

Kalamazoo Free Methodist Church

H.I.M. Ministry

2009 BIKER TEAM MINISTRY PLAN



With a positive close to the 2008 riding season 2009 is shaping up to be the most positive year in the five year history of Hogs in Ministry biker ministry at Kalamazoo Free Methodist Church.

The highlights of the 2008 season are numerous but to mention a few: We were represented at numerous blessings, local charity rides and events including having a booth at the Sturgis Toy Run. Members of our team were involved in several military funerals with members of the Patriot Guard and Rolling Thunder. We manned a booth at the spring motorcycle swap meet at Wing's Stadium. We sponsored a ride to Mackinaw as part of the World Impact project. Although weather hampered this effort significantly some money was raised and good team building occurred for the 11 who participated. (We were also able to stop in Manton and worship with Pastor Jim and Trish Thompson as a part of this event.) We sponsored a bike show and ride as part of the 125th anniversary celebration. Several of our members continue to be active in the jail ministry at Kalamazoo County jail on a weekly basis. Finally several new members were added to our group this past year that have infused new energy and excitement into our ministry team. As a result of these efforts countless contacts have been made and we are beginning to have a more productive ministry with those whom the world sees as outcasts – outlaw bikers, criminals, addicts and others. Our season ended with a great fall color ride on 10-12 during which a new couple who are interested in membership joined us.

As we move into a new year we have significant plans for ministry and outreach including the following:

1) Continue our weekly Bible study which is currently going strong with an average attendance of approximately twelve on Wednesday evenings. As part of this Bible study we will devote 6-8 weeks to a CHANGE class at least twice during the coming year as potential new members join our ranks. This study provides good discipleship materials for newer Christians, the plan of salvation for pre-Christians, and a good review for those who have been in the faith for a while. The next edition of the CHANGE class will begin on October 15, 2008.

As a result of offering the CHANGE class we anticipate patching new members several times during 2009 with the goal of adding at least 10 active new members to our ministry team. At the present time at least four potential members are attending our Bible study with plans to join us.

A number of potential HIM members living in the Dowagiac/Decatur area are also interested in participating in a CHANGE class. Because of ministry involvement in their own churches they are unable to make a Wednesday class and another time will be arranged to accommodate this group. This group hopes to eventually plant a new HIM chapter in a local church in Cass County.

2) Early in 2009 we hope to resurrect our Celebrate Recovery ministry offering groups for those suffering from drug and alcohol and other addictions. Several of our members are very excited about being a part of this vitally important ministry and details are currently being worked out to get this program going again.

3) 2009 will also see a resurrection of our Biker day, with some significant changes. We plan to move from Sunday to Saturday with August 22 scheduled as the 2009 date. While remaining on site at KFM for this event the focus will change somewhat. Vendors will replace the hog roast saving countless hours of work and seriously reducing costs; Cross Addicted (HIM's own band) will provide music at several times during the event including as a warm-up to a brief evangelistic message; in addition to our normal ride rodeo bike games will be held to further enhance the event for bikers. While extremely tentative the schedule for this day will look something like this:



- 11:00 a.m. – Registration Opens with Vendors in place
- 1:00 – 3:00 – Cross Addicted, Bike Show, Vendors
- 3:00 – Ride leaves church for those who are interested – Vendor area remains open
- 4:00 – Bike show prizes awarded, Cross Addicted show, evangelistic message
- 5:00 – Biker Rodeo games – clean-up at conclusion of games

Our hope is to utilize more and more help from other Christian biker ministries and less from KFM in the execution of locally sponsored events. We express a great deal of thanks and appreciation to the many members and friends of KFM who have been supportive of our efforts in the past and we pray that this support continues. Without the assistance of non-bikers at KFM this ministry would not exist as it currently does.

4) Our plan for 2009 is to continue participating in local events as much as possible as a means of reaching out to the lost in the biker community. As part of this effort we are planning two significant rides – one in the spring and one in the fall. Early in the 2009 riding season we are planning a long

week-end trip to the Smoky Mountains that will include riding the Dragon. Our fall trip will be a return to our annual Black Hills Rally trip. Our goal is for each HIM member/Christian biker participating in these events to recruit a pre-Christian biker to participate with them with the goal of building relationships that will lead to opportunities to share the gospel.

At times it has seemed like our biker ministry was never going to get to the point that we wished it to be but we have, with God's help turned a corner and progress is being made. We rest in the promise of Jeremiah 29:11 for 2009 "For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord. They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.

In His Service with Great Joy

Pastor John "Doc" Burgess
Church Shepherd

Rod "Joker" Pauley
Church Under Shepherd



Pastor of Kalamazoo Free Methodist Church and
H.I.M. Member Pastor Bruce Rhodes