


# ANNUAL REPORT 2022



"Come to me, all you  
who are weary and  
burdened, and I will give  
you rest..."

Mathew 11:28

**TRANSFORMATION** and **HOPE** through the good news of Jesus Christ



**NADIA ZEVERSENUKE** EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## The Journey to a New Life

The journey to Jesus is different for each of us. If we all shared our testimony, each unique story would demonstrate the incredible lengths God would go to reach our hearts. As I review all the testimonies created through New Life Prison Ministries last year, I am in awe of how God uses the most difficult situations to bring us closer to Him.

In 2022, New Life received the news that more than 270 students committed their lives to Christ. Each of these commitments of faith represents a life transformed and filled with the hope that only Jesus can provide. With each Bible study processed, the NLPM team prays that inmates will learn about God's love, redemption, and grace leading them to begin their personal relationship with Jesus.

This was our most impactful year to date helping more students, chaplains, and institutions than ever before. God is just beginning His work at NLPM. The growth has continued into 2023 and we are already witnessing more impact than last year. We will continue to work hard spreading the gospel and praising God for all the success He is providing in this ministry.

We are all so thankful for the loyalty of our partners, donors, staff, and volunteers. This work would not be possible without you. I hope that you enjoy reading about the ways that your commitment to the NLPM mission has impacted so many lives!

**Nadia Zeversenuke**





DOUG IDEMA BOARD CHAIR

# Message from the Board

It is important to look back at God's goodness and faithfulness. Psalm 103:2 reminds us to **"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits"**. David goes on to describe God's wondrous work of forgiveness and His provision in our lives. Let's not forget the good things the Lord has done, and is doing, through New Life Prison Ministries. The lives of many inmates are being transformed by the good news of Jesus Christ.

Looking back on 2022, we have so much to be thankful for. What a year it has been! Completed studies are up by 25% from the previous year, the number of students served has increased by 33%. Most importantly, faith decisions have increased by 76%! Even with all this growth we know that there is still so much opportunity to get God's Word into the hands of many more inmates.

As a board, we are thrilled about what the Lord has in store for us in 2023. We are anticipating improvements in chaplain support and curriculum growth in areas such as Indigenous studies and the development of a new and improved ARC device. Volume growth has also caused us to plan improvements in volunteer and office processes, and printing processes. We are all working hard to reach more inmates than ever before.

We are grateful for our team of dedicated volunteers, instructors, and staff, chaplains, church partners and faithful donors. Your commitment and support are making an ongoing difference in many lives who need Jesus Christ.

Will you join with us as we bring "TRANSFORMATION and HOPE through the good news of Jesus Christ to those in Canadian Prisons"?

**Doug Idema**



**"** The ARC was so good. I loved listening to the books and music. It really helped me understand that I am not alone, and I can get better! **"**

- Jessy

## Anchored in Prayer

New Life Prison Ministries is built on the prayers of so many people. Every month more than 300 people across Canada are praying for our students. From praying protection and praise over new believers to supporting students in prayer when they have a court date pending, this team anchors our student care ministry program. Last year our prayer requests were so abundant that our team needed to redesign and expand the monthly prayer guide to help accommodate. This is just one more sign that God is growing our reach!

In 2022 NLPM added a new prayer ministry team that meets weekly to pray for the ministry needs, leadership team, and any growth decisions happening at NLPM. This team is small but mighty! We are so encouraged by the direction and guidance from the prayer team - we know that this impact will be felt for years to come.

