



GOLDEN KEY
PRISON MINISTRY

Pastor Curt Carter—Executive Director

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Serving: Broome, Chemung, Tioga & Tompkins County
Jails and Elmira & Southport Correctional Facilities

“Pray for the Church at Elmira C. F.”

In early December, the Protestant Chaplain left Elmira Correctional Facility for an undetermined length of time. As volunteers, we work under the authority and direction of the chaplain to minister to the nearly 2000 inmates at Elmira CF. The inmates like a routine they can count on so anything that brings disruption to the normal schedule affects church attendance and participation in Bible studies.

The **GOOD NEWS** is that God is at work! We are now working with Catholic Chaplain Deacon Douglas Farwell and he has already been very supportive of the Protestant community. We have been meeting in the Catholic chapel due a December flood (another disruption) in the Protestant chapel and Deacon Farwell has been helping us by getting our regular communion service and an inmate choir reestablished. There has been an increase in church attendance as men are returning to see what God is doing in the “new” church.



Please continue to give us prayer support as we move forward following the Lord’s plan!

“Congratulations Chaplain Jesse Barrett”



Chaplain Jesse & Margo Barrett
with Midori and Harrison

In September 2014, Jesse Barrett joined the **Golden Key Prison Ministry Team** with a deep desire on his heart to be in full-time Christian ministry. He has gotten increasingly involved in serving the inmates in local jails and Elmira C.F. More recently the Lord opened the door for him to fill the pulpit in churches without pastors. On Sunday March 5, 2017, he began a pastoral internship with **First Baptist Church of Interlaken!**

Jesse has also been busy raising support from new donors to Golden Key for the jail and prison ministry that he wants to continue. He has already raised a substantial part of his monthly prison ministry support. Please pray as Jesse and his family acclimate to their new roles in full-time ministry. Also pray that they will have the support they need as they step out on their new **faith adventure**.

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Check us out at “www.goldenkeyprisonministry.org” and “like” us on Facebook!

Easter and Passover

As Jesus and His disciples sat down to enjoy the Passover feast in the upper room, He told them: ***"With fervent desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I say to you, I will no longer eat of it until it is fulfilled in the Kingdom of God"*** (Luke 22:15). This Passover had great historic importance to the Lord:

- ♦ It was the last Passover He would have with His disciples before He went to the cross.
- ♦ It was the last time He would enjoy this kind of fellowship until the Supper of the Lamb with all believers in heaven.
- ♦ And it was at this Passover He was going to reveal the true significance of the elements of Passover that would establish the sacrament of Communion for the church.



The disciples had been celebrating Passover since their childhood, but now the Lord was about to introduce some very new meaning to a familiar, old celebration. Four cups adorned the Passover table representing God's four promises to Israel from Exodus 6:6:

- ♦ "I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians..."
- ♦ "I will free you from being slaves..."
- ♦ "I will redeem you with an out stretched arm..."
- ♦ "I will take you as my own people and I will be your God..."

There was also a stack of three matzos, unleavened bread, that the Jewish people had always felt represented the patriarchs Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. During the Passover, the middle matzo was broken and half was wrapped in a white napkin and hidden while everyone closed their eyes. We know that the three matzo represent our triune God. Jesus is the second matzo who is broken for us, wrapped in burial cloths and hidden for awhile in the grave. How surprised the disciples must have been when

Jesus took that normally hidden second matzo and said, ***"This is my body which is given for you..."***



The third cup on the Passover table was called the ***"Cup of Redemption"*** because it represented God's promise to purchase His people out of slavery. Jesus again surprised His disciples by raising that cup and saying, ***"This cup is the new covenant [agreement, promise] in my blood, which is shed for you..."*** Jesus made it clear that our redemption from slavery to sin would only come at the price of the shedding of His precious blood! Praise God!

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