

# The Kingsway Banner



Our Mission:

“Ministering through the heart of Jesus to the broken hearts of those impacted by the criminal justice system, both those incarcerated and re-entering and their families.”

Chartered 1983  
501 (c)(3) tax status



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**JAN 2025**

## From The President of the Board of Directors

Happy New Year! Kingsway is excited about this new year and all the folks that we shall encounter. 2024 was a tremendous year for Kingsway, and it is all due to good folks like you reading the newsletter and making donations to this wonderful outreach! Because of you, Kingsway was able to make 7,000 inmates happier at Christmas and help over 225 children have a Christmas that they may not have had without your help.

Without your help, none of this would be possible. It takes donations from you in order for Kingsway to keep moving forward. Most of you are old timers who have been with Kingsway for a long time, but the younger generation knows nothing about us. They don't know what it's like to donate to us. If you have children, would you tell the story of Kingsway and what it does? Maybe your children could not care less, but would you leave us a contribution in your will? So much good has already been done because of you; don't let it stop.

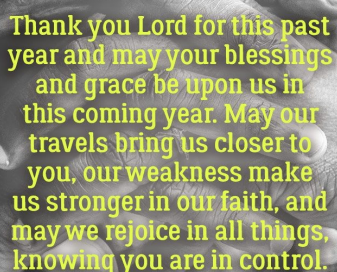
I have two stories for you. The first one is from a man who has been inside for over 50 years. His family is gone and he was not looking forward to Christmas. He is only one of the inmates that received a gift from Kingsway for the very first time this Christmas! God is good!

The second is from a man who came into Kingsway when he got out of prison. He had been receiving the correspondence Bible study from us. When I asked what we could help him with, he looked at me and asked if he could still receive the Bible study that he was in. "Yes" was my answer to him!

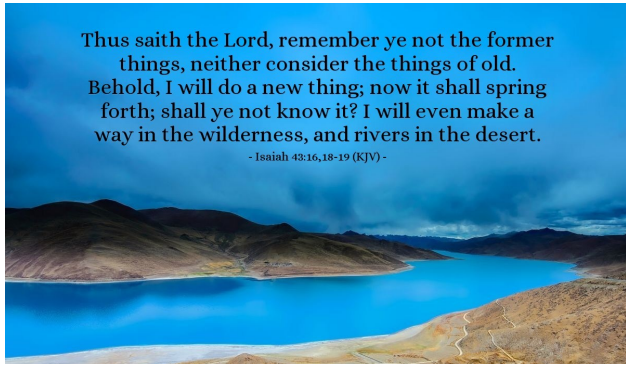
Kingsway is making a difference in the lives of these men and women that we are in contact with and we don't want to stop. We look forward to your continuous support as we walk forward into 2025!

Serving Him,

Vicki Barb, President, Board of Directors



Thank you Lord for this past year and may your blessings and grace be upon us in this coming year. May our travels bring us closer to you, our weakness make us stronger in our faith, and may we rejoice in all things, knowing you are in control.



Thus saith the Lord, remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.

- Isaiah 43:16,18-19 (KJV) -



Happy New Year!

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"  
2 Corinthians 5:17

## From The Executive Director of Kingsway PAFO

As I think back over all that happened at Kingsway in 2024, I can't help but be incredibly thankful for God's help and provision! Let me share a couple numbers with you.

With your help, Kingsway provided Christmas gifts to over 225 children this year through Apple Tree. These children, with at least one incarcerated parent, woke up Christmas morning to find the gifts you provided.

You also were instrumental in giving Christmas gifts to 7,000 inmates in the state of Virginia this year. This is 1,000 more than we were able to reach previously, and we were able to give gifts in 3 prisons that we have never reached before. Speaking of giving gifts, I had a new experience this year. On Christmas Eve, I went with 3 other volunteers and handed out Christmas gifts at Cold Springs Correctional Unit, Camp 10 and Community Corrections Alternative Program (CCAP). Their Christmas bags contained the notepads, lip balm, and toothpaste you helped to provide, as well as socks and peanut butter cups from another organization. Some of the men were very stoic as we handed gifts to them, while others accepted the bags with the glee of a 5 year old on Christmas morning. I can't speak for the other 3 volunteers who went along, but I can't wait to do this again!

We also assisted almost 425 individuals through re-entry. Some received cell phones to contact parole officers, employers, and potential landlords. Some we assisted with looking for employment, obtaining work shoes, and getting into a sober living house. Each one of them received prayer if they were willing to have us pray with them.

Thank you for the huge impact you are having in the hearts and lives of those impacted by incarceration!

*Paula Ford, Executive Director*

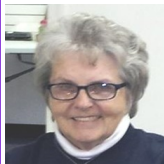


*Left:*  
Cold Springs Correctional Unit



*Right:*  
Christmas Eve Volunteers  
Louise Jennings, Carole Heatwole,  
Joe Ford, & Paula Ford

### Louise's Corner



A young lady stopped by Kingsway just before Christmas, asking to volunteer. As she talked about wanting to give back for all that Kingsway had done for her, my mind went back many years remembering the fun that a group of youth from Bethany UMC and I had at this lady's house. I asked her to write a little story about her special Christmas, and this is what she wrote.

