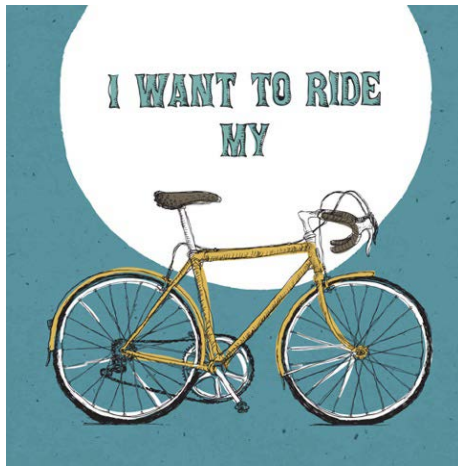


## Pedal for Prisoners VII

by Pastor Rick

Pedal for Prisoners is set to go for the seventh year in a row! New Life will be represented by this terrific trio: Corrine Verschuure, Bill Schinkel, and Pastor Rick. Corrine and Rick will ride in RAGBRAI, the Register's Annual Great Bike Ride Across Iowa. An experienced cyclist, this will be Corinne's twenty-first RAGBRAI. Rick will return to ride his fourth full



RAGBRAI, while Bill will pedal in Bike Van Buren XXXI, a hilly two-day ride in Southern Iowa. Meanwhile, the route for RAGBRAI XLV is fairly flat, covering 411 miles of Northern Iowa terrain in a single week. (See [www.ragbrai.com](http://www.ragbrai.com) for further details.) Although it is the third shortest and third flattest route in RAGBRAI history, the final day will include hills by the Mississippi River. Pray that we will rise to the challenge.

We pray that you, too, will rise to the challenge by providing financial support. Each of us is riding for a reason: to help New Life Prison Community make a big impact. This is our number-one fundraiser of the year. Will you sponsor one of us today?

## Brothers-in-Blue

by Marv Goodyk

You may be asking, "What is Brothers-In-Blue (BIB)?" BIB is a four-day spiritual retreat in a prison setting. It is patterned after a *cursillo* weekend, or the version for teenagers known as TEC (Teens Encounter Christ). Those four days include listening to talks based on God's grace and the Christian life, then discussing each talk in a small group of men with table volunteers. The weekend includes many opportunities to worship and pray.

continued on page 2

## I Need You

by Chris L., member of New Life Prison Community

**"God helps those who help themselves."**

*Possibly one of the biggest lies in church history.*

*God designed us to be in fellowship with Him.*

*God loves us and knows us better than we know ourselves.*

*He is always waiting for us to reach out to Him.*

*He is always waiting to show us how much He loves us.*

*God isn't waiting for us to work things out before He intervenes.*

*He is waiting for us to recognize that we can't do it without Him.*

**"Lord, I Need You!"**

*These are four of the most powerful words you can learn in prayer.*

*When we humbly cry out to God and submit ourselves to His ways, God acts.*

*Do you need help from God?*

*It doesn't matter how small the matter seems.*

*God is waiting to love on you and show you a way of living*

*that is more than you could ever imagine.*

**Cry out to God today.**

*"I give You all the credit, God—You got me out of that mess, You didn't let my foes gloat.*

*God, my God, I yelled for help and You put me together.*

*God, You pulled me out of the grave, gave me another chance*

*at life when I was down and out...*

*You did it: You changed wild lament into whirling dance.*

*You ripped off my black mourning band and decked me with wildflowers.*

*I'm about to burst with song; I can't keep quiet about You.*

*God, my God, I can't thank You enough."*

Psalm 30:1-3, 11-12 (The Message)



**Pastor Rick Admiraal**

PHONE: 641-204-1954

EMAIL: [PastorRick@newlife-prison.org](mailto:PastorRick@newlife-prison.org)

WEB SITE: [www.newlife-prison.org](http://www.newlife-prison.org)

BLOG: [newlifepriisonchurch.blogspot.com](http://newlifepriisonchurch.blogspot.com)



[www.facebook.com/NewLifePrisonCommunity](http://www.facebook.com/NewLifePrisonCommunity)

**Please support Pedal for Prisoners 2017**

Contributions may be sent to: **New Life Prison Community, 408 Maple St., Pella, IA 50219**

I'd like to donate \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to New Life to support

**New Life Prison Community.**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_



# Stephen Leaders training

by Rose Admiraal

From April 23–29, the Stephen Ministry Leaders Training Course (LTC) was held in St. Louis. Gathered with over 300 Christians from across the country, Rick and Rose Admiraal and Marv and Myrna Goodyk learned how to lead, supervise, and train Stephen Ministers within our congregations. Stephen Ministers are members of the congregation who receive specialized training to provide one-to-one Christian care.

