

EMP Quarterly Meeting
September 9, 2019 @ St. John of Rochester
Respectfully Submitted By: Joyce, Ministry Leader

1. **United Way Application**-The week of September 2, 2019, I was notified by UW of Rochester that PMUNY's application to become a designated approved agency of UW had been approved. Our approval letter is "in the mail".

2. Updated Ministry Leadership Team Membership

- Deb AuClair
- Anne Bell, Secretary (until Oct. 2019)
- Barb Compitello
- Joyce McAndrew, Ministry Leader
- Guy Kevin Reed
- Jean Ticen
- Tom Tries, Treasurer
- Don Webster

Please Note: Might you be interested in placing this "ad" in your church bulletin/newsletter?

Help Wanted....

Are you a person with a desire to help? Are you organized, comfortable taking notes and proficient with electronic communication? Our Prison Ministry Leadership Team supports ministry programs in the Monroe County Jail and numerous prisons in upstate NY. The leadership team is looking for a volunteer to serve as secretary for our meetings. Our group meets 10-12 times per year on the fourth Friday of the month from 10am-noon at the Peace of Christ parish office. This volunteer position will be available beginning October 2019. The secretary is expected to attend, record and disseminate minutes of all monthly meetings but is not expected to serve "on the inside". He/She may however serve on an "inside" ministry team if he/she desires. If you or someone you know is interested in knowing more about this rewarding opportunity please call Joyce at 633-0184.

3. Invitation to participate in Upcoming Residents Encounter Christ retreats- see attached DOCCS form

- Wende Correctional Facility – October 16-18-
Hoot October 16
- Wende Correctional Facility – November 12-14 –
Hoot November 13
Palanca

4. **Ongoing recruitment of volunteers, especially adults 30+ yrs. of age remains a critical need and priority...**Any support or suggestions EMP might have for us to consider are welcome. I will be speaking at St. John Fischer' Sunday Services re: Palanca and I have reached out to and am awaiting a response from the Rochester Young Professionals organization . I am hoping to engage in conversations re: ways their members might want to volunteer with PMUNY.

5. **Might your church members be willing to consider prayerful support of RECs by daily sacrifice &/or prayer called Palanca? Will you facilitate this? See the following information from our website re: Palanca....** [Get Involved](#)

Palanca Letters

- **Palanca** letters are intended to communicate to incarcerated people who attend a REC retreat weekend that they are not forgotten but rather **remembered** in prayer and/or sacrifice and cared for by people on the outside.
- **Palanca** letters or notes of encouragement are intended to state **prayerful thoughts and wishes** to the incarcerated person from faith filled strangers.
- **Palanca** is a Spanish word that means “Lever”. Palanca is intended to serve as a lever to **“raise up” another person to God in prayer and/or with a sacrifice** of some kind. The person on the outside may choose to make a sacrifice such as giving up coffee or tv for an extended period of time or do something such as random acts of kindness in honor of the incarcerated person. Palanca always includes daily prayer for the incarcerated individual and for the success of the REC weekend.
- **Palanca is anonymous...first name only with no personal identifying information such as phone number or address.**
- Often Palanca letters start with **“Dear Brother In Christ”** and end with **“Your Sister (or Brother) In Christ”**.
- **Palanca** letters are **not intended to pass judgment** but rather to **express affirmation** to the incarcerated person for exploring their relationship with Jesus.
- **Palanca** expresses **prayerful concern** for the incarcerated person and for the success of the Residents Encounter Christ retreat.
- **Palanca** letters are **not intended to be a “pen pal”** relationship but as a single letter stating prayerful concern for the faith journey of the REC participant.
- **Palanca** communicates **respectful and prayerful regard** for the incarcerated individual by **specifically stating what palanca the person on the outside has been doing and for how long** the writer has been engaged in it. eg.” I have been praying for you and your loved ones every day for the past 2 months.” or “Everyday since April 1st I have been going without my morning coffee and offering my sacrifice to God in hopes that your REC weekend will help you grow closer to God.”
- **Palanca** letters may be written on any paper, stationary or card so long as there is **no personal information on it such as address of a business**

or residence, name of a town or church. If you would like to use PMUNY graphic

- (without the PMUNY letters) please see attachments....use bookmark, half page or full page as you see fit.
- Both Children and adults can do palanca. For those unable to write a letter a picture may be drawn to share prayerful concern.

