

Love and Compassion Ministries

In the Name of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit

April 1, 2011 In The Year of Our Lord

Volume 6, Issue 4

Annual Plant a Seed Dinner

We met many of our supporters at our first Annual Plant a Seed Dinner last Friday at First Baptist Church in Fort Myers. They learned more about Love and Compassion Ministries, and we enjoyed spending the evening with them.

Ron Willis introduced Love and Compassion Ministries by describing how we serve the drug addicted, the homeless, the imprisoned, and the needy. He shared our goal of teaching all of these God's grace and love.



Denise Fisher

Denise Fisher shared her testimony. In 2000, she was in the Lee County jail stockade facing a 20 year sentence for drug abuse. One day she saw a man walking by, and she screamed at him, "Hey, I need help." That man was Ron Willis, but he explained to her he was supposed to be working only with the men. She said she needed prayer, so it was okay. Ron prayed with her, and told her he did not think it was the

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Lord's will for her to serve 20 years in prison. To her surprise, on the date she appeared in court, Ron Willis was there to speak for her. She was sentenced to five years. She told Ron she hoped he liked to write, and every week during the next five years, she and Ron wrote one another. Each Christmas Love and Compassion Ministries brought presents to her son and daughter. The gift card always said from "mama".

Today, Denise has been out of prison for about six years, and she has her own business. Denise said, "prayer works", and she encouraged those at the dinner to help Love and Compassion Ministries, so others can know when they yell, "Hey, I need help", LCM will be able.

Pastor James Holbrook

Ron Willis introduced Jim Holbrook, retired pastor of McGregor Baptist Church, as our featured speaker. The board of LCM presented Pastor Holbrook with a plaque recognizing him for his loyal service, enduring friendship, and outstanding generosity to Love and Compassion Ministries.

Upon his retiring from McGregor Baptist Church, Pastor Holbrook started teaching at the Lee County stockade for us. He said Ron did him one of the best of favors when he asked him to start going to the jail.

The Pastor spoke from Psalms 110.



Psalms 110 (kiv)

1. *The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.*
2. *The Lord shall send the rod of thy strength out of Zion: rule thou in the midst of thine enemies.*
3. *Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power, in the beauties of holiness from the womb of the morning: thou hast the dew of thy youth.*
4. *The Lord hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.*
5. *The Lord at thy right hand shall strike through kings in the day of his wrath.*
6. *He shall judge among the heathen, he shall fill the places with the dead bodies; he shall wound the heads over*

many countries.

7. *He shall drink of the brook in the way: therefore shall he lift up the head.*

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This most quoted Psalm tells us that somebody cares about us, and that somebody is Jesus. He cares about us in an impersonal world.

Pastor Holbrook said Jesus is telling us three things:

1. **He is keeping us! vs. 1,2, &4 . He is sitting at the right hand of God as our defense attorney
The Devil is the prosecuting attorney demanding that we pay with the death penalty.
Jesus says, "I already died for that". God says, "Case dismissed!"
Hebrews 10:21 says when I confess to Jesus, He makes it right. He patches it up, and I get to try again.**
2. **He is calling us into His service.
The church is a group of people God is calling to serve Him, but few respond.
We are saved to serve.
Listen! And, be willing if God wants you to do it!**
3. **Jesus is preparing to come back for us. He is coming again to make things right.
He's preparing a place for you and me.
He will present you and me to the Father as His lovely bride. (Rev. 19:7-8)**

The pastor suggested more get aboard with the ministry . He shared how blessed he is to be involved.

THANK YOU!

We are looking forward to the seeds of our first annual Plant a Seed Dinner growing each year. This year about 80 people attended. They gave our ministry nearly \$2700 in cash, and \$1300 in pledges.

Jeff Hilbert took pictures of our dinner.

Members of Gateway Baptist helped us set up for the dinner.

Lois Lightfoot of First Baptist Church helped us set up and clean up. (on her birthday)

Mary Beth Blake baked and donated two huge and delicious cakes.

Publix provided a \$100 gift card.

The board and volunteers of staff of LCM helped in many ways.

BY THE WAY, DID YOU KNOW?

First Baptist Church, Fort Myers, has a program for the homeless. They feed them breakfast every Tuesday morning, let them take showers, donate bicycles to them, and the ladies of the church do their laundry. They currently have about 70 homeless people as part of this. These homeless people must provide service hours to the community.

