

Titus House Newsletter

Titus House Ministries, PO Box 2376, Tijeras, NM 87059

JUNE
2021

STORIES FROM THE TREASURE CHEST



Our God has a sense of humor an encouraging story from a returning citizen

As I look back at my life, I am certain that my heavenly father has a sense of humor. There are just too many bizarre coincidences to call it happenstance.

When I was a young man, I hung around the hip crowd. Sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll were the mottoes of that day. I guess I thought that I would be hanging around those types of people my entire life. The hippies, the drugs, the thugs and the dopers, the rockers, the partiers, the kind of people you wouldn't want your daughter or sons to hook up with. But we thought we were pretty good people. I was in eighth grade dropout going nowhere fast and was content with it.

These days, after my time of incarceration and correction, I now possess college-educated friends who are ministers, doctors, lawyers, police officers, city council members, politicians, scientists, and teachers.

I would've never dreamed that these would be the caliber of people that I would be calling friends later in life. I can almost hear my father chuckle as I become friends with some of the most intelligent and influential people in this community. They are kind, compassionate and caring, yet they are down to earth people whom I count as a blessing. They are the movers and shakers that get things done in our community. I am humbled and honored and amazed that these people are my friends. They all know my past and appreciate my transparency with them. They understand that's not who I am. They see me for who I am and what I am doing in this community, not for the things in the past.

Anyone who has been paroled understands that the parole officer is not your friend. They have a job to do and cannot be friends with you. However, upon my release over seven years ago I became friends with a woman who worked in the parole department. We now share a home, our lives and work together in business. We often laugh about, how the God of humor brought a parolee and parole department worker together to be such good friends.

Prior to my incarceration. I was an eighth grade dropout with poor values and some pretty low quality friends. Today, I am a successful businessman with employees. I have developed a nonprofit corporation which helps returning citizens get reestablished in society. My friends are people of Godly integrity and character, many of which carry considerable influence and power.

As I stood on the porch this evening talking to my friend, the sheriff, we laughed about the commonalities between those who have been caught and those who have not. "There is no sin except that which is common to man," Scripture tells us. "So, take every thought captive and bringing it into the obedience of Christ. Walk in the spirit and we will not fulfill the lusts of the flesh".

Yes, our heavenly father has a sense of humor. And the longer I am clear and sober minded, the more I sense his pleasure in me. He continues to pour out his blessings upon me, that He may be glorified in everything I think you and say. I pray this day. You are encouraged by this short story. There is so much more. I would like to share. To be continued.....Legacy Acres Ministries (LAM)

Lawmakers label me as Unworthy,
regardless of any Positive Gain.
And yet, I'm beginning to wonder,
if I really need to care.
You see.
The Savior of My Soul told me:
'The World Will Hate You,
because it hated Me first.'
So in spite of World Hatred;
I'm Keepin' On The Path,
That leads to Everlasting Life.
Remember.
All the good things in this world;
WILL, one day perish.
Everyone WILL STAND;
before HIM.
All The Legislators, Judges,
Lawyers, High-Society Pillars
and the like, despite what,
they claim they did for Him,
will experience Never-Ending Terror.
Unless,
They're covered by The Blood,
and are named in The Book of Life.
As for me;
my Journey will finish,
when He tells me:
'Enter In!'
Perry P.



State cannot continue incarceration without sufficient evidence

By [Christian M. Wade](#) . .

. BOSTON — More than 120 “dangerous” sex offenders have been released under a 2008 Supreme Judicial Court ruling that keeps them from being locked up if at least two “qualified medical examiners” determine they’re no longer a threat, according to state data.

The state Department of Correction currently oversees about 130 sexually dangerous prisoners held under civil commitments. Most are housed at a medium security treatment center at the Bridgewater Correctional Complex.

From 2009 to Oct. 1, 2020, at least 123 individuals were released from the program because the state lacked “sufficient evidence” under the SJC’s ruling to keep them locked

up, according to state records.

Another 75 individuals were discharged after a jury determined that they were no longer sexually dangerous.

Details about the cases were not available, and it isn’t clear from Department of Correction records if the individuals were set free or transferred to other facilities.

The SJC’s 2008 ruling that called for their release involved convicted child rapist George Johnstone, of Fall River, who pleaded guilty in 1992 to two counts of indecent assault and battery on a child under 14.