6. **Website Update-Pro bono remote service via Bri Jewell . Bri has a professional background in graphic design and digital marketing and is currently working at a design agency in Connecticut . We are hoping to also have a student from St. John Fisher participate in a “web practicum” in the Spring 2020 semester.**

7. **Monroe County Jail update-weekly Houses of Healing classes have resumed and another class is being initiated on a different unit beginning 9/16. PowerSource (teen program) is expected to resume in the very near future.**

8. **PMUNYFinancial Report-see attached**

New York State Department of Corrections & Community Supervision
Division of Ministerial, Family and Volunteer Services
APPLICATION FOR ONE-TIME VOLUNTEER STATUS

Facility: _____ Program: _____

1. Full Name (Last, First, & Full Middle): _____

2. Current Address: _____

3. City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ - _____

4. Phone: (____) _____ - _____ E-Mail: _____ SS #: _____

5. Date of Birth: ____/____/____ Place of Birth (City, State, Country): _____

6. Gender: _____ Race: _____ Eyes: _____ Hair Color: _____ Complexion: _____

Height: _____ Weight: _____ Scars/Marks/Tattoos: _____

7. Are you a U.S. Citizen? ____ Yes ____ No If "No," provide Alien Registration #: _____

8. Current Driver's License Number: _____ State: _____

9. States in which you have or ever had a Driver's License or Non-Driver ID: _____

10. Other Names you have been known by (Aliases, Maiden, Prior Marriage): _____

11. Person to Contact in Case of an Emergency: _____

Relationship: _____ Contact Number: (____) _____ - _____

12. Are there any specific needs that you require to perform the assignment under the Americans with Disabilities Act? ____ Yes ____ No If "Yes," please list: _____

13. a) Have you ever received telephone calls from, visited or corresponded with, or sent packages to any inmate currently or previously incarcerated in any NYS Correctional Facility? ____ Yes ____ No

b) Do you reside with anyone who was previously incarcerated at a NYS Correctional Facility?

____ Yes ____ No If "Yes" to A or B, please provide the following information:

Inmate Name: _____ DIN: _____

Facility: _____ Relationship: _____

(attach additional sheet, if necessary)

14. Have you ever been convicted of any crime (felony, misdemeanor, or violation)? Traffic infractions/violations need not be reported: ____ Yes ____ No

15. Any charges pending? ____ Yes ____ No

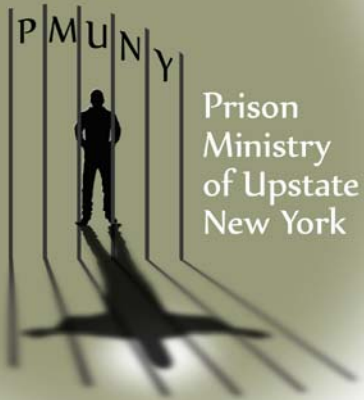
If you answered "Yes" to questions #14 or #15, please attach a detailed description to include conviction(s), date(s), and disposition(s).

Applicant's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

I have reviewed this application to ensure that it has been completed in its entirety and the individual has provided government issued identification to verify his or her identify. I also affirm that the signature herein is the signature of the applicant.

SCFVS Signature: _____ **Date:** _____



Prison
Ministry
of Upstate
New York

July 1 2019-August 31, 2019
Financial Report
Submitted by: Tom Treis, Treasurer
September 9, 2019

Beginning Current Balance.....\$13,245.03

Income

St. Louis, Pittsford.....\$1,000.00
First Congregational United.....100.00
St. Joes, Penfield750.00
Individuals.....50.00

Total Income.....\$1,900.00

Expenses

PO Box rental.....\$106.00

Total Expenses.....\$106.00

Final Balance September 3, 2019.....\$15,039.03