

# Overcomers Outreach

*"Bridging the Gap Between 12 Step Recovery and Churches"*  
*December 2010 Newsletter*

## From the Director ...

This past year has been one of growth. We celebrated 25 years of ministry, opened several new meetings around the world, held fundraisers and events across the nation, published the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition



of *A Bridge to Recovery*, created new literature, updated existing literature, and improved our internet

and public presence. TNT teen groups are starting up in two new locations so far. We have a blog site, a Face Book page, and an improved, user friendly website.

We have so very much to be thankful for, and "the best is yet to come." Thank you all!

Jeff

## Board of Directors

We welcome our newest board members, Gerry Limpic, Louie Loy, and Tim Zickuhr. These men bring new energy and servants' hearts to the Board of Directors. We also thank David Freiman for all his help during his four years on the board.



Tim Z at the office

**Mailbox**

**Pure Service**

**Literature Update**

**Office News**

## Events ...

### Thanksgiving -New Jersey

Jeff,  
Please pass this info along that others can rejoice with the Overcomers ministry. Donated food and volunteers from various churches and agencies played a large part in the following totals and seeds of life being sowed. We served 292 adults and 25 children (Kid's ministry was blessed with candy, coloring books, crayons, etc.)

We gave away clothing, shoes, and door prizes (food baskets, turkeys, toys, and toiletries). We prayed with a total of 23 people, with the results of 8 salvations and 3 re-dedications, We made 7 detox and addiction rehab placements and also helped with a battered woman's shelter placement. And we received various request for healing, family members needs and encouragement, housing, and counseling.

At the end of the day, we gave away all of the leftover food to the homeless and needy. We are looking for "salvation follow-up" help and for placement into local churches.

To God be the glory  
Rev Rafael M. Menendez



"clearing" the table at the office  
Thanksgiving gathering

## The Mailbox ...

### San Jose, CA Writes:

San Jose Overcomers enjoyed food and fellowship tonight as 20 of us gathered to share, give thanks and praise our Heavenly Father for our many blessings. (posted on Face Book) Lori B.

### Scotland Writes:

Hello Jeff

Many thanks for sending out our literature last time, and also for the wee extra bits you put in. All is going well here with the meeting. We have three new group members and ten at the meeting last Monday. Hope you're well and all is going good at the service office. Love and best in the Lord Jesus.

Brian-OO Glasgow

### Oregon Writes:

Hello Overcomers:

I am pleased to report that Canby New Life Church (Oregon) will start a TNT group on Monday December 6<sup>th</sup>. Thank you SO much for sending us the starting materials.

I met with the Youth Pastor and youth leadership team last night.

We will follow the format and guidelines as outlined in the TNT Pamphlet.

We are very excited to get this going, and I am grateful for all of your support.

Blessings,  
Mark

### Allen Writes:

Again this always seems to make it through to my work e-mail...always a blessing.

Recovering in the name of Jesus..I work in one community and live in another. It is just Jesus and I, and the Lord always sends

people or a nugget as your e-mail to keep me going.....you are in my prayers. Allen A.

### **Georgia Writes:**

Hi,  
We are a Christian 12 step group with an open meeting. We started several years ago, and have been running our meeting exactly like any other AA or NA open meeting for over a year with the only exception being that our group considers God as the biblical God through a relationship with Jesus. We openly discuss scriptures at our meetings, but only as they apply directly to Recovery and the steps being talked about.

We began as a small group using the Living Free and the Celebrate Recovery curriculum, but decided to adopt a more AA- like format to be more attractive to newcomers. The curriculum based groups just seemed more appropriate for a church and we wanted to be a community based group open to anyone with the hope of reaching more people for Christ. We would also like to be linked locally with other Overcomers groups in Georgia.

Thanks Steve F

### **Nebraska writes (via Face Book):**

I Praise our Lord everyday for O.O. and how it continues to strengthen my walk with Jesus, we have been meeting for 18 years now in Lincoln Nebraska at 4710 north 10th street every Tuesday from 8:00 till 9:30.

In Christ  
Grateful Chuck

### **"How can We Help?" by Jeff M**

The office phone rang here at the OO office one day, and when I answered, that was the question I heard. Not in those exact words, but it was loud and clear just the same.

I had shared recently in a mail-out about having been taken by some local Overcomers to their church while I was in a treatment facility, and the good results I got from their desire to reach out to strangers.

The lady on the phone liked the story and thought she and her husband could do something like this to improve attendance at their meeting, so she asked if I knew where to find treatment centers in their local area and who to contact? If so, she and her husband would go pick up residents and take them to church, if that were possible.

We talked some more, and I found out that about a year and a half ago, she had talked with me about moving their meeting to a new church. "We had tried to keep it going for a long time, but we started going to another church, and rather than give up, we got permission to start a new group at our new church. We didn't have much luck after a few meetings, but when we got discouraged, someone new would show up once or twice, then they would stop coming. For a long time now, my husband and I have been driving into town to open the meeting, but it would just be the two of us most of the time, so we just study the bible and OO book for an hour, then go home. It is a long drive for us (40-50 miles round trip) as we are in our eighties." Then her husband got on the phone and thanked me for giving them some "good ideas" to try. I was so overwhelmed that I started tearing up! HE was thanking ME? I hope that anyone who reads this will someday have the good fortune to meet such wonderful examples of God's love to the world as these two beautiful saints.