Johnstone was sent to prison for 10 years. Afterward his sentence was complete, he was held under the state’s civil commitment law, which allows for the jailing of sex offenders deemed to be a public danger, and required to



undergo sex offender treatment.

Johnstone petitioned for release in 2003, and the case went to trial three years later.

Two medical examiners testified that Johnstone was no longer sexually dangerous. The high court rejected an argument by the state that he should be held anyway, saying it lacked the expert testimony needed to keep him locked up.

In doing so, the SJC set a precedent that the state must have testimony from at least one examiner saying someone is sexually dangerous in order to prompt a trial to determine if that person continues to be held.

We have never cleaned our mailing list in the last 8 years of any people who have moved or no longer interested in our newsletter. Therefore we are asking you to send us the below information if you still want to receive our newsletter. There are some prisons that do not return our mail if you have moved and there are some prisons that do not want us to send color. Therefore, we are going to a black & white/gray scale. We thank you, for answering the information below.

Mark with a **X**

_____ Yes, I would like to continue to receive the THM newsletter.

_____ No, I would not like to receive the THM newsletter.

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Awesome Victory in Montana

By Larry . . . The case of *Menges v. Knudsen* is a challenge against the attorney general of the state of Montana and various other governmental officials in their official capacities. See *Menges v. Knudsen*, CV 20-178-M-DLC, United States District Court for the District of Montana. Plaintiff Randall Menges filed suit on December 9, 2020. He asserted that Montana's registration requirement is unconstitutional as applied to him, in violation of: (1) the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment; (2) the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment; and (3) Article II, § 10 of the Montana Constitution. Menges also moved for a preliminary injunction, requesting that the Court enjoin the defendants, their officers, agents, employees, attorneys, and any person who is in active concert or participation with them from requiring him to register as a sex offender with the Montana Sexual or Violent Offender Registry.

The question before the court was whether Montana can force Menges to register as a sexual offender for his Idaho conviction. Menges is required to register in Montana for having consensual sex in Idaho with a 16-year-old when he was 18 years old back in 1993. Normally that would not have triggered a registration obligation in Idaho, but he engaged in homosexual activities, and Idaho convicted him of crimes against nature, which is on their list of registerable offenses.

He was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment. Upon release, Menges was required under Idaho law, and still would be required, to register as a sexual offender in Idaho if he lived there. At some point, Menges relocated to Montana. Unfortunately, he could not escape the registration requirement because he was required to register under Montana's Sexual or Violent Offender Registration Act because he was covered by the catchall clause many states have in their law. Under Montana law, a sexual offender is anyone who has been

convicted of a sexual offense. Critical to this case, a sexual offense includes ". . . any violation of a law of another state . . . for which the offender was required to register as a sexual offender after an adjudication or conviction." See Idaho Code § 46-23-502(9) (b).

Menges also filed a lawsuit in Idaho challenging the constitutionality of the underlying statute. In response, Montana requested that the court stay the matter in light of the parallel Idaho federal court action along with various other motions. The Court set a hearing on the motions and provided advance notice of its intent to consolidate the hearing with a trial on the merits. Neither party objected to the consolidation, and the hearing commenced on March 30, 2021. Menges testified, and the Court heard argument from counsel on the legal issues presented. The state's request to stay this proceeding is the inevitable outcome of him having the parallel lawsuit in Idaho. Fortunately for him, the judge denied their request for a stay. Montana also contested that Menges had standing to bring the challenge. The court had the following to say in response. "At all stages of litigation, a plaintiff must maintain a personal interest in the dispute. The doctrine of standing generally assesses whether that interest exists at the outset of the case. In order to establish standing, Plaintiffs must show (1) [they have] suffered an 'injury in fact' that is (a) concrete and particularized and (b) actual or imminent, not conjectural or hypothetical; (2) the injury is fairly traceable to the challenged action of the defendant[s]; and (3) it is likely, as opposed to merely speculative, that the injury will be redressed by a favorable decision." See *Opinion* at 9.

