**Mission Statement:** The Prison Ministry Commission seeks to share the love of God with people involved in the criminal justice system by providing direct services to prisoners and their families, advocating on their issues, and by recruiting and supporting prison ministers.

To that end, several members of this ministry group volunteered at the Fayette County Detention Center teaching classes and leading Bible study groups weekly until the Covid-19 restrictions. Visitation at the detention center was cancelled for all outside groups in March 2020. We are awaiting the opportunity to return when it is deemed safe for all involved.

Our prison ministry stocking project that has occurred for 19 years, likely will not happen this year due to Covid-19. This project gave Christmas stockings to children who were visiting a parent that was incarcerated. Volunteers filled the stockings ahead of time and gave them to the detention center, where correction officers would hand them out to the visiting children. We are looking into alternative ways to provide this ministry to children with incarcerated parents.

Several members of the diocese were trained to become mentors with Mission Behind Bars and Beyond. Mentors assist a person returning to society for six months to a year, with the intent of helping them stay on a positive life track. This is also on hold due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Respectfully submitted,

Deacon Emily Cardwell