

Notes from the June 29, 2026 Online PNG Meeting

Attendees: 9

Carl Wake (NLPM volunteer and board member; Founder of Released for Good)

Carol Edgar (7th Step Society, Volunteer)

Dan Powell (Prison Fellowship Canada, Volunteer)

Eric Richards (Brockville Dismas; Honour Ministries; PFC; NLPM)

Janet Powell (Prison Fellowship Canada, Volunteer)

Jean Vaughan (Ottawa Adventist Church, Volunteer)

Jim Mercer (Salvation Army Ottawa Booth Centre, Director of Spiritual Care / Community Ministries)

Stephen Prendergast (New Connections Ministries/Liberty House)

Timothy Meisenheimer (M.A.P. Reintegration, Co-Founder and board member)

Regrets: 6

John Westbrook

Rob Burr

Jaccinta Sparling

Kevin Schafer

Mollene Pearce

Tom Cuddihy

1. **Permission to Record** - The participants agreed to video record our proceedings.

2. **Group Photo**



3. **Devotional and Opening Prayer** – Jim Mercer

Jim began with a quote from Winnie the Pooh who said, “I get to where I’m going by walking away from where I’ve been.” From here he moved into a powerful reflection on Philippians 3:10-14, with his key verse (v.14): “I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.” Jim used a baseball metaphor—you cannot steal second base with your foot on first—to illustrate the importance of leaving the past behind to press toward God’s goals. Jim shared the inspiring journey of *Scotty*, who overcame addiction and incarceration by surrendering his life to Christ and finding support through various ministries like Anchorage and Whitestone. He opened the meeting in prayer.

Please watch this on: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sEyZSsSYwBQ&t=1s> (Time 00:05 to 09:55).

4. **Our next meeting** will be *online* on **Monday, July 27, 2026**, at 11 am.

5. **Reports**

Jean Vaughan (Ottawa Adventist Church, Volunteer) reported that:

- The last time their group went into OCDC, six women attended the program.
- They continue to hand out sandwiches and other items at various places in Ottawa on Sundays.
- Their church participated in The Big Give on June 6, 2026. They had a wonderful time. Please watch her report on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sEyZSsSYwBQ&t=1s> (Time 09:56 to 13:48).

Please pray for:

God to continue to protect, guide, and provide for all aspects of the Ottawa Adventist volunteer ministry. May they continue to be a blessing.

Eric Richards led us in prayer for Jean Vaughan and the Ottawa Adventist Church.

Eric Richards (Brockville Dismas brockvilledismas@gmail.com; Honour Ministries; NLPM and PFC volunteer) reported that:

- Every three or months, Eric and his wife sing together at the Wesleyan church in Brockville.
- Eighteen people attend the last Brockville Dismas meeting, when they usually have eight on average. He sees this a complete turnaround. Since he stepped down, the group is going further. The new Chair, Kevin Belanger, has many contacts in Kingston, Brockville, and Ottawa. Eric and Kevin took a road trip in June to attend Dismas group meeting in Guelph and Kingston. This was revitalizing for them. Eric tied this into Jim's devotional, knowing that he had been holding the group back. There will be a Brockville Dismas BBQ in the Giant Tiger parking lot on Saturday, September 5, 2026. Stay tuned for more details.
- Eric continues to volunteer as a virtual instructor with New Life Prison Ministries. He also volunteers with Prison Fellowship Canada in their BridgeCare program.
- Recently Eric and his wife were in Perth and were about to visit Spencer Kell in Maberly but found out that Spencer was not available. Eric wants to visit Love Soluble one day.
- Eric's son graduated from Grade 8 and is starting high school in the fall.

Please watch his report on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sEyZSsSYwBQ&t=1s> (Time 13:49 to 22:37).

Please pray for:

1. God's continued protection, guidance, and provision for Eric Richards and Kevin Belanger as they co-chair Brockville Dismas.
2. Eric as he volunteers with PFC and NLPM, and ministers musically with his wife in their Honour Ministries.
3. Wisdom for Eric and his wife as they raise Eric's 13-year-old son.

Jim Mercer led us in prayer for Eric Richards

Jim Mercer (Salvation Army Ottawa <http://www.ottawaboothcentre.org/>) reported that:

- He has a vision to take twenty individuals from the Anchorage program, Gladstone Transitional House, and Spencer Kell's Manie Daniels Centre to a Salvation Army retreat in the Muskokas this year.
- Spencer will be coming to speak at the Anchorage chapel.