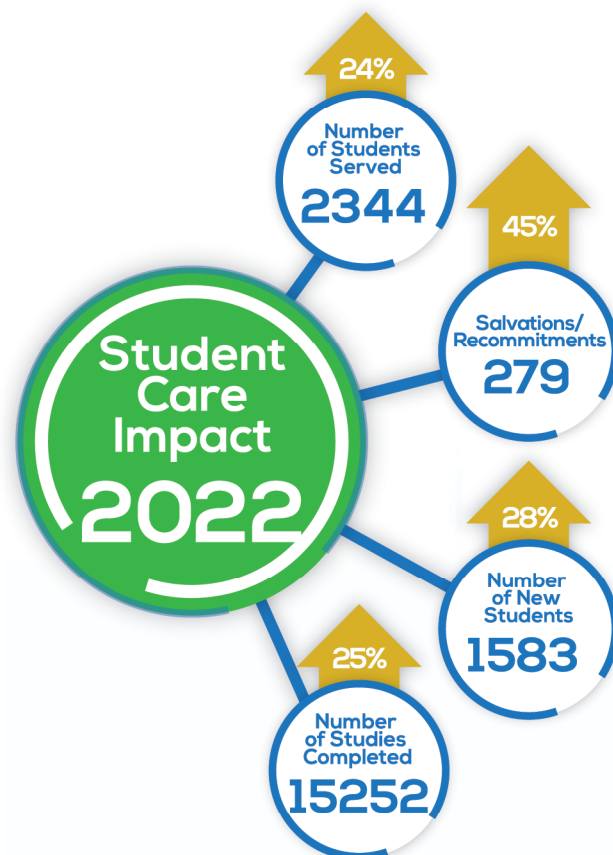
**1 Thessalonians 5:16 "Rejoice always; pray without ceasing..."**

**"** Please pray for my family. I am about to get released and now that I know God, I want them to understand who He is too. I hope I can be a good example for them. **"**

- Maggie

# Financial Highlights

Current Assets	2022	2021
Cash	\$ 224,940	\$ 286,237
Short Term Investments	\$ 352,793	\$ 206,629
Accounts Receivable	\$ 2,0971	\$ 15,199
Inventory	\$ 24,755	\$ 29,067
Loan Receivable	\$ 168,750	\$ 185,000
Prepaid Expenses	\$ 28,353	\$ 3,847
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 820,562</b>	<b>\$ 725,979</b>
Capital Assets	\$ 18,394	\$ 21,291
<b>Net Assets (unrestricted)</b>	<b>\$ 838,956</b>	<b>\$ 747,270</b>
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities	\$ 0	\$ 24,757
Accounts payable	\$ 17,605	\$ -
<b>Long Term Debt</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 24,757</b>
<b>Net Assets (Unrestricted)</b>	<b>\$ 821,351</b>	<b>\$ 722,513</b>



Statement of Operations		
<b>Revenue</b>		
Donations	\$ 602,205	\$ 602,410
Grants	\$ 4,608	\$ 14,449
Investment	\$ -1,795	\$ 17,307
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 605,018</b>	<b>\$ 634,166</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Program Expenses	\$ 418,012	\$ 392,657
Management & Administration	\$ 35,435	\$ 35,815
Fundraising	\$ 52,732	\$ 42,790
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 506,179</b>	<b>\$ 471,262</b>
<b>Excess of Revenue Over Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 98,839</b>	<b>\$ 162,904</b>







**LINDA JONES** DIRECTOR OF STUDENT  
CARE & OUTREACH

## A Chaplain's Journey

In 2022, we served more than 226 chaplains by providing resources and prayer.

Chaplains play a vital role in the success of this ministry by connecting students with our materials. They work tirelessly to meet the needs of others and they are so thankful for our studies. Chaplains often have more inmates to serve than there are hours in a day, so they are grateful to have ministries to partner with them. They know that when a student is doing New Life courses, with the support of an instructor, they are in good hands.

Every day I am encouraged by the incredible stories that chaplains share when they call. They witness first-hand God's transforming power in the lives of inmates and their families. They share stories of inmates coming to faith in Jesus, praying for each other and starting their own Bible studies. We rejoice as chaplains share the changes that are happening as inmates discover that they are deeply loved by God, and that His redemptive plan is for everyone!

Among those beautiful moments, there are heart wrenching days when a chaplain needs to support inmates through the death of a beloved family member, to speak hope to an inmate that has attempted to end their life and suffering or to show the love of Jesus to someone that has tried the patience of prison staff with their behaviour.

