



Presbytery of Southern New England – PC(USA) - VISIT OUR BLOG: [www.presbim.com](http://www.presbim.com)

## NEWSLETTER

November/December, 2016



**"I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people." (Luke 2:10)**

### **Merry Christmas**

Another year is ending. Reflecting upon 2016, the Presbyterian Immigrant Ministry is grateful to God for the work He's done in our ministry. Our message in prisons relates to the same message the angels brought the

shepherds years ago. The Good News continues to be preached, and PIM can only do it with the support of congregations and people like you.

As the year ends, we want to thank you for your support, friendship, and prayers. Our renewed hope is that we will continue this partnership bringing Good News of Great Joy to those who are in prisons.

**The Presbyterian Immigrant Ministry  
wishes you  
Merry Christmas and Blessed 2017!**

**Communion in Prison** – Some weeks ago we celebrated the Holy Communion among the immigrants at Bristol County Prison. Last week I received a letter from those inmates testifying their experience participating in that celebration. Below is the translation of that letter which was written in Spanish:

"Dear Pastor Gerson,

#### **Missionaries:**

Rev. Gerson Annunciacao – P.O. Box 9713 - Fall River, MA 02720 – Cell Phone # (508) 813-5638 – e-mail: [Rev.gerson@comcast.net](mailto:Rev.gerson@comcast.net)  
Mrs. Katia da Cunha – Cell Phone (508) 364-6225 – e-mail: [dacunha.katia@gmail.com](mailto:dacunha.katia@gmail.com)

**Steering Committee:** Rev. John Webster, Elder Penny Webster, Rev. Jeffrey Wood, Rev. Jovelino Ramos, Joan Ramos, Ms. Kátia Cunha, Rev. Paulo de Tarso Ribeiro, Elder Pat Wales, Mr. Roland Chase, Mrs. Ruth Ann Chase.

**Advisory Committee:** Rev. Dana Lindsley, Rev. Dr. José Pezini, Rev. Wayne Parrish, Rev. Dr. Mário Silva, Rev. Jefferson Ritchie, Rev. David Watermulder, Rev. Cláudio Carvalhaes.

**Donation can be send in name of PRESBYTERY SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND  
P.O. Box 388, Chester, CT 06412**

We are sending our greetings and blessings to you from Bristol County Prison (House of Restoration Church). We thank our Lord Jesus Christ for having pastor Gerson among our congregation to bless us with his teachings and his presence. Two Mondays ago we celebrated the Holy Communion, and on behalf of the prisoners of Immigration we want to say that it was a great blessing to remember and to partake of the table, which represent the Sacrifice of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Many of us were taken in spirit to that wonderful day as we were sitting with the Lord Jesus. It was beautiful and extraordinary feeling this sensation. Many came back to the "first love", and others repented from their sinful paths. In one way or another, we were all blessed. We'd like to celebrate the communion again. Thanks to the Lord Jesus and our Heavenly Father we had the privilege to participate of the Holy Table. All glory be to our Lord Jesus Christ. We'd like to have pastor Gerson more frequently with us, maybe 2 or 3 days a week, but we know that there are other souls who need the spiritual bread and who need to receive the encouragement from the God's Word as we have received. May God continue to bless this ministry'.

(From the prisoners of Immigration at Bristol County Prison – House of Restoration Church)

#### **Donations Received:**

- Shirley Dudley
- Patricia Wales
- Edeildo Campos Maciel
- Dana Lindsley
- Wayne Parrish
- David G. Watermulder

- Bethel Presbyterian Church, Marlboro, MA
- Igreja Presbiteriana de Boston, MA
- First Presbyterian of Stamford, CT (2X)
- Primera Iglesia Presbiteriana Hispana de Boston,
- Synod of Northeast
- General Assembly – 1001 Worshiping Communities

**ATTENTION! Send your donations by check or money order made out to: Presbytery of Southern New England - P.O. Box 388, Chester, CT 06412 – Important: write a note designating your offer to the Presbyterian Immigrant Ministry.**

**Donate online through our website: [www.presbim.com](http://www.presbim.com)  
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#### **Emails received:**

“Dear brother: I was touched about the story of the Communion in prison. You know why?? Because I had the same experience when I celebrated it for the first time in the prison I am serving. It is a hard place because in that place they are inmates who are living with HIV/ AIDS and committed some crime so they are double marked. We had bread and some juice (no wine, it is prohibited) and the spirit was so strong there. When I was talking about this in one Church, one “so pure” person told me: “And how those inmates had communion?” Maybe he wanted to say that they were not so good people to do that. My answer was: “Using their mouth like everyone”. So I am really happy to hear your story because I had (this experience) and it is a real joy to do that. Blessings.” *(Edelberto Valdés – Presbyterian Church of Cuba)*

“Hi little Brother Gerson! I have followed your Ministry in prayer every day. I'm happy for the results achieved, which to us may seem small, but when it comes to human beings, it's very valuable - according to the Scriptures. I was especially heartened by the adventure in which you searched the celebration of the Lord's Supper; and also by the testimony of the homosexual young man. In my professional life, especially at the University, I met several homosexual colleagues also, but I always had the grace of

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God to live with them giving full support and respect, without any prejudice- after all, they suffer like us the fact that they are also exiled from Eden, and only the Creator can understand the whole process of total degeneration of the human race. Many of them consider me their friends and gladly accept my words of the gospel, but the results of (my preaching) we will know only in the Eternity.”  
*(Professor Paulo Eugenio Anunciaçao – Gerson's brother)  
Translated from Portuguese*

#### **Nov/Dec - Attendance**

<b>Day</b>	<b>Prison (all units)</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
11/01	Plymouth	28
11/03	Boston	39
11/07	Bristol	51
11/08	Plymouth	35
11/10	Boston	45
11/14	Bristol	48
11/15	Plymouth	47
11/17	Boston	42
11/21	Bristol	52
11/22	Plymouth	57
11/24	Boston	Thanksgiving
11/28	Bristol	28
11/29	Plymouth	Locked down
12/01	Boston	35
12/05	Bristol	49
12/06	Plymouth	41
12/08	Boston	39
12/12	Bristol	47
12/13	Plymouth	55
12/15	Boston	43

\*\* This edition was closed on December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016

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