The Montana attorney general has vowed an appeal and stated this decision will blow a gaping hole in the registry. We don't think this is the case because the underlying criminal statute which obligates Menges to register in Idaho, and, accordingly in Montana, does not concern itself with

the age of Menges' sexual partner. As the court noted, ". . . Menges' underlying criminal conviction is not for having sexual contact with a minor, it is for having sexual contact with another male. And that is why Montana requires him to register. . . ." See *Opinion* at 42. As noted earlier, Menges asserted several constitutional violations. It is likely that the Equal Protection Clause was most significant for the legal determination. The court stated, "In sum, Montana has no rational basis for forcing Menges to register as a sexual offender on the basis of a 1994 Idaho conviction for engaging in [unnatural sex] with a 16-year-old male when he was 18, but not forcing those to register as a sexual offender who were convicted in Idaho in 1994 at the age of 18 for engaging in vaginal sex with a 16-year-old female. Consequently, that operation of Montana law flouts the guarantee of equal protection and Menges enjoys actual success on the merits of his equal protection claim." See *Opinion* at 58.

The Court concluded that ". . . enforcement of Montana's registration requirement against Menges has inflicted upon him three distinct constitutional violations. This includes his constitutional rights to substantive due process, equal protection, and privacy."

Titus House believes that same sex relations are contrary to biblical teachings. Nonetheless, we are gratified with the decision and hope that the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit will affirm. If this decision is affirmed on appeal, it will provide support for future legal challenges to catchall registration requirements going forward.



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PO Box 2376
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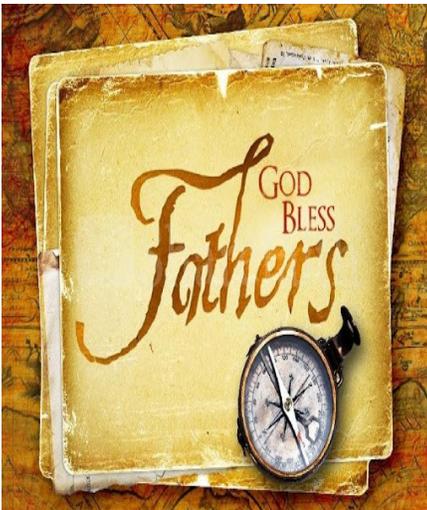
Phone: (505) 286-8807
Alice's Cell (505) 259-0867
Don's Cell: (505) 315-7940

Email: donmagicjohnston@gmail.com

We're on the Web
titushouseministries.org

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.

Remember if you change your address you need to let us know if you want to continue to receive this newsletter



GILBERT IN FLORIDA by Alice

Gilbert is a prisoner in Florida who committed a sexual crime, wrote us nine misery filled pages detailing his story of abuse of his daughter, subsequent arrest and commitment to many years in prison. His story is six pages of explaining the world of marriage failure, false religious beliefs and sexual crime.

Instead of repeating his total misery to our readers, I am starting at about page six of the story.

“In 2008, while in county jail awaiting my sentencing, alone in a cell, I knelt down beside my bed and asked God, “What have I done? Please forgive me as my step-daughter has done.” The next day I had a special visit and out of nowhere a pastor came to see me. He asked if I wanted to be saved. That day I surrendered my life to our Heavenly Father. Immediately I felt the chains of bondage slip off me. Though I was incarcerated, I was free from the evil that was unleashed against me.

Like many I have lost and

missed so much, but God has blessed me with gifts that are beyond belief. I now have the support of my family, my children and even my stepdaughter, which was a prayer answered.

When it comes to spiritualism, santeria, witchcraft in general, as believers we should know that the Bible itself warns us about such evil. It is mentioned in Deuteronomy 18:10 and Revelation 21:8.

I've been imprisoned almost 14 years. If it weren't for my faith in God and his Spirit that lives within me, I wouldn't be writing this story today. As I get stronger in Christ, Satan's attacks get as strong but this time around I have a very personal arsenal to do battle with such evil. My love and trust in God, His Word and the power of prayer takes away power from the devil.

I have learned that I cannot change the past, but by God's grace I can heal the wounds I have created and move forward into the future with the hope of living a blest life under God.”



Circle of Concern has gone ZOOM

Circle of Concern is aimed at breaking down isolation and fear by providing a safe place for registrants and their loved ones to get together, build community, and learn ways to step out and take charge of their lives and overcome the stigma they face. The Circle of Concern is a group of concerned registered citizens, family and friends that meet together on the 3rd Sunday of each month. We are meeting this month on **June 20, 2021** at 3 pm—5 p.m. MST. We will meet on Zoom. We encourage and try to help each other. It is a safe place to share our strengths and struggles. We hope you will join us. If you are planning to attend call Don at (505) 315-7940.. He will send you the link to join by computer or phone. You can contact him at the number above or email him at

donmagicjohnston@gmail.com