Please pray for Canadian chaplains! In 2022, as programs were starting back up and as Covid restrictions were being lifted, many chaplains were recovering from burnout and fatigue. Results of a chaplain survey in 2022 included many prayer requests including to pray that they not be overwhelmed by all the inmate needs, for more volunteers and to pray for wisdom to find new ways to minister to an unchurched generation. Thankfully, we are not without hope! Almost all

chaplains that answered the survey asked for prayers that God would be glorified in all that we do!

Praise be to Him!

**Linda**

**Recently, Chaplain Faron from Milner Ridge, MB had this to share about using ARC's with inmates.**

"I would like to share about some of our experiences with the ARC Device within our Correctional Institution. **We finally got the ARCs approved for inmates and we noticed that they were an immediate success. This device allows for the Holy Scriptures to be understood by all inmates, not just the ones who could read well.** Now, inmates with poor physical sight, or psychological/emotional issues, could access Bible verses, testimonies, worship & encouraging guidance 24/7; all due to the little device called the ARC.

During the recent pandemic when access to spiritual care was limited or restricted the little ARC stood tall. We sent them everywhere within our facility. The men loved them. They had a calm soothing voice speaking God's Word while all alone or separated from loved ones. Recently I have had inmates ask for a light piece of wool to hang their ARC around the neck so not to lose it. One person recently explained to me:" so I could listen to it, all the time".

Our institution is situated about an hour from Winnipeg and is very remote. It is a long drive for visitors to come out to Milner Ridge, and the

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radio stations are not usually very easy to tune into, especially for Christian programming. So, the ARC fills the gap for us in many ways with providing the ability to have something to listen to. I would like to say that the ARC is often, the last voice many inmates hear before going to sleep at night.

***I thank GOD, for NEW LIFE PRISON MINISTRIES, in providing such an amazing tool for sharing GOD'S WORD"***

**Chaplain Faron**

***In 2022, we shipped more than 1400 ARC Devices across Canada with the generous support of Galcom Canada, donors and church partners. Thanks to everyone who supported this outreach!***



## Justice & Compassion Partnership

In 2022, NLPM partnered with 45 churches across the nation to help spread the gospel to the lost and broken. With each partnership we witness love and grace extended from the local church by providing financial resources, prayers, and volunteers. Grandview Church has partnered with NLPM as an expression of their strong desire to spread the gospel and connect their community to a unique serving opportunity.

"When we examine the life of Jesus in the gospels, we see there was no place off limits for Him to go and bring His redemptive touch to lives. Our Saviour truly showed us that He was 'the shepherd who would go after the one lost sheep and leave the ninety-nine behind.' As a church, we have felt the need to follow Jesus' example. We wanted to seek to care compassionately and pursue justice in our world but not compromise the absolute necessity of gospel witness. Those who are lost not only need compassion but more importantly, need the truth of God's Word. That is why we love partnering with New Life Prison Ministries. Grandview Church has found a kindred spirit with this mission organization, sharing the passionate conviction that the Word of God changes lives.



Grandview Church



Over the past few years, we have strengthened our partnership with more of our members serving in the correspondence Bible study ministry with prisoners. One of the great opportunities this has provided is an opportunity for those who struggle to leave their homes for health. They can serve with compassion right from their homes.

In addition, we were glad to raise \$10,000 in our Christmas Offering this year in support of the Audio Recordings for Christ (ARC) distribution. We are praying that the Spirit of God witnesses to hearts through these tools, and we will see great fruit among prisoners. We are thankful New Life Prison Ministries exists to bring the glory of God to dark places and are thrilled to support them in this mission."



**JAMES BAST**

PASTOR OF OUTREACH  
GRANDVIEW CHURCH



# The Journey of a Student

**It's been a journey.**

“ When I first entered prison, it was so scary and overwhelming. I was in a constant state of fear wondering what might happen to me. I felt like I had to sleep with one eye open all the time.

