

You're Invited to "Run the Race" with HeartBound!!!!

What: HeartBound's fourth annual "**Prison Chaplains Appreciation Day**" luncheon, a chance for us to honor our state prison chaplains. This year's theme is "**Run the Race.**" We are very EXCITED to announce our luncheon speakers -- Mark Earley, President and CEO of Prison Fellowship Ministries and Wallace Francis, former NFL Wide Receiver for the Buffalo Bills and Atlanta Falcons.

When: May 13, 2008 at 12 p.m.

Where: The Floyd Room, Sloppy Floyd Building, 20th floor, across from the State Capitol, Atlanta.

RSVP: Contact Andrea Shelton at 404-262-0709 or aheartbound@comcast.net by April 30th.

The Starting Line...

We've traveled quite a distance in five short years. The starting line was February 19, 2003, when Mark Spencer entered the Georgia prison system. On May 16, 2003, Mark's letter sent us scurrying for our running shoes! **"Send the water of life to these men... Take it before the church. Tell the church the harvest is much here and the rewards are great. There are souls here that need Christ and Christian love. Shout this to the church. Tell them to reach out to these men. They long for Christ and Christian love. Tell them, tell them, tell them! Reach out to these men and in turn they will reach out to others. Jesus wants to be in here, but the doors need to be opened, so open the doors. Tell the church to open the doors and lives can be saved and souls can be brought to Christ."** In 2006, we reached a milestone -- HeartBound had shared the Gospel of Jesus Christ in **every** Georgia state prison, and witnessed the return of nine full-time chaplains to the prison system! Now, fast forward to year five -- 18 of Georgia's 37 state prisons have state-funded, full-time chaplains. And this year, thanks to three generous donors, HeartBound has had the opportunity to restore full-time chaplains to three prisons! That means 21 full-time shepherds for the fenced-in flock. Praise God and thank **YOU** for being a part of this miracle!

We're Off and Running...

Here's what one of our "running buddies" (the chaplains) has to say about HeartBound...

"Hollywood" [Rev. James Henderson] won an Oscar at Baldwin. He was outstanding and held the guys undivided attention. He was so powerful and had many people respond to his invitation to come to Jesus. God is using him in such a mighty way and we love him so much. Our Warden attended the first night and was very impressed with his message. Your speakers are all outstanding - most of all because they have sat in the seat where our men are sitting. They know the hurts, frustrations, pain and heartaches of prison life. But best of all they can share what JESUS has done in their lives and where HE has brought them from, and how JESUS will do the same for each and every one of them. We all know what passing the buck is, but your team passes the "gift" (JESUS). The greatest gift that has ever been given. Thank God for HeartBound." – Chaplain McElheney

"Running the Race" in Louisiana....

You may recall that last year HeartBound sponsored a bus trip to Louisiana State Penitentiary in Angola for Georgia prison personnel, and now we have the God-given opportunity to host another busload of 50 wardens, chaplains and other correctional personnel on a tour of Angola April 18 – 20th. We continue to see the Angola "vision" come to life in Georgia prisons as wardens and others are exposed to how one warden's plan of "moral rehabilitation" transformed "America's bloodiest prison" into a place where lives are being transformed. ***In January 2008, the Georgia Department of Corrections opened an extension of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary within a Georgia prison based on Angola's model. Our labor is not in vain!***

The Finish Line

We know that thousands of hearts "bound by prison walls" have been reached through HeartBound. We want to continue to send workers into the field so that they can continue to "proclaim freedom for the captives and release for the prisoners." This year our budget is \$231,000. We're funding three chaplains, sending evangelists into every prison that will have us, distributing bibles, Christian literature and hygiene, and funding "The Integrity Project" at two youth prisons. Imagine the impact we could make through the gifts of just 200 ministry partners giving \$50 or \$100 a month! Please prayerfully consider sponsoring one of our programs or equipping one of these precious chaplains so that more Georgia inmates can hear, believe and call on the One who sets men free. And now, *"...let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us" Hebrews 12:1. With thanksgiving, Andrea Shelton, Jan Spencer & the HBM Board*