Please watch his report on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sEyZSsSYwBQ&t=1s> (*Time 22:48 to 26:38*).

Please pray for:

1. All the ministries in which Jim is involved. May God continue to protect, guide, and provide for God's ministry through him.
2. Jim to see his vision of twenty individuals be fulfilled and exceeded.

Steve Prendergast led us in prayer for Jim Mercer.

Stephen Prendergast (New Connections Ministries/Liberty House/Hope Horizons <https://newconnections-ministries.org>) reported that:

- He has been back up and walking on his prosthetic leg after a very difficult June. Several of them (Fred, John, Randy, Gus, and Jim) are plagued by physical ailments, but they are still able to fulfill their specific roles and duties.
- On June 25, they put on very successful open house at Liberty House, with many attending.
- Paul Jebreen is a new board member. Randy stepped down after many years of service.
- They are currently serving nine clients between Hope Horizons and Liberty House. Applications are coming in on a weekly basis.

Please watch his report on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sEyZSsSYwBQ&t=1s> (*Time 26:39 to 33:51*).

Please pray for:

1. God to continue to protect, guide, and provide for all aspects of New Connections Ministries, Liberty House, and Hope Horizons, including the outreach breakfasts, raising financial support, and more and younger mentors for their increasing client list.
2. Wisdom, knowledge, and discernment for Stephen as he faces physical, mental, and spiritual challenges currently. Pray for good physical health for him in 2026, including healing for his leg. Pray for good physical health for all their leaders and residents.
3. A replacement for Fred Williams so that his ministry in three nearby prisons can continue with new blood.

Timothy Meisenheimer led us in prayer for Stephen and New Connections Ministries.

Timothy Meisenheimer (M.A.P. Reintegration, board member <https://www.mapreintegration.ca>) had nothing to report. He just enjoys coming on and hearing the reports and testimonies, because he prays for the PNG each day. Thank you so much, Timothy.

Please watch his report on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sEyZSsSYwBQ&t=1s> (*Time 33:52 to 35:12*).

Please pray for God:

1. To protect, guide, and provide (including funding and volunteers) for the ministry of M.A.P. Reintegration, Deacon Mathew Mathew, and Timothy Meisenheimer (his health and recovery from a recent stroke).

Dan Powell (Prison Fellowship Canada – Ottawa volunteer) reported that:

- They attended the recent OCDC volunteer appreciation event held at the Ottawa Adventist Church. The support of that church for prison ministry is greatly appreciated. They finally met Chaplain Dohman Williams in person.
- Dan goes in one Saturday for the male inmates, and Janet goes in the next for the female inmates. Their programs have been cancelled at times, but they are faithful and ready for when they do get in to minister.
- There are six new male volunteers now, who go in two at a time every two weeks. One volunteer had a stroke and won't be back until September.
- Janet noted that she needs more volunteers to come alongside her.

Please watch their report on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sEyZSsSYwBQ&t=1s> (*Time 35:13 to 38:44*).

Please pray for:

1. God to continue to protect, guide, and provide for the ministry of PFC Ottawa, especially new female volunteers.
2. The move of God to continue among the women and men living in OCDC.
3. The number of program cancellations be reduced.

Carl Wake led us in prayer for M.A.P. Reintegration, Timothy and Deacon Mathew. And for Dan & Janet Powell.

Carol Edgar (The 7th Step Society, volunteer) reported that all is well with her ministry. She is a core member of the community online street group of the 7th Step Society (www.7thstep.ca) which ministers to ex-inmates and others. They meet weekly online on Tuesday nights to share. It is a “getting on with life” group. The new group for women meets on alternate Monday nights (there's one tonight). Carol was away for two weeks on a pilgrimage walk but is back and getting into her regular rhythm and structure again.

Please continue to pray for:

1. God to protect, guide, and provide for her volunteer ministry with the 7th Step Society.

Carl Wake (Founder of Released for Good www.releasedforgood.com; New Life Prison Ministries, volunteer and board member) reported that he spent two recent Wednesdays riding the LRT for free visiting various ministries and praying with them (Capital City Mission, the Booth Centre, CoSA Ottawa, Ottawa Innercity Ministries, and Connecting Streams). It has been a blessing for him and plans to continue reaching out in person like this. Please pray that he is able to continue this ministry.

Carl closed in prayer for Carol Edgar and then all the active PNG organizations by name.

Our meeting ended at 12:05.