity capital), and it's not enough to cover the expenses for the rest of the year, which exceeds 200,000 L.E. to include celebrations and gifts for Christmas and Easter, plane tickets, visits and administration costs.
- The ministry depends on donations to provide for inmates' basic food needs. Each guest is provided with a package containing sugar, tea, oil, macaroni, rice, Nescafe, honey, and hygiene products such as soap, toothpaste, a tooth-brush, and sanitary napkins for women.
- The ministry also provides for airline tickets, medicines, etc.
- The cost of the weekly transfer every Tuesday of the rental of a microbus of 390 pounds.
- 6 inmates will need tickets very soon; Eritrea, Nigeria, and Somali, one ticket each, and 3 tickets to Chad. The total cost is 39,000 L.E.

Support the Prison Ministry

For more information about how to support this ministry please contact the prison ministry team.

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Come and join us!

Our weekly visit to Al Kamater prison is every Tuesday at 8:30 am.