Before my sentence, I had completely drifted away from my faith. It felt like I was always wearing a mask. In one life I was a Christian musician, worshipping God and spreading the gospel and as soon as I left the stage, I started partying hard, eventually hitting rock bottom. I was living in the extremes, and it was awful. My poor parents prayed for me to return to a life of faith. When I look back, I realize that I put them through so much.

Within a few weeks of entering prison, a Chaplain gave me a Bible and a few studies from New Life. My first courses dealt with addiction, anger, and loneliness - all topics that I struggled with. As I started to study, I remember thinking that my life needed to change. Nothing in my life had made me happy or satisfied me and I felt lost all the time. One night I broke down and opened my Bible to read Matthew 11:28, where Jesus says to bring Him our burdens. I kept thinking, I need to make a change in my life, or none of this is ever going to get better. That night, I committed my life to Jesus again.

I felt a little weight lifted but I was still struggling with forgiving myself for all that I had done. Even though the transformation didn't happen immediately, there was something different about the way I was looking at my life. I knew it would be a long journey, but something changed in me.

In my life, I had always been a follower never a leader but with this newfound faith in jail I felt called to help other inmates. So everyday I would start conversations with other inmates about Jesus. Soon I was gathering with 19 men and preparing sermons

or teachings that I had learned about in the NLPM courses or from the Bible. A lot of the information from the courses I was sharing seemed to come at the perfect time when someone would ask me about that exact topic. I felt God working through me in jail, and I was able to help other men. My faith grew deeper, and I could see the change in myself and the men around me.

Now that I am released, I am filling up days with helping others by writing letters to inmates, going to counselling to get healthy and staying in touch with some of the men I met in prison. For the first time in my life, I have a purpose and it has changed everything. I am thankful for the way my life played out because in the end I think it saved me. ”

**Caleb** – NLPM student  
since 2021



# Mission & Vision

**Bringing transformation and hope, through the good news of Jesus Christ to those in Canadian Prisons.**

**Through God's empowerment, we will:**

- **REACH** every major correctional facility in Canada
- **PROVIDE** every person in prison the opportunity to know the Lord Jesus through Bible-based correspondence courses.
- **CONNECT** every interested person with Christian resources upon release

## New Life volunteers are reaching through prison walls one letter at a time!

Within the heart of our ministry, there is a group who go unseen by many, but truly are our outreach heroes. We have close to 200 volunteers who give their time and service to students across Canada daily. Whether they come to the Arva office or correspond with our students from their home, these individuals are transforming the lives of inmates. I have the privilege of working alongside our volunteers, bearing witness to the difference they make for the Kingdom every day.

Matthew 25:35-46 is always top of mind as I hear how our volunteers want to emulate Jesus in the way He treated the sick, the strangers, the lonely, the hungry and the prisoners. Our volunteers constantly show up for our ministry needs in so many ways because they feel called to serve God! Jesus came to seek and save the lost, and at NLPM we have volunteers who are carrying that out with every Bible study that is completed. They are the driving force behind countless transformations and new believers committing to Him as their Saviour!

Working with this amazing group of people gives me the joy of learning and growing in my own faith. As I read letters and feedback, I see instructors challenge students with questions, and providing scripture verses to guide their learning. I am often in awe

of the Biblical knowledge that our volunteers have and the ability to extend grace while students wrestle with big life questions. I have a lot to learn from our volunteers, as they exemplify the meaning of service, embody the teachings of Christ, and ultimately spread His message of love and forgiveness.

Please continue to pray that God uses NLPM instructors as vessels to reach those in prison and pray that God will provide more volunteers as He continues to grow the reach of NLPM. New Life wouldn't be the same without our dedicated volunteers, and I am so grateful to serve alongside them!

**Holly**



**HOLLY JAREMKO**

COMMUNITY RELATIONS &  
PARTNERSHIP COORDINATOR