

# Solid Rock

## ***Our Mission Statement***

Taking the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the imprisoned and persecuted church through music evangelism.

Prayer/Newsletter - July/Aug 2017

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## **CUBA MISSION TRIP**

It is Monday June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017, our Cuban team is visiting Los Mangos today. We prayed over the pastor's wife who has MS. We prayed for a healing and we believe she was healed. Pastor Raynol and his wife Maria Carla are called to the poorest group of people in Cuba. They bring them hope in Jesus. Please keep them in your prayers. They have a three month old daughter.

This was a new place in Los Mangos for our team. It was across the highway. Our first site was garbage, lots of garbage all over the side of the road. Skinny dogs, lots of them roaming the dirt paths. There are no roads here only rocky dirt paths. The place is hilly, rock hilly. You had to watch your step. I can't imagine what this place looks like when it rains. The smell is horrific but you get used to it or you just block it out. Our first stop was at the home of the only Christian that is known in this place. She is willing to start a church in her yard. Across from her was a lady and her daughter.

When she saw us (Tony and myself) she said, "come in I've been waiting for you." She told us she was at the hospital in the morning and she had a strong feeling to go home because she was going to have company today. She was eager to hear about Jesus. A cult had been there some day's before but she knew in her heart what they said was not right. God was already calling her.

After Tony and I shared our testimonies with her, she was ready to ask Jesus into her heart to be her Lord and Savior. Her two daughters also asked Jesus to be their Lord and Savior. Then pastor Raynol came by and told her how they were going to start a church right there in her community. She offered her yard as a place to have church services. Her yard was a good size. Most don't have yards. She did not have a Bible but Pastor was going to bring her one on his next trip in.

This experience made me think of Romans 10:13 – 15, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news." What an honor to lead this family to the Lord, what a blessing to be sent. Thank you for your prayers while sending the Solid Rock team to the lost. ***Blessings, Mary Ann***

## MORE EXCITING DETAILS ON CUBA

It has been 18 years since we first started working in the country of Cuba. Many of you know what a challenge it has been for us to labor for the Lord here.

The past few months have been amazing as we were asked to do several things in the country and the dates are already on Cuba's calendar. First, we have been asked to train 1,000 pastors/leaders in prison ministry which will start on Dec. 3rd this year in three regions.

Secondly, we were asked if we can train 2,000 worship leaders throughout the island. This too, is on the calendar for March 22nd and 23rd, 2018.

Thirdly, we were asked to launch the first ever International Cuban Christian Music Festival to be annualized each year which is also on the calendar for March 24th, 2018. If you are amazed by now, so are we. Obviously, much prayer is needed for the planning, scheduling and funding for this amazing opportunity.

On our recent trip to Cuba, we had a special pig roast with three of the Cuban bands that I have invited to the festival. There will be 10 groups performing at the Festival so pray that we will be led by the Lord to those of His choice. This is a VERY important event for the country. The purpose of the pig roast was to get to know each other and spiritually prepare ourselves for what the Lord is about to do in this amazing mission field.

In English, the three groups names were; Generational Reconciliation, Harmony and Maranatha. I didn't know it at the time, but the night of the pig roast, the Lord revealed to me that it would become the theme of the Festival. When we make an effort toward reconciliation with the generations and experience harmony, then we can say come Lord Jesus.

Another thing to be praying for is our first cargo plane will be going over to Cuba soon. It has many needed supplies such as wheelchairs, walkers, glasses, PA equipment, clothes, medicines, books, Bibles, CD and DVD's, teaching materials and more. We need a special gift of \$4,000 to help us get our first 6,000 pounds of supplies to Cuba. Please pray and help if you are able.

*Rev. Tony Loeffler*



Thank you so much for your prayers and financial support for our Church Behind Bars In-Prison Church Planting Movement.

Many have come to Christ, an amazing amount of inmates have been healed physically of various health issues and the Church is beginning to surface. No one really knows what the Church Behind Bars looks like because we have enabled that part of the body of Christ to remain powerless and rely on the next ministry to boast them up.

