

chronicles

a look inside...

+ restoration chapel

We're taking you inside our prison ministry at Cuyahoga Hills Juvenile Correctional Facility.

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+ clc

12 men. 2 years. Total confidentiality. Hear the perspective of 5 graduates.

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+ special needs

Looking beyond the limits of body and mind to see the soul of ministry.

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Some of the Restoration Chapel volunteer team praying before a Wednesday evening service.

What's Really Going On?

A couple of years ago, I had the opportunity to spend a day on a working nuclear submarine. Don't ask me how I got that opportunity or, as the saying goes, I might have to hurt you. Anyway, before I boarded the submarine I had to sign a paper that explained I would not be returning for six months if a state of emergency was declared while I was out to sea on the sub. I like signing papers like that because it reminds me that every once in a while I get to play for keeps.

By Pastor Joe Coffey

Joe Coffey is the Lead Pastor at Christ Community Chapel. For more from Joe, follow him on Twitter @joecoffeytalk or on his blog at joecoffeytalk.com

All I knew about submarines was that they could go deep underwater, shoot torpedoes and cause general havoc for enemy boats that floated on the surface. By the end of the day, I knew quite a bit more. Every room was filled with new things to know and deepened my awe and respect for all a submarine could do.

For many of you, our church is like a submarine: you know it puts on worship services, and we hope you feel they actually help draw you closer to God, but once you climb inside you will find a whole different world. The ministries of our church are filled with dedicated and amazing people, where each ministry is like a room that will surprise and hopefully inspire you.

This issue of the *Chronicles* is designed to introduce you to some ministries deep down in the sub. Enjoy. Oh, and you can tell other people what you see. No one will threaten to "take you out."

DID YOU MISS MARILYN?

Hey kids, don't forget to look for our friendly church mouse, Marilyn. She is always hidden somewhere in each issue.



DID YOU KNOW?

More than 220 people accepted Christ as their Savior in 2012 as a result of God's work through Christ Community Chapel!

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WELCOME HOME STOW UPDATE

Did you know that construction for our Stow campus building has already begun?

Even with weather restricting outdoor construction, many parts of the building are being put together in an indoor facility. So when you drive past 3900 Kent Road in Stow, you may only see the foundation being built, but plenty is going on behind the scenes. Check out these architectural renderings, blueprints, and photos of the construction site and progress. For the most up-to-date information, visit WelcomeHomeStow.com.

Architectural Renderings



Pre-built interior walls



Current construction site



FUN RESOURCES FOR YOU!

We've created resources to help you figure out your action plan for being a bridge. If you've missed out on any of the vision series, simply visit our website where you will find all the Be A Bridge sermons as well as resources and practical ideas to help each of us be a bridge to our neighbors, communities and world.

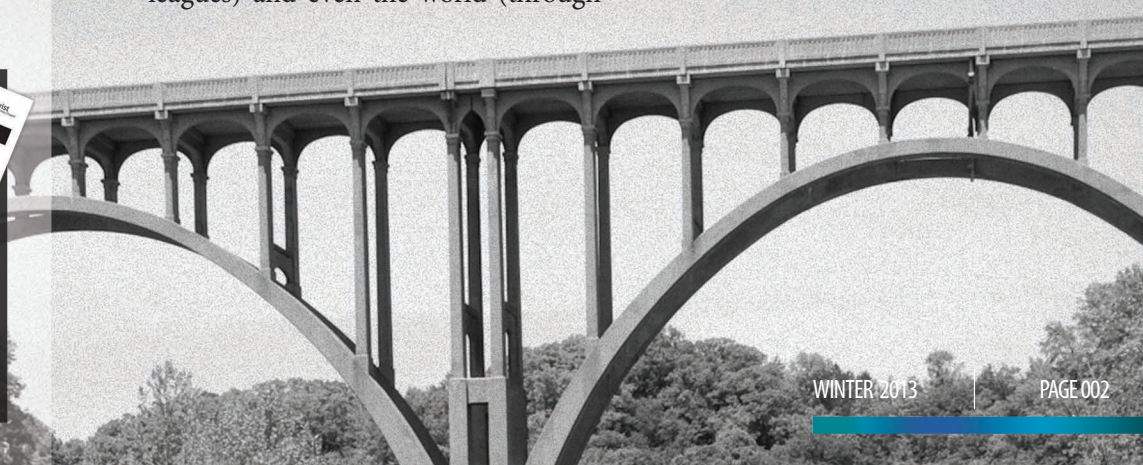
cchapel.com/BeABridge

BE A BRIDGE RECAP

Is it possible that you could be the bridge God uses to help a neighbor, co-worker, golf partner, struggling mom, ailing relative or close friend find eternal life in Christ? Keep your eyes open this year for opportunities God gives you to bridge into your neighborhoods, communities (through your hobbies, activities, causes, children's leagues) and even the world (through

mission trips and justice and mercy projects).