New Life began training Stephen Ministers last fall with Larry and Cindy Lubinus as our trainers. We'll finish the 50-hour training course in September. Then we as leaders will assess inmates trained as Stephen Ministers who will be paired up with another inmate in need of care at the Newton Correctional Facility. Please pray that this new ministry will benefit the men in prison and the institution as a whole by showing Christ's love.



Marv, Myrna, Rose, and Rick at Stephen Leaders training.

## Brothers-in-Blue *continued from front*

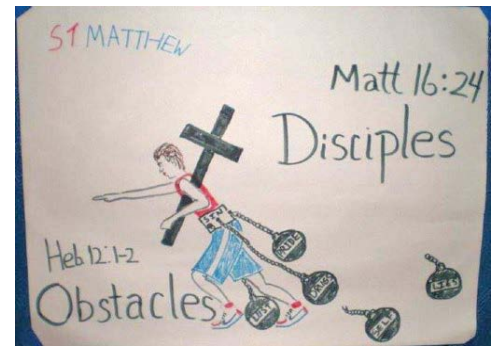
In the past two months, we were able to conduct two such weekends in the Newton Prison system. The first was held in the Newton Correctional Facility and the second at the Release Center. The first event was held March 30–April 2, with 30 volunteers who spent four days with 87 inmates studying the Word, listening to talks, and worshipping together. Our theme song was “Chain Breaker.” During the weekend, many men found out what it was like to have those chains broken by a Prison-Saving Savior. Several men recommitted their lives to the Lord. As a result, Pastor Rick was able to baptize twelve men and have two profess their faith in Christ.

On May 18–21, we were able to bring BIB into the Release Center for the first time. Eighteen volunteers and twenty-four inmates spent four days in their gym. On Sunday afternoon, we held a baptism and reaffirmation service. Five men stepped forward to be baptized, and twelve more came forward to make profession of their faith. Watching the transformation that takes place in the men during those four days is breathtaking! Before BIB, there had been a small group of men meeting at 5:30 each day around a picnic table in the weight yard to study the Bible. During the weekend, that group more than doubled in size. Christians were able to find each other after the weekend of BIB.



Sheryl Hanthorn shared her powerful testimony at BIB.

We see a real hunger for God's Word and Bible study in the prison. It was once said that if there was to be a revival in America, it would start behind the prison walls. We are seeing tremendous spiritual growth in the prison. We give God the glory. Even though we are called to plant the seed, it is God who gives the increase. After this spring's event, first-time BIB volunteer Ken Stursma said, “It was a great time of fellowship and worship.” Two other first-timers were Ed Meinders and Del Zuidema. Ed reflected, “I felt privileged and blessed to attend.” Del added, “I saw what God can



One of the posters made by the St. Matthew table group at BIB.

do, and it was truly amazing.”

I would challenge you to consider becoming a volunteer. We are looking at ways to increase the opportunities for Bible study, especially at the Release Center, and would love to have you join us in making this happen. We surely receive a blessing ourselves when we spend time with the inmates in Bible study. We also have a need for mentors. Pastor Rick can fill you in on what it means to become a mentor, visit one-on-one with an inmate, and encourage him in his spiritual life. God is good, all the time.

## New Life Board Members

- Sheryl Hanthorn (Grace Fellowship)
- Don Rouwenhorst (First Reformed)
- Fran De Haan (Calvary CRC)
- Marcus Van Zee (Sully CRC)

- Marv Goodyk (Sully CRC)
- Phil Goodyk (Third Reformed)
- Ken Stursma (Federated Fellowship)
- Pastor Rick Admiraal (New Life)