

Liberty Letter

A Quarterly Publication of Liberty Ministries

*"the spirit of the
Lord is upon
me...to proclaim
liberty to the
prisoners."*

Luke 4:18

MISSION STATEMENT

Liberty Ministries exists to serve offenders in prison and ex-offenders in the community by showing God's love, providing practical assistance, and supporting biblical standards of justice.

LIBERTY MINISTRIES

PO Box 87
Schwenksville, PA 19473

www.libertyministries.us
info@libertyministries.us

Phone: 610-287-8601
or 610-287-5481
Fax: 610-287-5286

LIBERTY THRIFT AND HOME FURNISHINGS

libertythriftinfo@libertyministries.us
Collegeville: 610-831-9856
Gilbertsville: 610-367-0595
Little Liberty: 610-831-2170
Pottstown: 610-970-6306

Thrift Store Grand Opening Celebration Slated for Dec. 2nd

Join us on December 2, 2006 from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM to celebrate the opening of our new store in Pottstown! Enjoy homemade cookies and a drink as you search for treasure in this beautiful store. The WORD FM 88.9 will broadcast live a specified times between 10:00 AM and 12:00 Noon.

Liberty Thrift & Home Furnishings is a chain of thrift stores owned and operated by Liberty Ministries. All proceeds generated by the stores help support our in-prison and prison aftercare ministries. We're excited to announce the opening of our 4th and largest store yet. It's located at 1200 North Charlotte Street in Pottstown, Pa. It is our hope and prayer that you will partner with us by shopping at our stores. In doing so, you will enjoy terrific bargains while reducing recidivism and making the community safer.

This 15,000 sq. ft. building in Pottstown's North End Shopping Center has been transformed into a bright, attractive, new Liberty Thrift. How it came about and the number of miracles associated with the renovations, equipping and stocking are too numerous to mention. All of this happened within a two month period of time under the capable leadership of Store Manager, June Jones and the wonderful support of staff and volunteers working with her.

Three of our stores offer general merchandise, including clothing, furniture, equipment, home décor, linens, jewelry, cards, books, toys, games, appliances, etc. Our second Collegeville store, also called "Little Liberty," offers merchandise for children and children's clothing up to size twelve. They also stock maternity clothes.

Each trip to Liberty Thrift is a shopper's treasure hunt, with customers finding inexpensive, quality merchandise. Thousands of items are put out weekly. Customers become excited with the bargains found at sales as well as ending their search for "one of a kind" items they've longed for. Name brand clothing can be found among the aisles of neatly racked items that have been tagged and displayed according to size and type. New and like-new items generate enthusiasm for our bargain hunters. In the month of September, 5,726 customers took advantage of the quality and savings in our stores. Recently, a new customer, who had lost everything to Katrina, was jubilant when she realized that she could furnish her apartment so inexpensively with such beautiful furniture.

You become part of Liberty Ministries by volunteering, dropping off donated items and making purchases. You are helping to offer the message of grace, hope and regeneration through the love of Jesus Christ to prisoners and ex-prisoners. If you'd like to know more simply log on to the Liberty Ministries web site at www.libertyministries.us and click "stores."



Liberty Ministries new Pottstown thrift store is now open to the public. It is the largest of Liberty's 4 stores.

June Jones, a Servant Leader

*O*n Oct. 2nd, 2006, a marvelous event happened in Pottstown. Liberty Thrift and Home Furnishings miraculously opened its fourth and largest store at 1200 N. Charlotte St. in the North End Shopping Center. To accomplish the task of securing permits, renovating, equipping and filling the store with merchandise in just two months is an impossible concept. But impossible is not part of the vocabulary of manager June Jones. June decided on the date and put her “hand to the plough.” In her humility, June would never claim to be a miracle worker but does claim to be a servant of a miracle working God. Almost with embarrassment, she may acknowledge her role but quickly credits all of the hard work of those staff and volunteers who helped make the impossible a reality. (They also certainly do deserve a tremendous outpouring of thanks.)



June Jones, manager of the new Liberty Thrift store in Pottstown.