Have you already found a way to be a bridge? Go online and share it with us. Do you need ideas on how to be a bridge? The Be a Bridge page is for you too.



a peek inside restoration chapel

RESTORATION CHAPEL MEETS EVERY WEDNESDAY EVENING INSIDE CUYAHOGA HILLS JUVENILE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY.

Restoration Chapel, the first CCC venue of its kind, is helping juvenile inmates in Northeast Ohio begin true, restored relationships with Jesus Christ.

What began in 2011 as a vision to plant a campus in inner-city Cleveland resulted in Restoration Chapel, a worship venue for the inmates of Cuyahoga Hills Juvenile Correctional Facility (CHJCF) in Highland Hills. CHJCF houses young men from all over the state of Ohio between the ages of 12 and 21 who have committed crimes ranging



Highland Square Campus Pastor Marshall Brandon with Richard White



Richard White hosting a service at Restoration Chapel.

from petty theft to felony murder.

One of the few remaining facilities of its kind in the area, CHJCF has taken a holistic approach in the care of its inmates. In a *Vindicator* newspaper interview last fall, Kim Parcell, a Department of Youth Services spokeswoman, said they work hard to make the facility full-service in order to meet the diverse needs of juvenile offenders. Because of this approach to repairing the lives of these youths, Restoration Chapel became a welcome addition to nurture the spiritual lives of inmates.

In early 2012, Restoration Chapel began giving the inmates an option to attend a worship service during their free time every Wednesday evening as opposed to other activities like basketball. CCC's Leader of Restoration Chapel Richard White works to recruit volunteers, host

services and pastor the young men who attend, while continuing to expand the original vision.

"I'm passionate about what God is doing here because I have a desire to see these young men transformed by the Word of God,"

Richard said. "[God] is opening their eyes to a new way of life."

A service at Restoration Chapel looks much like one at any of our campuses, with a few major differences. Inmates set up the chapel each week and connect the audio-visual equipment. The service begins with worship for the group which has grown to 60





Luther E. Ball High School, a fully accredited school, connects Restoration Chapel to the living facilities of CHJCF and offers regular and GED classes for inmates.



