

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



Kingsway Prison and Family Outreach, PO Box 2335, Harrisonburg, VA 22801
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Web: www.kingswayoutreach.org

APR 2026

From The President of the Board of Directors

Merry Christmas! Christmas is still a few months away, but we get started in July. You know, Christmas in July!!

We are starting our campaign for toothpaste for the inmates. Have you ever thought about what a luxury toothpaste is? I know for a fact that the inmates can tell you. One Christmas at Augusta Correctional Center before the facility closed, Kingsway volunteers were giving to the inmates the gift bags containing the items which you had helped us to obtain. Someone called out “Toothpaste, I haven’t had toothpaste since March!”

Can you imagine not having toothpaste? I can’t. Something we take for granted and yet not everyone has it.

We are asking for this now, to help remind you later down the road. We are looking at about 8,000 inmates for Christmas this year. So it will take each of you to donate at least one tube of toothpaste.

You can make a BIG difference to someone by doing this one gesture. Can we count on you? Kingsway has given inmates Christmas gifts for as long as I can remember, and now we give the toothpaste, a 5x8 mini legal pad, and a chapstick. We used to ask for those gifts, but have found they can be ordered, so this takes a responsibility off of you.

Please consider giving a tube of toothpaste. Sizes of the tubes are 3-ounce to no larger than 6-ounce. Please, no Crest w/Scope. The reason for this is Scope has alcohol in it and is not allowed in any prisons.

I would like to let you know that we now have a daytime program available for Mothers of Prisoners that is taking place on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Also starting soon is the program for female spouses. These programs are support groups. You are not alone!

Serving Him,



The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; He has risen, just as He said. Come and see the place where He lay.”

We joyfully celebrate Resurrection Sunday (Easter) on April 5, 2026.

From The Executive Director of Kingsway PAFO

The God that we serve is amazing and faithful! God opened the door for Vicki Barb and me to meet the new Director of the Virginia Department of Corrections in February. It was a good meeting, and we enjoyed getting a glimpse of his vision for the DOC for the coming years. As we prepared to meet him, we pulled out the map created by our Webmaster, Pappy Pless (please look for it elsewhere in this newsletter), and added a few statistics that show how God has used Kingsway (and **you**, through your generosity) in the Shenandoah Valley and the whole state of Virginia in 2025.

This map and the statistics are even more amazing when you consider that everything Kingsway does is accomplished almost entirely by our matchless volunteers! I know that we didn't capture hours from everyone, but in 2025, more than 35 volunteers donated over 5,300 hours of their time. If we had paid them minimum wage (and they're worth more, MUCH MORE), the time with which they gifted Kingsway would have equaled \$65,773.00.

I am consistently humbled and amazed by the ways that God provides for Kingsway through financial gifts, and for putting it on the hearts of our caring volunteers to be the hands and feet of Jesus by living out the actions that mean so much to our King, as in Matthew 25: to feed the hungry and thirsty, to invite the stranger in and to clothe them, and to visit those in prison. That is God's love that our volunteers demonstrate every single day!

Thank you for sharing God's love and your faithfulness in 2025!

Paula Ford, Executive Director

Louise's Corner



The older I get, the more I realize that many of Kingsway's supporters are people that I have personally known from the beginning of Kingsway in the 1980s, so they must be getting older also. At 90 years old, I realize that my time is short, even though I can still volunteer some, and as long as I can still drive, I plan to do that. As I read about how people leave legacy gifts with other organizations, I am wondering if you have thought about including Kingsway Prison and Family

Outreach in your estate plans. It is a great way to ensure that you leave a legacy, and that our amazing ministry continues well into the future. You can include a specific amount in your bequest, or a percentage of your estate. You can leave your gift to Kingsway Prison and Family Outreach. Reach out to your financial advisor, or your estate planning attorney, and learn how you can leave a lasting legacy to Kingsway. Make a gift to Kingsway Prison and Family Outreach, P.O. Box 2335, Harrisonburg, VA, 22801.

And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?" And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, ...

Luke 24:31-33



TESTIMONIES

Dear Friends and Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

01/29/2026

Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ.

I just glanced out of the dayroom window and there's 7 young deer out there, 5 are searching for food, 1 is lying down, and 1 is standing in a poor shape as if it's sick. So I'll ask God to allow His will to be done and I hope it will be for its healing, but if not, His will, will be done regardless.