This movement is different as we identify the leaders, teach them, encourage them and release them to run the programs after we complete the year. It is an unusual approach in a mission field that is much like the country of Cuba, China or Korea. As you know the organic church has grown in each of these countries and will do the same in the prisons as long as we recognize the culture and give room for it to organically grow according to the Lord's design, not ours.

*Rev. Tony Loeffler*



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# More Digital Giving Available

We have now entered the digital giving world to simplify things and to save postage costs and time, allowing more dollars to flow into the ministry. Consider this additional way of giving as you support the International Solid Rock. You can give via TEXT or through On-Line Giving on our web site. Try them and see how you like the options.

**FOR TEXT GIVING:** 561-571-7770 (JUST ENTER YOUR AMOUNT TO GET STARTED)

**FOR ON-LINE GIVING:** [www.thesolidrock.org](http://www.thesolidrock.org) (CLICK HOW TO HELP)

**Regular Scheduled gifts helps us keep our focus on the mission field and not on fundraising. Can you help?**

Your generosity is helping to build the **indigenous church in Cuba** and the **organic church in the prisons** which you have heard me refer to as THE CHURCH BEHIND BARS. Both are growing and your partnership is making all the difference as we labor together to build His Kingdom. Maybe you never thought about it, but you are an active member of this part of the body of Christ by your giving, prayers and volunteering. THANK YOU SO MUCH!

**EXCITING THINGS COMING! Be sure to Join our Internet Prayer Team today: Send email to: [SueCuccia@thesolidrock.org](mailto:SueCuccia@thesolidrock.org)**

## A Message From David Berkowitz

### "A Voice From Prison - Alvin"

With honest introspection, Alvin, age 54, said to me, "I actually got rescued by getting arrested and coming to prison."

Alvin described himself as a **"walking chemical factory**, with a full-blown addiction to alcohol, barbiturates, pain killers and methamphetamines (Meth)." In his own words, "I'd probably be dead by now" if not for his arrest on burglary charges and a sentence of five years in prison.

Now nearing the end of his sentence, Alvin told me he had been living "on the streets" when he committed his crime. He broke into stores in search of items to sell to support his habit. As he explained it: "I had to steal, hustle, and panhandle everyday in order to survive as well as stay high."

Alvin was 14 when he started drinking alcohol. His father was in prison at the time, and his mother was homebound, confined to a wheelchair. But it was his grandmother, he said, who first introduced him to alcohol. She was an alcoholic and gave him glasses of beer for doing chores and running errands. His grandfather, a house painter by trade, also had a drinking problem, and was gone for much of the day.

Alvin vividly recalls "bottles of beer and bourbon" in almost every room of his grandparents' home. His grandmother had "no qualms" about giving him beer. "I think she was lonely and liked my company." He added, "She was too intoxicated much of the time to do housework." So he did most of it for her. She also let him stay home from school. His two sisters, he said, "never messed with drugs or booze." They did well in school, went on to college, and now are raising families of their own.

"I entered adulthood as an alcoholic," Alvin declared sadly. "I got into Meth and took every pill so I could stay high."

Alvin said he worked at times at jobs like washing dishes, only to lose the job within a few weeks because of his addiction. With much regret he confessed to being a "chronically irresponsible drunkard."

Having known Alvin for several years, I have made a number of attempts to share my faith in Christ with him. I have explained to him that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that He was raised from the dead on the third day, and that He loves Alvin and wants to forgive him for all his sins and failings—and give him a new life of victory over sin.

It is at this point that Alvin often expresses a certain amount of annoyance and defiance. While openly acknowledging his sinful and self-destructive ways, and while admitting he believes God wants to forgive and help him, Alvin, in a seemingly well-rehearsed manner, rattles off a litany of poor excuses as to why he **will not** repent of his sins, and why he will not humbly ask Christ to forgive him.

Sadly, Alvin continues to believe in and repeat to everyone that often told lie, that "once an alcoholic, always an alcoholic."

My thought on this common falsehood is that whoever coined it tragically left Jesus Christ out of the equation. **"For with God nothing shall be impossible."** (Luke 1:37). I've no doubt the Lord Jesus is able to save to the uttermost those who are perishing, including those with addictions of all kinds. How the Devil loves to make people think there is no hope for them and that their problems or situations are unique and unsolvable!