Who is June Jones and how did she develop her management abilities that greatly contributed to this miraculous event? June grew up on a farm, the second oldest of five girls. Her parents passed on their strong faith and servant heart to their daughters. They both still volunteer in many areas, not the least of which is in their daughter's store. In high school June took marketing and mer-

chandising at the vo-tech school, never guessing that her inquisitiveness would lead her down the path she currently walks. “Behind every good man is a good woman” is a frequently quoted saying. Another version of this saying has to be that behind this precious woman is a “good man”, Marvin, her husband of 32 years. Their devotion to one another is apparent. Marvin is multi-talented in maintenance and construction and lends his skills to every project June undertakes. As a stay-at-home wife and mother, June needed to be thrifty and resourceful and concentrated much energy on raising her four boys. Her second oldest son, Brian credits his mother with his love of retail and after finishing college at Philadelphia Biblical University, joined the thrift store staff and is now the Coordinator of Thrift Operations. Both of his parents modeled the service concept that is also evident in Brian. Most grandmas would say that the only thing better than being a mother is being a grandma and June is no exception. She adores her two grandsons.

June has always had a heart for missions and ministry. Early steps of thrift marketing began in her garage. Picking up items at other garage sales, June gathered inventory to hold her own garage sales to raise money for various mission projects, includ-

ing sending kids on mission trips. In 1998, Liberty Ministries was offered a thrift store in Schwenksville that was going out of business. The Board reluctantly agreed to make the investment and start a thrift store when the Mumbauers offered to head up the business development aspect. The search was on for a manager who had knowledge of thrift to handle daily operations. The word got to June and she fearfully applied. She recalls saying to the Personnel Committee on interview, “I don't know anything about running a thrift store but I can work.” And work she did and does. June models a work ethic that she passes on to her employees. She is a natural “servant leader”, never asking more of her staff than she is willing to do herself. Her staff gathers for prayer before the doors are open, praying for the Ministry and its staff, residents in the program, the stores and their staff and volunteers, safety for the truck drivers, customers who will enter the stores and any individual requests. She has the gift of encouragement and her laughter is contagious. June shares that her greatest sense of personal fulfillment comes from meeting the needs of others and that she does well. The thrift stores are her mission field. She has opened six of them for Liberty Ministries since 1998, though the two Schwenksville stores have been closed. Each store has taught her something new. In her younger years, she cooked meals and took them in for the men of Liberty House. Now as part of her management she has the opportunity to work one on one with some of the men. The transformation of the men is a miracle in itself. Seeing the chips fall off their shoulders as they come from prison and begin the journey to independence with Christ's help and Ministry support, provides June with much of the fulfillment no other job could provide.

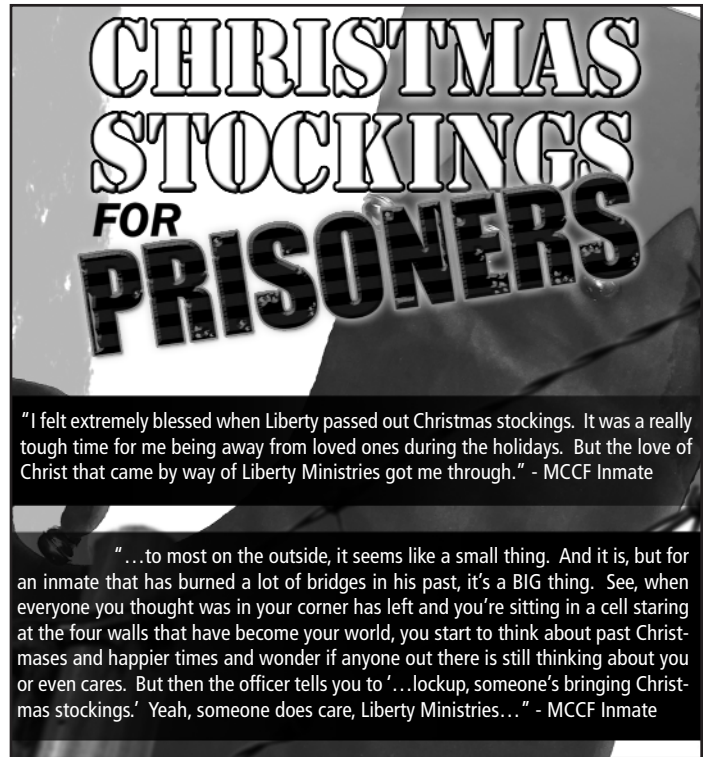


Liberty Ministries Announces the Grand Opening of Liberty Thrift and Home Furnishings's Fourth and Largest Store! June and Brian Jones opened the store.