PICTURES OF PLANT A SEED DINNER



DO YOU BELIEVE IN EASTER?

Edith Burns was a wonderful Christian who lived in San Antonio, Texas. She was the patient of a doctor by the name of Will Phillips. Dr. Phillips was a gentle doctor who saw patients as people. His favorite patient was Edith Burns. One morning he went to his office with a heavy heart and it was because of Edith Burns. When he walked into that waiting room, there sat Edith with her big black Bible in her lap earnestly talking to a young mother sitting beside her. Edith Burns had a habit of introducing herself in this way:

“Hello, my name is Edith Burns. Do you believe in Easter?” Then she would explain the meaning of Easter, and many times people would be saved.

Dr. Phillips walked into the office and there he saw the head nurse, Beverly. Beverly had first met Edith when she was taking her blood pressure. Edith began by saying, “My name is Edith Burns. Do you believe in Easter?” Beverly said, “Why yes I do.” Edith said, “Well, what do you believe about Easter?” Beverly said, “Well, it’s all about egg hunts, going to church, and dressing up.” Edith kept pressing her about the real meaning of Easter, and finally led her to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

After being called back in the doctor’s office, Edith sat down and when she took a look at the doctor she said, “Dr. Will, why are you so sad? Are you reading your Bible? Are you praying?” Dr. Phillips with a heavy heart said, “Your lab report came back and it says you have cancer, and Edith, you’re not going to live very long.”

Edith said, “Why Will Phillips, shame on you. Why are you so sad? Do you think God makes mistakes? You have just told me I’m going to see my precious Lord Jesus, my husband, and my friends. You have just told me that I am going to celebrate Easter forever, and here you are having difficulty giving me my ticket.”

Dr. Phillips thought to himself, “What a magnificent woman this Edith Burns is!”

Edith continued coming to Dr. Phillips. Christmas came and the office was closed through January 3rd. On the day the office opened, Edith did not show up. Later that afternoon, Edith called Dr. Phillips and said she would have to be moving her story to the hospital and said, “Will, I’m very near home, so would you make sure they only put women, in my room, who need to know about Easter.” Well, they did just that and many women were saved. Everybody on that floor from staff to patients were so excited about Edith, that they started calling her *Edith Easter*, that is everyone except Phyllis Cross, the head nurse.

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Please Support our efforts

Donate Now!

**Love And Compassion Ministries, Inc.
P.O. Box 152636
Cape Coral, Florida 33915**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Date: _____

I would like to commit to a donation of \$ _____ monthly to support LCM.

I am making a one-time donation of \$ _____

Please send me more information on how I can get the monthly News Letter delivered to a loved one.

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Phyllis made it plain that she wanted nothing to do with Edith because she was a “religious nut.” She had been a nurse in an army hospital. She had seen it all and heard it all. She was the original G.I. Jane. She had been married three times, she was hard, cold, and did everything by the book. One morning the two nurses who were to attend to Edith were sick.

Edith had the flu and Phyllis Cross had to go in and give her a shot. When she walked in, Edith had a big smile on her face and said, “Phyllis, God loves you and I love you, and I have been praying for you.” Phyllis Cross said, “Well, you can quit praying for me, it won’t work. I’m not interested.”

Edith said, “Well, I will pray and I have asked God not to let me go home until you come into the family.” Phyllis Cross said, “Then you will never die because that will never happen,” and curtly walked out of the room.

Every day Phyllis Cross would walk into the room and Edith would say, “God loves you Phyllis and I love you, and I’m praying for you.” One day Phyllis Cross said she was literally drawn to Edith’s room like a magnet would draw iron. She sat down on the bed and Edith said, “I’m so glad you have come, because God told me that today is your special day.” Phyllis Cross said, “Edith, you have asked everybody here the question, “Do you believe in Easter, but you have never asked me.” Edith said, “Phyllis, I wanted too many times, but God told me to wait until you asked, and now that you have asked...” Edith Burns took her Bible and shared with Phyllis Cross the Easter Story of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Edith said, “Phyllis, do you believe in Easter? Do you believe that Jesus Christ is alive and that He wants to live in your heart?” Phyllis Cross said, “Oh, I want to believe that with all of my heart, and I do want Jesus in my life.” Right there, Phyllis Cross prayed and invited Jesus Christ into her heart. For the first time Phyllis Cross did not walk out of a hospital room, she was carried out on the wings of angels. Two days later, Phyllis Cross came in and Edith said, “Do you know what day it is?” Phyllis Cross said, “Why Edith, its Good Friday.” Edith said, “Oh, no, for you every day is Easter. Happy Easter Phyllis!”

