

Challenge Ministries



be ready always to give an answer
I Peter 3:15

earnestly contend for the faith
Jude 3

January 2024

Happy New Year!

As I pondered another brand new year this verse came to mind:

“...but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Phillipians 3:13,14

We have so much to be thankful for today and this past year. Based on how our great God and Saviour has cared for us and worked in our lives in the past we have great courage to face another year. We are eager to “Press On.”

December was a blur. The Santee Christmas Lights was our biggest event ever. Over 6400 Candy Canes. 4,000 tracts. More than 3,000 10 commandment coins and about 400 gospel of John/Romans. Besides the Santee Christmas outreach we still had time to go to San Diego State Grossmont College and Balboa Park handing out hundreds of tracts and dozens of one on one gospel conversations. What an exciting “grand finale.”

We ended up with 6 outreaches to “Starlight Circle” of roughly 1,000 Candy Canes per event. Fortunately, we had help on three of the events with masses of people eagerly taking the candy canes, tracts and gospel of John/Romans.

Our illuminated wagon was a great hit. Cars were backed up for blocks to get in and thousands were walking through to see the Christmas lights in this major San Diego event in Santee. What a great opportunity to reach our community.

The tracts and gospel of John/Romans all had my email printed on them. One evening a very grateful mom sent the following email to me:

Hi,

My 4yr old son wanted us to send you a thank you!

He loves the special coin you gave him and the candy cane. Our family really enjoyed the candy cane story and my 8yr old daughter that has Down Syndrome and Autism is mostly non-verbal but after talking about the resurrection in the story she said “Easter” and that made our whole day!

Thanks again and God Bless!

What a blessing and encouragement this was to us. I can't tell you how many were so appreciative of these simple gifts at Christmas. There were many that offered donations but we turned them down saying we were delighted to be there and wished them a “Merry Christmas.”



We managed one evening to get this great group photo. Dianna and I on the far left. Lisa and Shiela in the back right. Eric, wife Jill, kids Elizabeth and Josaiah. With 8 workers we handed out over a thousand candy canes and tracts in an hour and a half.

NEWSLETTER

Challenge Ministries is a non-profit Christian ministry dedicated to the defense and proclamation of the Gospel and Biblical truth.

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*All contributions are tax deductible

More about December...



We brought a police cap with badge for Dianna to wear one night. She is a natural police woman as you can see. Everyone on the left waiting for her go ahead. One guy with the grocery basket breaks the rules and makes a run for it.



On the right side of the candy cane wagon is the sidewalk and the left and the background is the street full of people. It's hard to imagine that this is just a regular residential neighborhood that comes alive at Christmas time each year.



Besides our 6 nights at the Starlight Circle we took the wagon to Balboa Park for a test run. We had the same great response there as well.



This is our front yard. The Christmas Star on the roof, 12 foot cross, candy canes and lights.

What's Happening and What's Coming???

Pray for workers in the harvest... We are asking our Lord to send us workers that are willing to get involved with this ministry and our outreaches. We have just a handful that assist us and ask the Lord will grant us more workers.

Pray for Dianna and knee replacement January 12... We have been waiting for scheduled knee replacement for Dianna for nearly a year. Just a couple weeks away. Thanks in advance for your prayers.

Begin and End each day with... Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. 1 Thess. 5:16-18

*In Christ,
Jerry and Dianna*