Last night, Wednesday the 28th, I was given your card of Thanks from 1/14/2026. It was late, but I thank God that I received it, and with joy.

I am saved, blessed, and have no complaints, for as the apostle Paul was, so am I, for I have learned that whatever state I'm in, therewith I am content.

I will be going up again for parole and whether man approves it or not, I have an eternal King and life waiting for me, and for all who repent and accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

For all of you who do so much for us who are behind bars, have a Happy and Great Valentines Day.

Love and Appreciate You All,
Brother Branson

Kingsway Family,

I am writing in regards to kindly thank Pam, Vicki, Louise, Carleen, Mary, Carol, Ashley, Kim, Bonnie, Paula, and every other Kingsway volunteer for your act of kindness providing us prisoners gifts for Christmas. Thank you all for being thoughtful, compassionate, selfless, loving servants of the Lord and for teaching our hearts and souls. May you all be blessed abundantly by Lord and Savior Jesus. Thank you all again.

Best Regards & Respectfully,
Carlos R.

Sister Louise,

01/10/2026

I greet you in the precious name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

First and foremost, praise the Lord for your ninetieth birthday passed last October. I received that typed letter from you, dated May 29, 2025, with the Kingsway's letterhead. I was smiling from ear to ear as I read those kind words. Thank you for always demonstrating the love of Christ to me. Every institution I was transferred to, Kingsway Ministry found its way to me. Those little paper cards blessed my soul every time an officer came to my cell with mail.

Yes, I am still singing praises unto the Lord. Even though I haven't joined the Choir here at Lawrenceville, I enter into praise and worship during the service. The Lord is doing an amazing work here. Last year the Word was CRAZY FAITH. This year, it's OBEDIENCE. A beloved brother made parole back in November. Pastor W. went to the STEPP program in Lexington. I saw a recent picture with him and [2 other brothers] in it. Pastor W. was one of the seasoned brothers that endured Lawrenceville when it was called the notorious, infamous prison in Virginia. Because of men like him and others, the Lord answered their prayers to being hope to an almost God-forsaken place. This prison is now being viewed as the Virginia Model Prison. HALLELUJAH is our "War Cry"!

This community here has taken on a whole new concept of doing time. We are getting ready for our exodus to go home and to stay home.

I will sing for you, up close and personal, "His Eye Is On The Sparrow." I want to see that lovely smile of yours as we celebrate your living!

Amen. God Bless You,
Raphael B.

Dear Kingsway Prison Ministry,

I want to personally thank all of you for the Christmas packages of toothpaste, notebook, and chapstick.

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

May all your dreams come true and blessed be to God that He led you down the road to your believing in Him, serving Him, and blessing others through Him.

In Christ,
Robert F.

KINGSWAY HAPPENINGS

PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

UPCOMING EVENTS - DETAILS TBA!

Great Community Give - Wednesday, April 22, 2026

Annual Benefit Banquet - Thursday, August 27, 2026

Louise's Birthday Celebration - Sunday, October 25, 2026



God continues to open doors at Kingsway. In 2025, we started taking cards and candy to the youth living in juvenile detention. One of them sent a letter of appreciation (included in the Testimonies section). When I told the staff at the juvenile detention center about it, they told us that she is not usually someone who says, "Thank you." God alone knows how your prayers, a card, and a little candy are speaking to their hearts and reminding them that they are not forgotten.

God also opened the door with our Probation and Parole office here in Harrisonburg. In partnership with them, we are piloting a program to offer hygiene kits to returning offenders in their care. While we are not able to add a card that says, "Come to Kingsway," we are able to show the recipients God's love in this way. If everything goes well, we hope to open this opportunity to all of the inmates going through probation and parole there.

Please pray for these projects and join us in asking God where He wants Kingsway to branch out next.

MEET WILLIE BELT, KINGSWAY'S NEW ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT



I was introduced to Kingsway one day when I was shopping nearby. At the time, my grandson in Florida was in jail on a drug charge, and I was intrigued by the name Kingsway Prison and Family Outreach. I visited the office and met Louise, Pam, and Vicki. After several months I began to volunteer there. I loved what Kingsway was accomplishing for people who were reentering society after having been incarcerated, and wanted to be a part of it. When I started in the fall of 2024, we were in the midst of preparing for Christmas. We were preparing gifts for inmates, and soon after, began addressing Christmas cards for them. It was an extremely busy time and I loved it!!

