

The latest news for you

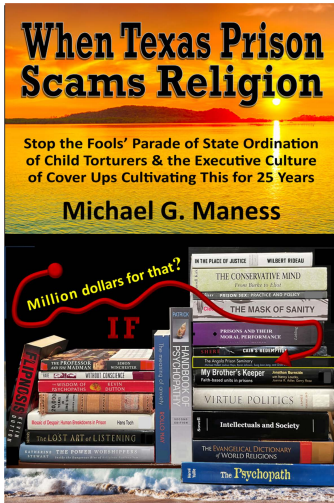
From: The Heart of Texas Foundation College of Ministry

To: maness3@att.net

Date: Saturday, August 20, 2022 at 02:40 PM CDT

**Email 8-20-22 - highlights mine ...
see below letter arrived 9-22-22**

www.PreciousHeart.net/Seminary



COLLEGE OF MINISTRY

Sing with us!

"Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day." Psalm 96:2

DONATE

News!

**The Heart of Texas Foundation College of Ministry
at the Memorial Unit for Men:**

We have the direct privilege and calling to prepare men and women with long prison sentences to go with the good news of Jesus Christ and serve others in his name to places and to people who have never known the Lord and become hopeless. From the inside, out together we are making communities safer through the only peace there is—through Jesus in the hearts of people. The Heart of Texas Foundation College of Ministry daily prepares men and women to become Field Ministers. Wherever the Lord has called you, by giving to this effort, you are making a difference in the darkest of places.

[Read More](#)

News!

The Heart of Texas Foundation College of Ministry at the Hobby Unit for Women:

Watch each video to hear from six different women students at the Hobby Unit before their baptism.

Vastie

You have given generously to the women. And because we were able to go and tell them the good news of Jesus, they heard the gospel and believed. They are growing in maturity and grace. Please continue to give so that we can continue.

Vastie is in the Class of 2025. She shares a cell with one woman on a living pod of 84. She is already living out her faith in front of many.

Germaine

Do you have a heart for the orphan? Germaine was orphaned at an early age. She was adopted in her teens. Chaos around her led to being surrounded by people that did not have her best in mind. And she followed their ways, until now.

Germaine is a joy to work with on any assignment. She works hard no matter what the task is. She is a walking testimony to everyone who knows her.

Kimberly

Kimberly is the mother of four children. She has only grown since we have known her over the last year. She started off more quiet and reserved, but always contributed to class discussion.

Kimberly is a joyful peacemaker in class and socially among the women on the Hobby Unit. Her papers are always deeply insightful. She is bold in her testimony and at peace with the Lord and in her life.

Brittany

Brittany grew up going to church every now and then. She heard about the Lord from an early age. She began to reach out to the Lord just before her incarceration. She shows an arresting fear of the Lord that is a blessing to everyone.

Brittany's academic progress has grown exponentially. Like

Barbara

Barbara was part of the "Hobby 9." We first met her in January of 2019. She was one of nine women who helped us understand the women's population better before we ever started. She has always been a tremendous blessing.

Barbara has lived at Hobby for 18 years. She loves the

Amber

Amber grew up in the Houston area. She was raised in a Presbyterian Church. She has always been more quiet in the class. She has played a major role in the college library. She serves as a library clerk helping build out the library database as one of three library clerks.

many, she had not been in school for a while and what school she attended prior to her incarceration was filled with distraction. Now, if she hears or reads something one time, she has it.

Lord and people deeply. She invited several correctional staff to her baptism. They attended. Everyone who has known her talks about how much she has changed in Christ. We love sweet, tender-hearted Barbara.

Amber simply wants to follow the Lord in everything she does. Her maturity and growth is supported by being part of the college and gaining strength to become a Field Minister. We look forward to every day with Amber.

Dear Friend,

Thank you for the difference you are making in the lives of so many. There are currently 133 men in The Heart of Texas Foundation College of Ministry at the Memorial Unit for Men. The Class of 2026 for the men is being prayerfully selected now. Their Orientation Day is scheduled for October 14th. The college will swell to 173 men and possibly more in just a few weeks.

There are 30 women in the Class of 2025—history in the making! These 30 women are Freshmen who will complete their tenth course this coming week. They have two more courses to finish their Freshman year and will soon become Sophomores. We celebrate their one-year anniversary in the college this week, August 23rd. More than half of them came from other units across Texas. All 30 are courageous pioneers. They are setting the pace faithfully as the first class of women. We are astounded daily by the steadfastness of the Lord in them. They have his character and are growing in the strength and love of the Lord.

Thank you for giving to this work. We simply cannot do this without your help. Over the last few weeks we were able to replace worn out tables and chairs in the men's college. Your financial gifts are the only reason we are able to do this. We have purchased class sets of textbooks for the men and for the women. Due to new courses in our curriculum, these course textbooks are essential to the growth of the men and the women. Thank you! We need you. Class textbooks alone are budgeted each year according to approved titles. The men receive 45 copies of each title and the women receive 40 copies—this comprises a class set. Because the men have Field Ministers helping as Professor's Assistants (P.A.s) in the college, we need them to have their own textbook they can write in and prepare for class tutorials. The Field Ministers at the Memorial Unit have the high calling of being part of the lives of men while they are students—future Field Ministers. Nearly every man in the student body knew and was greatly impacted by a Field Minister.