Meanwhile, I will continue to pray for Alvin as well as shower him with God's kindness and oftentimes remind him that God will never reject him. Christ is waiting for him with open arms, tenderly beckoning Alvin to come to Him, the Savior, to find rest for his soul. And I pray one day, he does. The angels will at that moment rejoice, and so will I. **David Berkowitz, "Arise and Shine"**

Go to [www.RoxAnneMinistries.org](http://www.RoxAnneMinistries.org) – Click on the TV on Demand tab to view The RoxAnne Tauriello Show episode titled "America's Keswick Colony of Mercy." In this episode RoxAnne Tauriello interviews Mike Woods and Darien Porter, as they speak about the forgiveness of God, and how the Lord can break the chains and bondage of alcoholism and drug addiction, through repentance—which is a desire to turn away from sin, and faith in God the Son, His death, burial, and resurrection. Also learn how America's Keswick Colony of Mercy in Whiting, New Jersey can be a blessing to you or a loved one who is struggling with addiction. Also click the "TV On Demand" tab and watch the amazing testimony of our beloved brother in Christ, Tony Loeffler.

# Ministry Schedule

## Lowell CI Annex-Women's unit, Ocala, FL

## Marion CI - Men's unit, Ocala, FL

July 27, Thursday	Day 1	July 27, Thursday	Day 1
July 28, Friday	Day 2	July 28, Friday	Day 2
July 29, Saturday	Day 3	July 29, Saturday	Day 3
July 30, Sunday	Special Concert in the Recreation Center at	Marion Work Camp 5:30-8:30PM	
Aug. 24, Thursday	Day 1	Aug. 24, Thursday	Day 1
Aug. 25, Friday	Day 2	Aug. 25, Friday	Day 2
Aug. 26, Saturday	Day 3	Aug. 26, Saturday	Day 3
Sept. 28, Thursday	Day 1	Sept. 28, Thursday	Day 1
Sept. 29, Friday	Day 2	Sept. 29, Friday	Day 2
Sept. 30, Saturday	Day 3	Sept. 30, Saturday	Day 3
Oct. 26, Thursday	Day 1	Oct. 26, Thursday	Day 1
Oct. 27, Friday	Day 2	Oct. 27, Friday	Day 2
Oct. 28, Saturday	Day 3	Oct. 28, Saturday	Day 3
Nov. 16, Thursday	Day 1	Nov. 16, Thursday	Day 1
Nov. 17, Friday	Day 2	Nov. 17, Friday	Day 2
Nov. 18, Saturday	Day 3	Nov. 18, Saturday	Day 3
Dec. 3-11, Cuba Prison Training Seminars			
Dec. 14, Thursday	Day 1	Dec. 14, Thursday	Day 1
Dec. 15, Friday	Day 2	Dec. 15, Friday	Day 2
Dec. 16, Saturday	Day 3	Dec. 16, Saturday	Day 3

Ongoing: Tuesday Weekly Men's Bible study at Work Camp in West Palm Beach, Florida 6:30-8:30PM

*Pray for the many men and women who are now making the right decisions in their life.*

**HELP IS NEEDED - To Become an Impact Partner go to this link:**



[http://www.thesolidrock.org/Solid\\_Rock\\_Ministry/Impact\\_Partners.html](http://www.thesolidrock.org/Solid_Rock_Ministry/Impact_Partners.html)

## Praise Report

Praise the Lord for doors opening in Cuba for the first Christian Festival, prison ministry training and worship leaders training.

Praise the Lord for the many gang leaders that are finding Christ to be who they have been looking for in all the wrong places. Many are coming to Christ through the Church Behind Bars.

Praise the Lord for the finances that enable us to continue building His Kingdom in two very difficult mission fields.

Praise the Lord for giving us the good health and energy to do all that we do each year in reaching some really hardened criminals with the hope of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Praise the Lord for the Church Behind Bars that is beginning to surface in the men and women's units.

Praise the Lord for the many volunteers who come each month.

**WE LIVE AND WALK IN YOUR ANSWERED PRAYERS! Thank you.**



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