As much as I loved volunteering there, I never dreamed that in the winter of my life I'd be working again, but I found that Kingsway provided a much-needed place in my life. I have worked in offices since I was 16 years old, and I needed that busyness and being able to get out among like-minded people and do something productive for the Kingdom. I am a widow with grown children and grandchildren, an active attendee of my church, and am also involved as a leader in Celebrate Recovery at my church. I like staying active and spending time with others – it keeps me young!

I am deeply grateful to the Board of Directors of Kingsway for the opportunity to serve Jesus in this capacity.

Check Out Kingsway's Amazon Wish List

Please click this link to access our
Wish Lists:

<https://www.kingswayoutreach.org/wish-list>

Please help us help *them*!

MOPS Fellowship Groups

Kingsway offers 2 Mothers of Prisoners Support Groups!
3rd Tuesday of every month at 5:30pm
2nd Wednesday of every month at 1:15pm
The Groups meet at the Kingsway House of Restoration.
Please contact the office with questions.

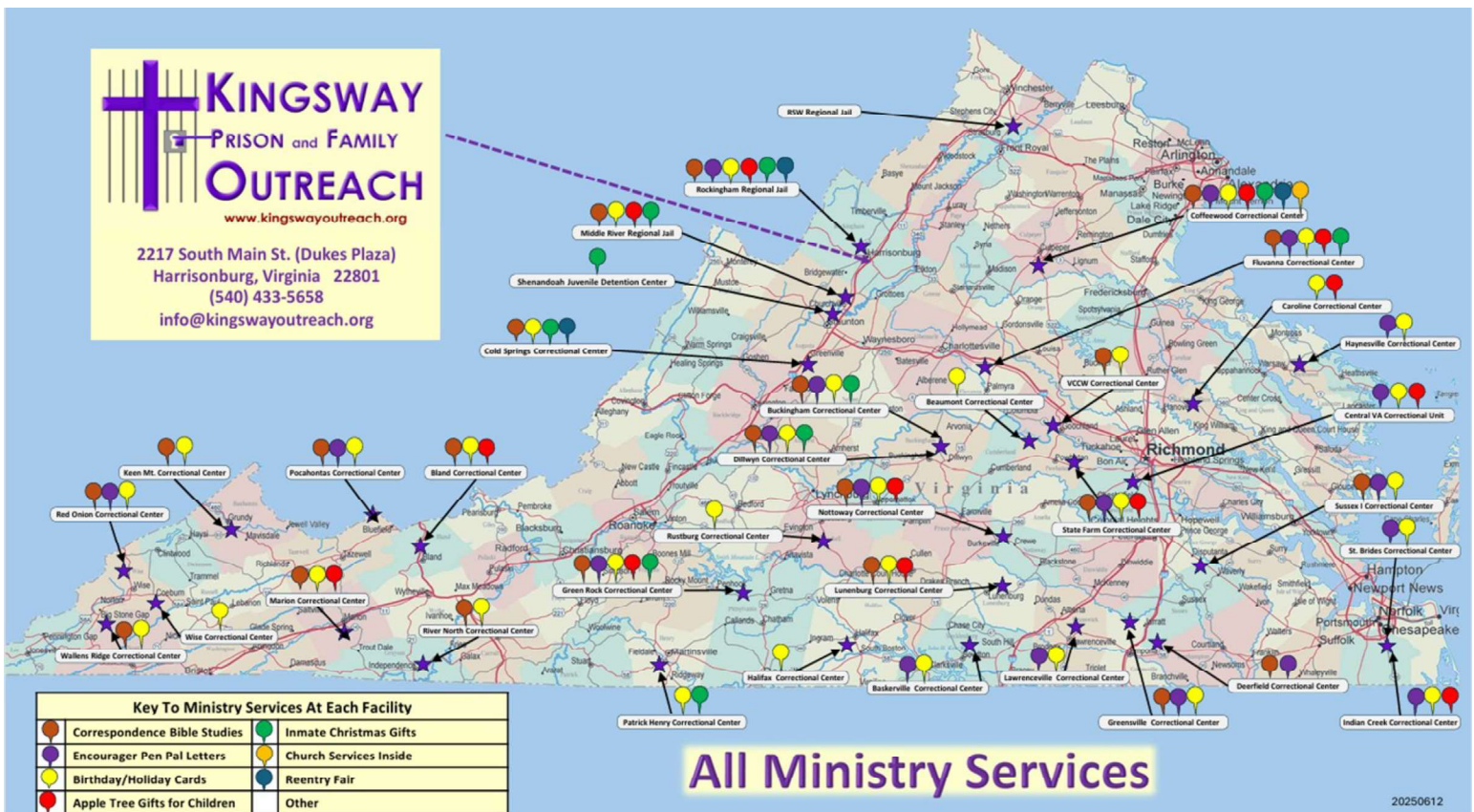
KINGSWAY HAPPENINGS

PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

JUST A FEW NUMBERS FOR 2025

- ◆ Kingsway provided Christmas gifts (notepad, toothpaste, lip balm, and card) for 7200 inmates in 14 facilities. In 2026, Kingsway hopes to add another facility or two.
- ◆ Kingsway sends birthday cards and holiday cards (Valentines Day, Easter, July 4th, Thanksgiving, & Christmas) to approximately 2500 inmates, who reside in every VADOC facility.
- ◆ Kingsway gave gifts to almost 400 children of inmates through the Apple Tree Program, which picks up after Angel Tree closes. Apple Tree guarantees a minimum of a game, a toy, and a Bible, and fosters connection between the inmates and their children. Inmates from 16 facilities participated in 2025.
- ◆ Kingsway has 262 individuals from 22 different facilities receiving Correspondence Bible Studies.
- ◆ Kingsway assisted 246 individuals with reentry needs (sober living housing, cell phones, work shoes, hygiene items, a packed meal, clothing, and job and community referrals).