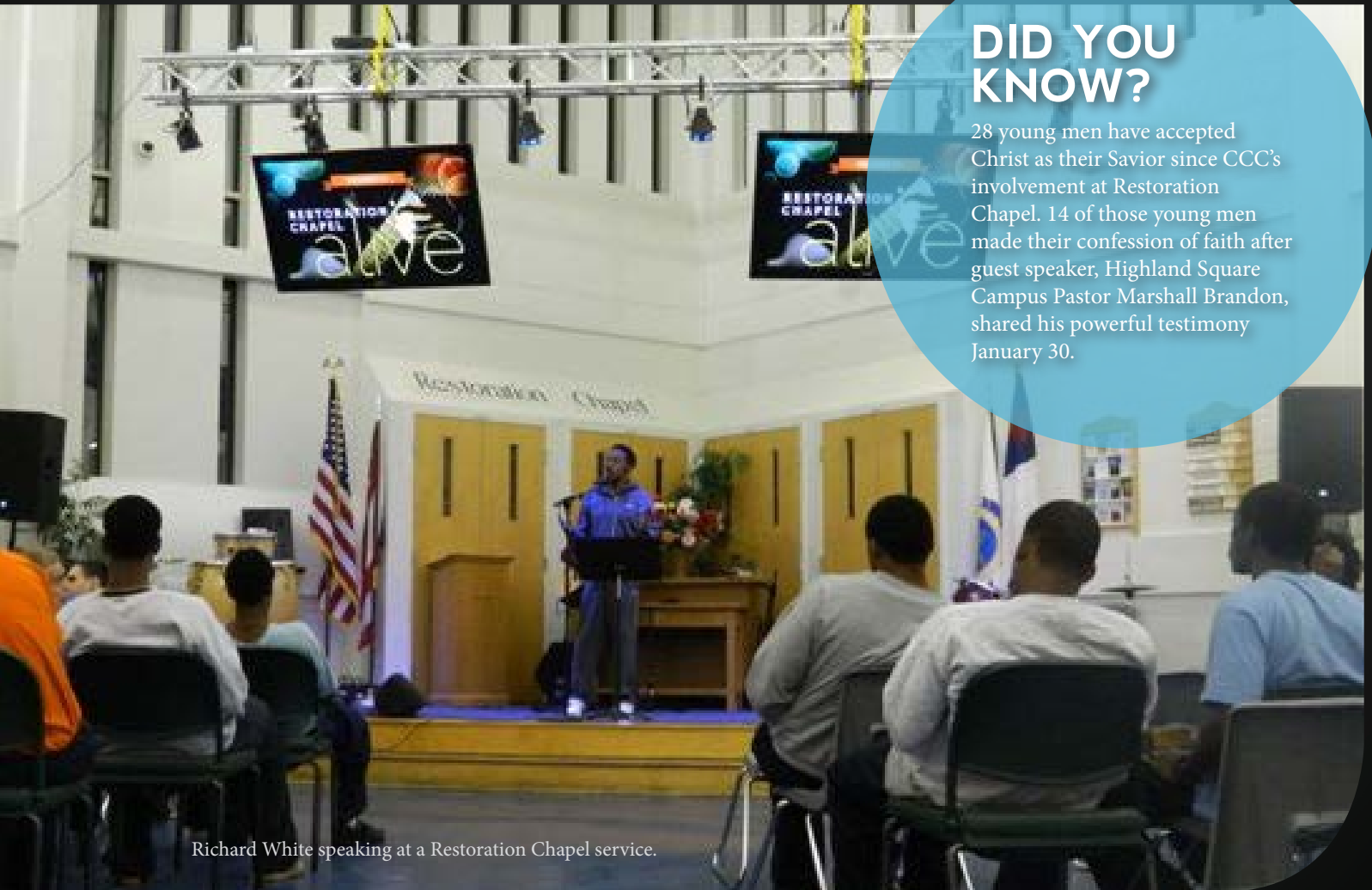
A Restoration Chapel volunteer leads a small group discussion. [Due to State of Ohio confidentiality laws, faces of CHJCF youths may not be revealed.]



Part of CCC's Restoration Chapel volunteer team.

DID YOU KNOW?

28 young men have accepted Christ as their Savior since CCC's involvement at Restoration Chapel. 14 of those young men made their confession of faith after guest speaker, Highland Square Campus Pastor Marshall Brandon, shared his powerful testimony January 30.



Richard White speaking at a Restoration Chapel service.

members. This is followed by either a recording of CCC's latest sermon or live preaching.

Following the service, volunteers engage inmates in a 30-minute small group discussion over snacks about the message they just heard.

This builds relationships designed to help volunteers connect with prisoners, upon their release they can continue to be disciplined in their relationships with God. For more information or to volunteer at Restoration Chapel, email Richard.White@cchapel.com



Each inmate is required to wear a different colored t-shirt depending on which county they are from.

WHAT'S SAID IN CLC, STAYS IN CLC

It's true, CLC (Christian Leadership Concepts) groups are highly confidential and don't take visitors, but a few graduates were willing to share their experiences with us. CLC groups are made up of 12 men who meet weekly for two years to be equipped as leaders in order to make an impact for God in their home, church, work and community. With 28 CLC groups under our belt, it is obvious that here at CCC we believe in CLC.

AN INTERVIEW WITH CLC GRADUATE KENTON THOMPSON

What hesitations did you have about CLC, and how were they proven wrong? I did not feel I had the time to devote two hours a week for two years in this venture, nor did I feel good about a 6 a.m. start on Friday mornings. I didn't think I had the time to do the study work for five days each week, and I knew my Bible memorization skills were poor at best. I wasn't at all comfortable with the concept of opening up and communicating my true feelings on personal topics to a bunch of guys – some I knew and some I didn't. I was quite content staying in my comfort zone. All of these concerns couldn't have been more incorrect.

