



TITUS HOUSE MINISTRIES

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Dear Friends,

As I write this letter I look out my window at over a foot of new snow. The sky is cloudy, more snow is forecast, the temp outside is about 20 and in our house it is about 60. A new fire is burning in the living room and we are listening to a favorite: "A Charlie Brown Christmas." I wonder how many who will get this letter have just had a Charlie Brown Christmas. Poor Charlie Brown – always a loser when it comes to performance, friendships, chances at love. I could look at my circumstances – gloomy weather, roads clogged with ice and snow, my right knee periodically telling me I'm not a kid anymore! I read letters from some of you: leaving prison soon, homeless, nobody cares, family won't even call on my birthday or for Christmas. I correspond with some of you facing 30 years in prison. The world says you are so terrible you should have gotten more. You can murder someone, drive drunk and kill a family and only get ten or fifteen. Online porn pictures, either created or looked at is obviously a bigger crime. Charlie Brown? Are we all some kind of losers? The answer is Yes of course. The sentence depends on who is doing the judging. I am so glad the ultimate Judge has forgiven me.

Thursday, the day before Christmas we had the most important part of Christmas for me. Thirty one people gathered for over two hours at Furr's Cafeteria. We stuffed ourselves, we renewed friendships, and we met people for the first time. The powers-that-be at La Pasada didn't allow most of our Bible study gang to come so we plan to spend New Year's Eve with them. Some of the notables at the Christmas Eve party included two people who drove over 200 miles to be there. We had three foreign countries represented: Japan, Ecuador and Indonesia. 11 were former inmates who are doing well: jobs, cars, buying property. We had 4 pastors drop in (no preaching at this gathering). 3 of Don's Jug Band attended and Jim played his guitar most of the afternoon. Thanks Jim! Two inmates' families came that we hadn't met before, just over the phone. Last year's release from La Pasada came to report he is almost finished with a course at CNM. Last of all mention is that all five of Titus House Board members were there happily mingling with the gang.

A few minutes before we left the house on Thursday I received a call from John at Chaparral. I nearly hung up the phone as I knew a 20-minute phone call with stress us. I took it and heard John tell me he had heard from his sister for the first time in many months. Then he told me he had gone to the church group in prison and "rededicated his life to God." John had been a friendless inmate there until two weeks ago. I was so glad I took the call!

Speaking of God, we correspond with some of you who doubt the existence of God. I am not surprised when I get your stories, parental abuse when a small child, disappointment in marriage and other relationships, a generally disappointing life. I guess I live in the wrong place to doubt God. Usually I
Hebrew 13:3 - [Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.](#)

can stand out on our deck and witness the display of the Dippers, Orion, the Evening Star, the absolute on-time rising of the sun and other displays that we humans could not create or explain. I am forced to accept God as originator, creator and ultimate Judge. As He has supplied my needs over a long life of 86 years, I am forced to worship Him. I am going to paraphrase some lines from Bill at Chaparral this time: If you know, obey and believe the Bible, you will know, obey and believe God. Thank you Bill for your monthly reminders. I believe it is all just that simple.

We send out this monthly letter, either in an envelope or by email. If you move please let us know your new address so we don't pay double postage. Speaking of postage and other expenses we part with at least \$600 or more a month just to do what we do: monthly letters to over 300 people, car expense to help new arrivals from prison, car expense to La Pasada, to occasional meetings in Santa Fe or with CURE. We are members of the NM CURE and twice a year enclose their letter with ours, such as you see this time. Don and I don't pay ourselves a salary but we need YOUR help to keep Titus House going. We get letters all the time telling us we are the only ones who care. Therefore we must care! Please help us!

The Circle of Concern has been meeting faithfully for some time and it is getting better all the time. January 10th at Foothills Church, 6 – 8 PM is our next one. Anyone who came to the party on the 24th is welcome at this event. It is a potluck and we are beginning to really love and trust one another. So if possible, COME! If you are new, take the freeway to Tramway on the east edge of Albuquerque, head north on Tramway until you see the church on the corner of Candelaria.

Prayer works! Try it for La Pasada people, some headed to court and possibly prison. Try it for new releases who are like Charlie Brown, feeling friendless. Try it for Don facing surgery soon. Try it for me as I would love to live to 100, get my picture on the morning news! Yes, I want many more years of helping Titus House folks if God lets me. I feel challenged and I pray you all feel challenged. Don't worry about the Lucy's in your life! God has a blueprint for you! If we can help you carry it out we will give it a try. AND, many thanks for all the beautiful Christmas cards, the most beautiful handmade!

Love to you all, Alice (Don)

P.S. Congratulations to Jimmy Romero from Hobbs earned an Associate Degree in Science.

Ed Price in Los Lunas and Tommy Till in Hobbs both passed away.



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