"It has taken me many years to reach this place in my life. Prison and addiction caused many trials in my life. Louise Jennings and her husband always had their arms open wide to give and offer love and anything else that they could give.

"I ran into Louise months after getting out of prison. I rented my first home and had absolutely nothing. Through a youth group in Louise's church, I was adopted and while at work, I received a call from my landlord that there were many people at my home outside praying. When I got home my cabinets were full of food. My house had furniture and a Christmas tree full of presents. My heart was so full. I cannot speak of this encounter without becoming overwhelmed and crying. But, praise the Lord, I have Jesus in my heart and life now and I want to give back and give thanks to Louise and Kingsway Prison Ministries.

"Amy H."

Some of you reading this may remember as a teen the fun we had decorating her tree and wondering what her life is like now. We did this in the 1990s, over 20 years ago!

# TESTIMONIES

Hi Ms. Louise,

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

I just received the Happy Thanksgiving message that you and the Kingsway Outreach members sent to me, and I want to thank you all for the encouraging message to the truth of the fate that our God is faithful.

I don't know if you remember who I am from all the years I was at Augusta Correctional Center, where you and other members of Kingsway would come and we'd have church, a gathering of faithful believers in Jesus. I also don't know if you remember when Kingsway would visit us, about me mentioning being wrongfully convicted and falsely imprisoned since Nov. 2002 for a crime of murder that I absolutely had no involvement in nor knowledge of until several weeks after the crime occurred. ... The only thing I can do is keep praying and believing God's will and word be done (Isaiah 55:11).

I also want to say "Thank you" to all the Kingsway Outreach members for the encouraging message: Pam, Vicki, Carleen Ashley, Mary, Paula, Bonnie, and Kion. We all have every reason to be thankful every day.

Sincerely, Wayne H.

Dear Louise,

I wanted to thank you for your faithful commitment to us here at Coffeewood. Thank you for your servant's heart and your love for the Lord Jesus which is clearly seen in your service. We definitely appreciate the birthday, Thanksgiving, Easter, and Christmas cards we get, and the toothpaste and chapstick. I've told a few people in my family about your testimony and how you went to church under the influence of alcohol trying to find a man, and a man you found in the person of Jesus Christ! Thank you for taking the time to come here to Coffeewood each month to minister to us. I pray for you and Richard and your ministry, Kingsway Outreach, often. I hope my gift can be used to further Kingdom of our great God and Savior Jesus!

In Christ's Love,

Jeremy K.

Dear Kingsway Ministry, the Ministers of the good news of the gospel of God!

I thank you for being so faithful! Before writing a single word of this letter to you, I prayed to God that His Spirit would be upon the words in order that they would minister His grace and favor continually within your hearts! This in turn as your words, sentiments, and godly gestures have ministered an abundance of the same to mine, and countless others who are similarly situated! On my behalf, and on the behalf of the others, if I may, we extend great thanks and heartfelt gratitude! The church body here at DFCC, The Oasis In The Desert, we salute you and praise God in the name of Jesus Christ for you! May His enablement be clearly and actively evident in each of the lives of the Kingsway Outreach Ministry Team! Amen!

To Mrs. Louise, to Kim, to Bernie, to Carol, to Paula, to Ashley, to Mary, to Carleen, to Vicki, to Pam, and to all the others who were not named here, may you all enjoy your Thanksgiving as well as the rest of the holiday season!

Thanks yet again for continuing to be a wonderful extension of God's love here in the earth! God bless you all!

Melvin R.

3 John 2: Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

Amen!

Dear Kingsway Ministries,

I want to thank y'all for all of the thoughtful cards and y'all have blessed me with over the years. It has truly meant a lot! I am happy to let y'all know that God has allowed me to be done with this part of my journey, so I'll be moving on to what He has in store for me in the next chapter of my life. With that being said, y'all can go ahead and remove me from the mailing list. Again, thank y'all for all of the love and support, and please continue to keep up the awesome work that y'all are doing!

Sincerely,

Darren R.

(Letter to Kingsway PAFO)

I would like to thank you all on this card and hope everybody had a good Christmas. I know y'all never know who gets the cards but my name is Javier H. I'm 28 and only have 15 more months left.

Happy New Year and thank you all so much.

(Note written in a Christmas card)

Dear Kingsway Outreach,

On behalf of every detainee at Greenrock Correctional Center, I'd like to thank you all for the love you've shown us this 2024 holiday season. From what I've sensed, I can honestly say everyone appreciated it personally. I'm still amazed with this new toothpaste I got my hands on... wow!! Just what I was wishing for!! I may only have two gold teeth in my head remaining, but Jehovah has blessed me with the means to keep the couple clean and minty, fresh. Maybe I can maintain a friendship for a while. Praise the Lord!! Well, brothers and sisters, stay prayed up. We're wishing you all abundant blessings. Thanks again.