Once I was convinced to commit, I contacted a number of friends and asked them to join me. The weekly meeting with my CLC brothers was one of my favorite times of each week. I enjoyed working on the material and spending time with the Lord doing each day's study. We all grew very comfortable sharing anything with each other and knew whatever was said would stay within our group.

What were your expectations, and how was your CLC experience the same or different? I really didn't know what to expect, but the CLC experience was amazing! As we came close to the end of our two years, we were all asking what do we do next? We didn't want it to end!

What was your primary takeaway after CLC? I learned that I had so much more room to get closer to the Lord, my family and my CLC friends. Our CLC brothers still meet once each month for breakfast, and now I have lifelong friends who feel comfortable sharing anything with each other and don't hesitate to hold each other accountable. My bottom line recommendation is this: quit being a typical surface friend with other guys. Take the plunge and join a CLC group. It will be the best thing you do for your relationship with the Lord since committing your life to Him.

"CLC has exceeded my expectations in terms of bearing one another's burdens while exploring for two years what authentic faith looks like in a man's life."
- Robert L. Stager, CLC Graduate

"Originally I thought CLC would interfere with my schedule, but it became the highlight of my week and the work was a pleasure."
- Randy Fasnacht, CLC Graduate

"CLC was and always will be the most awesome experience I have had. We are all better men, husbands, sons, brothers and followers of our Savior Jesus Christ than when we started."
- Tom Scott, CLC Graduate

"The main benefit for me was the relationships that were formed and the realization of the benefits of accountability, friendship and brotherhood."
- Tim Grubbs, CLC Graduate



CURRICULUM SAMPLES

- **Strength to Love** by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
- **The Pursuit of God** by A.W. Tozer
- **Teaching to Change Lives** by Dr. Howard Hendricks
- **Radical** by David Platt

READY TO JOIN?

To get more info on how to join a CLC group, stop by your Welcome Center or visit: ccchapel.com/clc

PHOTO ROLL





A Special Kind of Love

Jesus' outreach to people with disabilities was an important part of His ministry on earth. He invited those who were blind, deaf, lame and sick to enter the kingdom of God through a personal relationship with Him. We want to do the same.

Integrating into everyday environments, such as a church, as a special needs adult can be difficult, and raising a child with special needs can be equally as challenging. CCC's Special Needs Ministry provides a place where special needs children, adults and their families are welcomed as full participants in the life of the church.

Kelly Norville, Special Needs Coordinator at CCC, has been developing and modifying classroom curriculum for members of our church with special needs since 2008. "The ministry has grown tremendously in the past couple years as local families seek out a church where the whole family is welcome to attend," she said. Some families have had heart-breaking experiences in which they've been asked not to bring their special needs children to church because of the disruption they could cause.

Kelly and the Special Needs Ministry share a vision for everyone to know Jesus and be introduced to Him in a way each child can understand and accept. Each individual

brings his or her unique abilities and potential challenges to the table, and we hope to meet them there with the Gospel.

To find out more about this amazing ministry, contact Kelly.Norville@ccchapel.com.



Samua & Naomi Cherry

“Many aspects of our lives changed when our daughter Naomi was diagnosed with autism in 2010, but the one I least expected was how it would affect our church life. Naomi used to have horrid meltdowns before we went to church. Honestly, just getting to church was a huge hassle. After her diagnosis, we felt truly alone. No one offered extra support. No one seemed to care.



We heard good things about CCC's Special Needs Ministry and decided to check it out. From day one, it seemed like Naomi could sense the difference. She stopped having tantrums before church and within a couple months was getting very excited to go to her Sunday morning class. About a month ago, for the first time, she stopped what she was doing and prayed to God all on her own!

An event for *Families* with special needs

Look for this icon on posters and slides for events especially for families and children with special needs.

EASTER AT CCC

With Easter around the corner, here are some dates to remember.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES (MARCH 29)

Hudson Campus 7:00 p.m.
Aurora Campus 7:00 p.m.

EASTER SERVICES (MARCH 30/31)

Hudson Campus Saturday: 4:00 & 5:30 p.m.
Sunday: 8:45, 10:00, & 11:30 a.m.
Aurora Campus Sunday: 9:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Stow Campus Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, & 11:00 a.m.
Highland Square Campus Sunday: 11:00 a.m.

MICAH 6:8 WEEKEND

Don't forget about our
upcoming Micah 6:8
Weekend, April 6/7.



For more information on Easter services, visit ccchapel.com/Easter.