Christmas Stockings for Prisoners

Each year, for 26 years, Liberty Ministries has provided Christmas Stockings for the men and women of Montgomery County Correctional Facility. This year the inmate population is at an all time high of 1,700 inmates! **With an approximate cost of \$10 per stocking, the expense for this year's project is \$17,000.** This amount seems to be insurmountable as we currently have but \$1,165.94, in our Christmas Stocking Fund. It would be discouraging to us and especially to the inmates to have to end this age old tradition. We know that these stockings are the only acts of kindness many inmates will receive all year.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! As good stewards of the resources God has provided, Liberty Ministries takes seriously its fiduciary responsibility to God and to you, to operate in a fiscally sound manner. This means we cannot distribute Christmas Stockings unless we can raise the funds to do so. **We are currently short \$15,834.06.** If you wish to make a contribution to our Christmas Stocking Fund, please mail your check, made payable to Liberty Ministries with "Christmas Stocking Fund" on the memo line to Liberty Ministries, P. O. Box 87, Schwenksville, Pa. 19473. You can also stop by one of our Liberty Thrift Stores and make a donation at the register.



"I felt extremely blessed when Liberty passed out Christmas stockings. It was a really tough time for me being away from loved ones during the holidays. But the love of Christ that came by way of Liberty Ministries got me through." - MCCF Inmate

"...to most on the outside, it seems like a small thing. And it is, but for an inmate that has burned a lot of bridges in his past, it's a BIG thing. See, when everyone you thought was in your corner has left and you're sitting in a cell staring at the four walls that have become your world, you start to think about past Christmases and happier times and wonder if anyone out there is still thinking about you or even cares. But then the officer tells you to '...lockup, someone's bringing Christmas stockings.' Yeah, someone does care, Liberty Ministries..." - MCCF Inmate

26th Annual Fundraising Banquet

Thank you, thank you, thank you to all of you, our faithful supporters, for making Liberty Ministries' 26th Annual Fundraising Banquet the most successful banquet in our history! Over 400 people attended this wonderful event hosted at the Franconia Heritage Restaurant. The food, served family style, was absolutely delicious and plentiful! The presence of the Lord was evident as we worshiped with the men of Liberty House and the worship team from Living Faith Fellow-



The men of Liberty joyously worshiping God along with more than 400 banquet attendees



The banquet was packed as guests listened to speaker Rick Young, Executive Director of Liberty Ministries

ship. A message from the book of Haggai was given by Martin Boyd, Program Director and former resident. Martin, clearly under the Lord's anointing, brought forth simple truths from God's word that were astoundingly apropos to today's Christian. Your commitment to God's work at Liberty Ministries was evident in the generous offering received at evening's end. What a blessing you are to this ministry!

Liberty Thrift & Home Furnishings

COLLEGEVILLE

3841 Ridge Pike
Collegeville PA 19426
610-831-9856

Hours:
M,T,W,F: 9am-5pm
Thursday: 9am-8pm
Saturday: 9am-4pm

GILBERTSVILLE

1041 E Philadelphia Ave
Gilbertsville PA 19525
610-367-0595

Hours:
M,T,W,Th: 9am-5pm
Friday: 9am-8pm
Saturday: 9am-4pm

COLLEGEVILLE

Children's & Maternity
Thrift
3838 Ridge Pike
Collegeville PA 19426
610-831-2170

Hours:
M,T,W,F: 9am-5pm
Thursday: 9am-8pm
Saturday: 9am-4pm

POTTSTOWN

1200 N. Charlotte Street
Pottstown, PA 19464
610-970-6306

Hours:
M,T,W,Th: 9am-5pm
Friday: 9am-8pm
Saturday: 9am-4pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, December 2

9 AM - 4 PM

Pottstown Thrift Store Grand
Opening Celebration

Sunday, December 17

12 PM - 2 PM

Christmas Stockings for
Prisoners - Montgomery
County Correctional Facilities

Send us your e-mail to receive prayer requests and ministry updates!

In order for us to accomplish our mission of freeing men and women from the bondages that have led them to prison, I join the fellowship of believers who prayerfully and financially support Liberty Ministries. To the best of my ability and with God's help, I will give:

- | | | |
|---|---|---------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gift towards MCCF Christmas Stocking Fund \$ _____ | Name _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 monthly | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____ monthly | Address _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 monthly | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____ quarterly | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 monthly | <input type="checkbox"/> a one-time gift of \$ _____ | Phone _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I would like more info on volunteer opportunities. | Email _____ | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I would like more info on upcoming events. | Preferred contact: <input type="checkbox"/> Post Mail <input type="checkbox"/> E-Mail | |

Please detach and mail to:

Liberty Ministries
P.O. Box 87
Schwenksville, PA 19473

Thank you for your support!

Liberty Ministries is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and all contributions are tax-deductible. A financial statement is available upon request

THANK YOU

This issue of the Liberty Letter has been made possible through the generous contribution of **Bergey's Incorporated.**

Liberty Ministries

PO Box 87
Schwenksville, PA 19473

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... a Christ centered ministry to offenders in prison and in the community