### **Special Thanks**

For most of this past year, this office has been blessed with a special helper. Mary has donated two to four hours of her time, one day every week, like clockwork. She has learned many aspects of the operation and has been a great help with bookkeeping, proofreading, typing, and those ever present, tedious jobs of folding, stuffing envelopes, and applying "stickers" and labels to brochures and envelopes. To top it off, she has been spared the issues many of us have wrestled with – no addictions, personal or family, no codependency issues, etc. She just has compassion for others and wants to help – and help she does! She is active in service to the church as well and her willingness to help blesses us all. Thank you Mary.

### **News from the Office ...**

Breaking news! It looks like Overcomers is starting up in the Caribbean, on Cayman Islands. The meeting is scheduled to start in mid-January. Materials have been shipped and a venue set. Details will be posted as we receive them. Good scuba diving in those waters. A tropical island, diving, and OO?? Now that's what I call a vacation! We welcome new meetings in NY, NJ, DE, GA, OH, AZ, MA and CA, too. And there are two new TNT teens' groups starting. Updating our national meeting directory is on-going, and we thank you for your help.



*"The Office"*

## Website News

We are on Face Book. Our page "Overcomers-Outreach-US" is linked to FB pages in the UK, Sweden, German speaking countries in Europe, and Australia. We have some good posts and discussions going all over the world. C12 und C12 – the German speaking fellowship is conducting a "webinar". Most posts are in English and German so far. Everyone is welcome to share. Our FB page can also be accessed from our website main page.

We have also combined the "Online Meeting" and "OO Media" sites with the "OO Blog Site". This site also features some of our literature content and open discussions of various topics.

Look for the "Quick Links" feature on the upper left corner of the website, where a few handy "shortcuts" are now available, including a "what's new" link for the latest changes and updates. We also just installed a "Sober time counter" where you enter the abstinence date and you see how many days (and years) you have been abstinent. No records kept or information stored; just have fun with it!



## The Birthday Page

Our "Birthday Page" is the latest web project. We are inviting individuals to make a modest donation (\$1 for each year of participation in a program) and have their "birthday" posted so we can celebrate the date with the individual, while generating much needed financial support

for operation of the ministry as well. Personal anonymity and confidentiality are maintained, as only first names with last initials and group names or cities are listed. By doing this we hope to show visitors to the site just how much God blesses us with His strength, giving us victory over our trials. Just the first ten entries so far show a total of 179 years of combined success! A full page of participants will be a great witness to Christ's healing power as we show the combined years over many names. You don't have to wait until your next "birthday" to get started. Please consider making a donation as soon as possible so we can celebrate Christ's power with you and bear witness to all of His healing power. We also want to list our groups and the dates of their respective anniversaries to further show the endurance God has blessed our groups with. If your group has made a donation in the past or currently observes the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition, please email, call, or write the Central Office with the date of first meeting and the facility or location name and city, and we will add this to our list as well. As more groups participate, we will start a separate page for the groups. Once again, we do need to raise funds, but primarily, we want to show this world how wonderful and faithful our Savior is and to share the hope He has given us, so please participate.

Any and all donations can be made online, by phone, or by mail. A new option online is to make a regular monthly donation automatically by credit or debit card via Pay Pal online secure services.

We would also be happy to post your upcoming event on the website, just email it to us a few days in advance.



## Literature

Featured above is the cover of our newest pamphlet – "Higher Power" – which we hope will benefit those who are new to 12 step recovery. Through our pamphlets, booklets, and other literature, we offer our method of recovery, namely faith in and the discovery of God's wisdom for us as shown in the Bible and the 12 Steps. Literature sales account for much of our income, and we hope the pamphlets attract new visitors to meetings. Other items, such as "Meeting Here" signs and key tags to celebrate milestones in recovery are available as well. To see all of our current literature please visit our online shop at our website [overcomersoutreach.org](http://overcomersoutreach.org) There you can "look over" our brochures and publications. We also carry Life Recovery Bibles, Christian devotionals, and our "big book" *A Bridge to Recovery*.



**"Bridging the Gap Between  
12 Step Groups and Churches of  
All Denominations"**

## A Prayer of Love

The computers are getting "slower", the printers are getting "noisy", and we still owe a little to our printing service, but God supplies us and we are blessed. The response to our last mail out was much improved over past efforts. We hope this shows that "times" are improving for each of you, because God gave us each other to love, as He loves us. This is the time that we celebrate the coming of our Lord Jesus. Let's focus our hearts and minds on the simple, unchangeable, and eternal fact that God loves us so that He came to us, to love us and to be with us, forever. How can anything else even matter?

**Holy, loving Father, we stand before you as believers of the divine love you expressed to us through your precious Son, Jesus Christ. We worship you and praise you as we extend your love through us to one another. We pray now that You would use us to live as examples of your love through our lives in Christ, and that You would be glorified in all the love that we may give and receive. As you comfort us may we be comfort to those around us for all our days so that all will know that You are Almighty God. We ask this in Jesus name. Amen**

*If you would like to make a donation to Overcomers Outreach, Inc. to help defray the cost of this newsletter as well as other operating expenses, please visit our website. All donations are tax deductible.*

*If you would like to be added to our mailing list, or removed from it, please so indicate, along with your donation, or call us at (800)310-3001, or email us at [info@overcomersoutreach.org](mailto:info@overcomersoutreach.org) and we will be happy to accommodate your request.*

*We also welcome any news articles or testimonies you would care to submit for future newsletters.*

*God Bless*

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