Sincere regards,

The Guys

Dear Kingsway Outreach Family,

My name is Dennis S. and I'm writing this letter to tell the Kingsway Family thank you very much for the gifts and service. I surely appreciate the great love that the fellowship has shown me and the others here at Cold Springs.

I want to wish all of you and your families a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

"May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace as we trust in Him, so that we may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Amen.

Thank you. Happy Holidays!

Sincerely,

Dennis S.

(Letter to Kingsway PAFO)

I, Tracy B., am being held at Middle River Regional Jail. I want to thank you for the Christmas packs this year. I'm grateful that someone thought of me. I want to wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Dear Kingsway Outreach,

I just want to start this by saying thank you all for thinking of us this Christmas season. A bigger thanks for the work you're all doing in the Lord's name as well! Everyone I talked to was very thankful for the packages you sent us here at MRRJ.

I hope and pray that you all there at Kingsway have a wonderful Christmas with family and friends. Keep up the good work and I will end this letter with a passage from Psalms 124:6-8. "Praise the Lord, who did not let their teeth tear us apart! We escaped like a bird from a hunter's trap. The trap is broken, and we are free! Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Thank you from all of us here at MRRJ.

*This letter was signed by 14 current residents.*

Additional note included:

Thank you all so much for all help show the love of Christ and help me with my faith that grows. I stand before Christ with faith even in this place of captivity. God bless. Thanks.

(Note written in a Christmas card)

Happy Belated Holidays this great year of 2024  
December 23, 2024, and December 25, 2024

May you all have a super good bless[ed] Christmas and wonder New Year's that's coming in 2025.

Thank you for the lovely Kingsway card. Thank you all for signing it.

With great loving support to you all now.

Always, Braxton

God bless you all now!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

*Great Community Give: April 16, 2025, 6:00 am - 8:00 pm MORE DETAILS TO COME!*

*Kingsway's GCG Open House: April 16, 2025, 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm. MORE DETAILS TO COME!*

*Kingsway's Annual Benefit Banquet: August 28, 2025, time and location TBA. MORE DETAILS TO COME!*

# Birthday Celebration & Benefit Concert

**Kingsway's Annual Birthday Celebration & Benefit Concert, in commemoration of Louise Jennings' 89th birthday, was held on Saturday, October 26, 2024, at Mount Olive Presbyterian Church.**

**Pastor Stacy Meyerhoeffer led us in prayer.**

**Paula Ford and Louise Jennings shared ministry messages.**

**Smokey Wilson and his wife Brenda, and The Roby Family (Allen, Missy, Tiffany, and Stephanie) blessed us all with their music ministries.**



Thank You

Dear Kingsway Prison and Family Outreach,

The Roby Family was so appreciative of the invitation to come worship with you at Mt. Olive Presbyterian Church for the benefit concert and birthday celebration. One of the verses that has always strengthened our family has been Jeremiah 29:11: "We know that the Lord has great plans for our future," and our heart's desire is to share this hope with other people.

We appreciate the wonderful hospitality that we were shown. We truly hope and pray that God blesses your ministry, and you are able to continue to share the Gospel.

We sincerely look forward to the opportunity to join you again. Once again, thank you for having us.

Sincerely,  
The Roby Family





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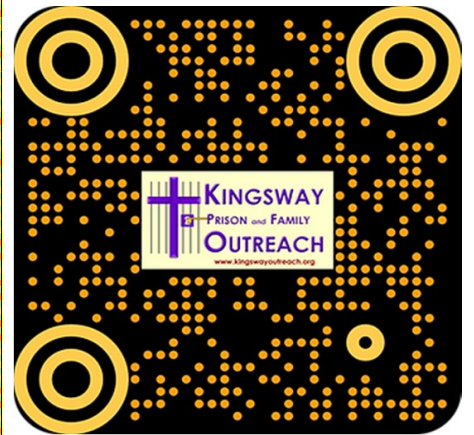
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The Banner is published as a bridge between you, the Kingsway supporters, and the hands-on prison and family outreach ministry of Kingsway.

The Banner welcomes your comments, suggestions, questions, testimonies, and article submissions. If there is something of interest you would like to know more about or have included in this newsletter, please let us know.

Please send all submissions and communications for this newsletter to the Editor at [kingswaybanner@gmail.com](mailto:kingswaybanner@gmail.com)

The Banner provides a means of raising funds to carry on the work of Kingsway. Donations can be made by mail or online by scanning this QR Code.



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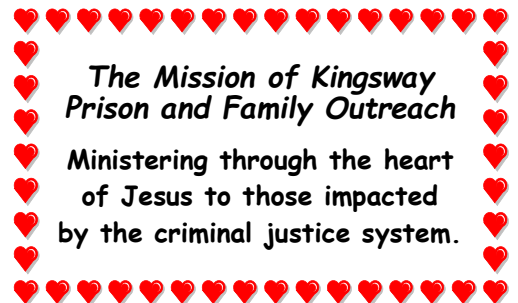
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*The Mission of Kingsway  
Prison and Family Outreach*

*Ministering through the heart  
of Jesus to those impacted  
by the criminal justice system.*