Two days later, on Easter Sunday, Phyllis Cross came into work, did some of her duties and then went down to the flower shop and got some Easter lilies because she wanted to go up to see Edith and give her some Easter lilies and wish her a Happy Easter. When she walked into Edith’s room, Edith was in bed. That big black Bible was on her lap. Her hands were in that Bible. There was a sweet smile on her face. When Phyllis Cross went to pick up Edith’s hand, she realized Edith was dead.

Her left hand was on John 14: “In my Fathers house are many mansions. I go to prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also.” Her right hand was on Revelation 21:4, “And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes, there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying; and there shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”

Phyllis Cross took one look at that dead body, and then lifted her face toward heaven, and with tears streaming down her cheeks, said, “Happy Easter, Edith -Happy Easter!” Phyllis Cross left Edith’s body, walked out of the room, and over to a table where two student nurses were sitting.

She said, “My name is Phyllis Cross. **Do you believe in Easter?**”

Take someone to Church, Easter April 24th 2011
and every Sunday after that!



Love And Compassion Ministries

Good Friends,

It is my belief that our government has been trying to do the job of the Church for many years now. And, I can add they are not doing a very good job of it. When I was growing up, the Church took care of the poor, widows, orphans and even the down and out. If someone's house burned down, their neighbors took them in and helped them get their house rebuilt. We had hole communities come together to rebuild barns. People cared about each other. Children played outside together until dark, and every parent treated all the children as if they were their own.

Today government has made a mess of trying to take the place of the local Church. They give money out to people who should be working. They continue to do more harm than good when it comes to helping people, because they do not know the people nor have any compassion for the people.

So, is it the Church that has caused this problem by not doing what it is meant to do, or is it the government that has overstepped it's boundaries? I do know many Churches are slack in doing anything for the people of this area. Many others will only help their own or help people in a special zip code, and even then the help is very uncompassionate.

Luke 10:30-37 says: ³⁰. And Jesus answering said, A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. ³¹. And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³². And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side. ³³. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him, ³⁴. And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵. And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee. ³⁶. Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves? ³⁷. And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise.

Are we willing to pass people by and do nothing? Yes, it may cost you something, but the rewards you receive you will not believe. This country is in a mess. It is time that we reach out to all who are hurting regardless of their faith, race or gender? We need to help them find jobs, housing and transportation. The problem is we don't want to give someone money just for them to drink it up or use it to do drugs. So what are we to do?

Call me (574-Love), or better, e-mail me a picture of the person in need at ronwillis@lovecompassion.com with their location. We will check them out, and see what the real problem is, and help them with their true need. If they need a drug program and refuse to go to one, then we will love and pray for them asking God to draw them to him so they may see and desire for real help.

Be a good Samaritan and help us do what is right in the eyes of God for these people.

Thanks!

In the Presence of our Lord,

Ron Willis

Ron Willis, President
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**Love And Compassion
Ministries**

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www.LoveCompassion.com**

Stamp



If you would like to be a part of our exciting prayer team, please send us your e-mail address and we will send you updates of people who need our prayers.

It is a great privilege that we have, as

sons and daughters of the KING, to be able to come into HIS presence with our needs, our hurts, and our cares.

We know that we can leave them at HIS feet because HE cares for us and will always answer us in our time of need.

Prayer requests are very important to us! We always need people who are caring and willing to personally pray for others' needs.

As we pray for their physical, moral, and spiritual needs, we must understand that because of JESUS CHRIST'S love for all of us, we are

able to do this. CHRIST is the answer to every human's needs.

As members of the BODY of CHRIST, we have the privilege and responsibility to pray for our Churches, our missionaries, public officials, other ministries, and each other.

It is so exciting to see prayers being answered. May we always give CHRIST the Glory!