Thank you for your continued impact on the kingdom of Christ. You have touched the lives of many. Please continue to pray for all of us in this treasured calling.

Thank you,

DONATE

It's good to see joy welcome in the college. Grove and the Class of 2025 enjoy laughter together before a class picture. Grove is the professor for Great Books 2. He chose two books: Moby Dick and In the Heart of the Sea—two books with great themes to discuss.

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law." Galatians 5:22-23

Annual Fundraising Banquet

LOCATION

Traditions Club, 3131 Club Drive, Bryan, Texas

DATE AND TIME

10/08/22 6:00pm - 10/08/22 9:00pm US/Central

Join us for a fundraising dinner and celebration of the Lord's work in Texas prisons.

Please send me more information

The Heart of Texas Foundation, Inc. | Post Office Box 110, Bellville, TX 77418

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Letter arrived 9-22-22 - highlight added

Dear Friend of our work in the Texas prisons,

As I write to you this afternoon, 31 women I know quite well are working diligently on behalf of Christ in a Texas prison.

Thirty of the women are the very first Freshman class in our College of Ministry at the Hobby Unit for women. The thirty-first woman is not an inmate, she is my wife! Dr. Brenna Norwood, PhD, is leading them in another of their instructional days. The 30 inmate women all have lengthy prison sentences. This long-awaited program in our ministry has been about 5 years in the making. These first women to enter the College of Ministry have just finished their 10th Freshman-year class. They were among many who applied, were accepted, and were brought in from other women's prisons in Texas. Their professors have not only driven in from other locations in Texas, they have also flown in from other states. We have seen this teaching experience change the professors' lives. At the Hobby Unit, we are training these inmate women to become Texas Field Ministers. Upon their graduation, they will be sent out in teams to other women's prisons in Texas where they will be equipped to share, with their peers, the Gospel and the hope only found in Jesus Christ. They will take hope to the hopeless, and light into the darkest places in Texas.

WE NEED YOUR HELP NOW. OUR FINANCIALS AT THIS POINT:

Our total budget for this year: \$976,050.

Now that we have the *two College of Ministry locations*, under full operation this year, our budgeted need to provide these two operations for 2022 is \$976,050.

- **TO MEET OUR BUDGET THIS YEAR. Funds already given and funds promised:** As I write this letter, our donors have given and promised so far this year: \$606,048. Thank you.
 - **We need \$370,002 more to end the year on budget.**

Will you help us meet the need for \$370,002 to finish the year on budget?

Will you be a part of our last push to finish the year in the black? It is so important to us, in kingdom work, but it is also important to the academic accrediting body, SACS, that schools applying for accreditation finish on budget. We truly need and appreciate any help you might be able to give us. We have a little over three months to raise \$370,002. It is the middle of September. Will you help us make it to the end of the year and finish well in the black, and start 2023 with strength in January?

OUR NEW BACHELOR OF ARTS IN APPLIED MINISTRY CURRICULUM

Our training curriculum for both the men's and the women's bible college programs is virtually identical. Everyone studies through a four-and-a-half-year undergraduate degree (42 separate courses) specifically designed to prepare inmate men and women for mission fields inside the Texas prison system. Our students study to earn the *Bachelor of Arts in Applied Ministry*. By

the positive impacts they document in a number of articles, studies, and books, including the peer-reviewed article in the *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology*, September 5, 2019, "Prisoners Helping Prisoners Change: A Study of Inmate Field Ministers Within Texas Prisons."

The impact of our Field Ministers is phenomenal: they positively impact their peers, their officers and guards, their families, their relatives, and sometimes even their victims. One leading TDCJ official stated recently, in a state-wide meeting, **"It's to the point that now we can't imagine the Agency not having Field Ministers."**

We need your continued help to sustain this historic work into the future. We also need your help to finish this year well. No matter how little, we treasure every dollar our friends send to help us meet the expenses of operating the only college of its kind in the world. **The Heart of Texas Foundation College of Ministry is a place where suffering ones meet the Savior, and where the Savior changes lives.**

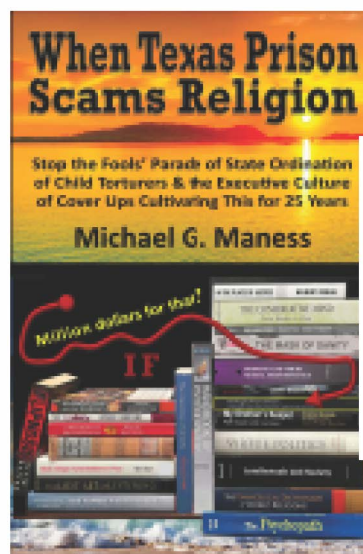
Thank you in advance for any financial help, and prayer support, you share with us. We love and appreciate you, and thank you for your interest in sending the Gospel into the dark.

With thanks for your friendship, support, and your prayers,

In Christ whom we serve,



Grove C. Norwood, Ms.Ed



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