- ◆ Kingsway offers Encourager Pen Pals to 111 participants living in 23 facilities.
- ◆ Kingsway takes part in Reentry Fairs in 4 facilities.
- ◆ Kingsway offers church services in 2 facilities.
- ◆ Kingsway employs an Executive Director and one Administrative Assistant. They are both part-time employees.
- ◆ In 2025, more than 35 volunteers gave Kingsway over 5300 hours of service.
- ◆ Kingsway looks for opportunities to encourage the GraceInside Chaplains and the Virginia Department of Corrections staff.

Paula Ford, Executive Director



Please Join Kingsway Prison and Family Outreach for the **GREAT COMMUNITY GIVE** on April 22, 2026

We ask that you prayerfully consider donating as God leads you.

Kingsway runs **ENTIRELY** on donations as we assist the incarcerated and their families. Without **YOU** and your support, we can do nothing to help those who need assistance during and after incarceration.

You can make a donation the day of the event, April 22, from 6:00 am to 8:00 pm, AND/OR you can donate through The Community Foundation of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County at P.O. Box 1068, Harrisonburg, VA, 22803. Please write GCG-Kingsway PAFO on the memo line.

For more details on times and special donation events during the day, check out the Kingsway Prison and Family Outreach Facebook Page as well as at Kingsway's Great Community Give page at <https://www.greatcommunitygive.org/organizations/kingsway-prison-and-family-outreach>.

For more information, please call Kingsway at **540-433-5658** or email us at info@kingswayoutreach.org.

We thank you so much for your support in helping us to help THEM!





P.O. Box 2335
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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

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.



KINGSWAY PRISON & FAMILY OUTREACH

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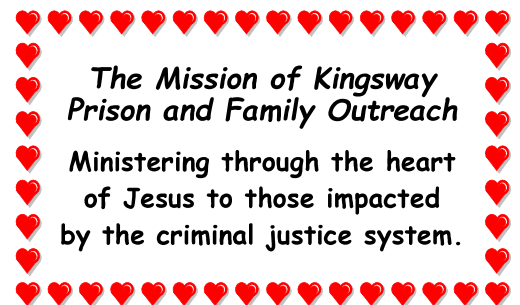
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*The Mission of Kingsway
Prison and Family Outreach*

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