

CA AGLOW PRISON MINISTRY  
SEPTEMBER 2015 NEWSLETTER

## Meet Brenda



My name is Brenda, age 48. First I'd like to tell you a little about myself before God came into my life:

I was addicted to drugs since age 13, a victim of domestic violence for numerous years, and I was also addicted to committing crimes (29 felony convictions), and a victim of rape. That is just the short version. Needless to say, I was a mess and definitely living in darkness. My last arrest I went to Santa Rita Jail on very serious charges in November of 2013. I was crying hysterically when I first got there because my life was so out of control and of course I just knew I was going to prison for a long time. I went to court a few days after my arrest for an arraignment. When I came back that night some ladies from Aglow Prison Ministry were there talking to some of the ladies about God....

For whatever reason I was pulled to them to hear what they were saying (*now* I know it was God calling me). I cried the whole time they were there, but I wasn't ready to commit because I was too busy feeling sorry for myself, but a seed was planted!

I remember as a kid my grandmother would talk to us kids about God and how great He is. She used to pick us up for Sunday school. Then just before my teenage years I joined the choir, but I can't say I knew Him at all. I really just wanted to fit in somewhere. I had felt a hole in me my entire life.

My grandmother fell down some stairs once and broke her arm. She told my dad that Jesus came and fixed her arm the night before and she insisted on going to the hospital to get the cast off. Her arm was totally healed! So I did have some knowledge of the greatness of God.

Thanks to the women of Aglow coming into the jails, I was able to really learn about my Lord and Savior. Because of their love for the Lord Jesus and wanting to bring it to us where we were in such a place, to really hear God through them. If it wasn't for the ladies of Aglow Prison Ministry taking time out of their lives to come to the jail, I don't believe I would have heard God calling me.

One of the greatest days of my life was the day God put these ladies in my life. During one of their visits I turned my life over to God.



God has given me such an awesome new life. I no longer feel that hole. He totally softened the judge and DA's hearts. They wanted to give me nearly 5 years in prison, but in the end, thanks to God, I got one year in County Jail with half and 5 years' probation.

When I got out of jail I didn't want to go back to where I'm from because I knew I would probably go back to using and selling drugs, so I asked God to put me somewhere else. Then 2 days before my release He blessed me with a clean and sober home with awesome people. Faith has shown me that God truly loves me and wants me to have peace and joy in my life. He has healed me from a brain aneurysm.

The ladies from Aglow had told us ladies in jail to contact them upon release and they would not only be there for my adjustment to my new life, but would pay for me to go to one of their Retreats! As soon as I got out I called them and one of the ladies came to see me, she gave me encouragement, and also took me to such a beautiful God filled Retreat.

Women from Aglow have been such a blessing to me and a major asset with my journey following God. Aglow has been there for me through all my trials and tribulations along with all my many blessings.

First I want to thank God for loving me and never giving up on me!! I am so grateful for the ladies coming and helping me discover the most amazing journey of my life with Christ, my Lord and Savior, and the Holy Spirit.

With all my heart, thank you for guiding me to my true love... GOD!

*Dear Friends of Aglow Prison/Jail Ministry,*

*YOU are a big part of testimonies like Brenda's! We want to thank you for all your prayers and gifts to help these women who were once lost and have been found by our loving Lord!*

*Our last newsletter gave short testimonies of how the Lord touched them at our Annual Retreat in June, but the true miracles happen 'on the inside'. The inside of the broken vessels, on the inside of walls. Where trapped and forgotten souls wait to hear Good News. Where the Master healer touches their minds and hearts. Where reconciliation takes place between God and man through the blood of Jesus Christ.. True miracle stories. And these stories take place all over the world! In every country there are millions of lost souls behind bars. Men, women, children of all kinds crying out to know the Truth! You can also be a part by joining Aglow Prison Ministry. You can find us online!*

*Thanks be to Jesus Christ who delivers!!*

*Love in Christ,*

*Jill Meskimen*

*President*

*CA Aglow Prison Ministry*

Continue reading below for more blessings!



"It brings us much joy that International has granted permission for women as well as men to be Lighthouse and Area advisers. With this new opportunity we would like to announce that in addition to our current dearly loved and respected Advisers, Elvin French, Ron Anderson and Honorary Adviser Bruce Johnson, it has been approved for us to also add Earlene Leming and Rachel Bondshu!

It is wonderful that CA Aglow Prison Ministry works in unity and love, we really don't have many problems dealing with one another or even with teams. It is the Lord who cares for us and watches over us. The prayers and covering of our Advisers are essential.

### Earlene and Rachel



Ron and Elvin



Darlene



Bruce

Proverbs 11:14 Where there is no counsel, the people fall; But in the multitude of counselors there is safety.

We would also like to welcome our new Field Coordinator for the Greater LA Area Darlene Morris! We are so excited to have her join our team as a new leader! Meet Darlene!

Darlene is called to touch the lives of hurting marriages, women and children. Darlene ministers reconciliation emotionally, physically and financially. Darlene is the mother of 7 and grandmother of two. She has experienced being a single mother and a stepmother with their unique challenges.

Darlene is a testimony of Gods mercy, love and restoration. She is now married to a wonderful godly man, Jim. They own an insurance agency together. She is a business woman, marketplace minister and encourager, to be all God has called them to be.

Darlene attended Bible school at Norvel Hayes Bible School learning faith and deliverance. She has served on Church boards and school boards as treasurer and secretary.

Darlene has been in Aglow since 1984 and served in just about every position in the local Lighthouse as well as VP Ministry Development and President of the Orange County Area Team. She has been serving with CA Aglow Prison Ministry for 3-4 years.

Now you see why she is a perfect fit for Prison Ministry! Perhaps you are too!!

Thank you for your gifts and prayers! There is a lot going on in the world today. Please don't forget the prisoners!

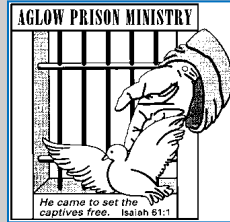
If you would like to donate go online or fill out the form below. Blessings and Love! Jill



Aglow Prison Ministry is a non-profit Christian Organization affiliated with Aglow International. All gifts are used to preach the Good News of Jesus Christ to those incarcerated and in chains and to help those who have gotten out to follow Christ and get established in society.

Aglow Prison Ministry is run by volunteers.

No gift is too small, the need always great. May the Lord Bless you!



Send Donations to:

CA AGLOW PRISON/JAIL MINISTRY

19778 Sweetwater Trail, Redding, CA 96003

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Thank you for your prayerful support of Aglow Prison Ministry and helping to "Set the Captives Free!"

Make Checks Payable to:

CA Aglow Prison Ministry

Donate online with a Credit Card [www.aglow-prisonministry.org](http://www.aglow-prisonministry.org)



Non-Profit IRS# 93-1020177

Thank You!

\*\*\* We have created a special fund "The Patty Rose Sponsorship Program" to help more ladies attend. If you would like to donate to this fund please mark it on your check or in the 'comments' column on-line. Thank You!



CA Aglow Prison Ministry

[www.aglow-prisonministry.org](http://www.aglow-prisonministry.org)

