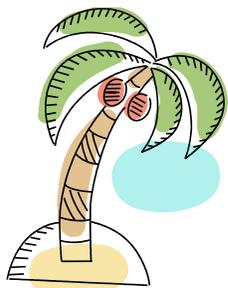




John & Eileen Sala Prison and Teaching Ministry

<http://www.littlelambsinc.org>



# Little Lambs Inc.

PO Box 504 @ 710 S. Eucalyptus St. Sebring, FL 33871-0504 863-471-2626 **SEPTEMBER 2013**



## 2003—2013 Ten Years of Service At 710 S Eucalyptus St.

September 1, 2013 marks the tenth anniversary of our move into our current Ministry location. We spent the months of August and September furiously renovating the old house and actually began ministry here on the first day of September. So many people came from so many different churches and painted, repaired, wired, cleaned, caulked, moved furniture, cleaned windows, and organized the office. We were quite literally overwhelmed with their generosity.

This old house, built in 1925, became the home of Little Lambs Inc Discipleship Training Course which ministers Correspondence Bible Study Courses to inmates across the United States as well as our Ministry in the prisons. A core of faithful office volunteers and graders keep the Word flowing in and out of this precious place. They are not lauded or often recognized, but God knows their names and they will receive from Him their reward, just as He will reward you who make it all possible with your generosity!

Moving into larger quarters allowed us to grow and develop the recovery part of our ministry. Of course, to do this required another renovation .... on the upstairs! We had the good faithful men and women who worked tirelessly to get that ready for service. Ted Tinberg made sure we were well insulated and finished so much of it by himself. As the building grew, so did the ministry. Our classes and meetings touch the lives of so many people, but sometimes it is hard to see. However, I take a trip to Walmart and someone will stop me and talk about the time and the help they got from Little Lambs. Or I have someone over to fix something, and they will tell me how they were helped at one time by Little Lambs and by John. Or have a family member send someone for counseling and they tell me how their relative said this was where they got help. Or a family member will call from out of state about their son or daughter caught in addiction and what can they do. Or the family of the man or woman in prison and can we send a bible study to them. I believe that God reminds me that much of our service is done in secret and sends these people just to let me know that it is all so worth the effort!

We are hoping to reopen Grace Place and continue more recovery ministry this fall. One of the ministry's good friends is Mr. Ed Akers and he is doing all the necessary renovations there so that we will be ready on time. It seems our newest need is that rain damage requires a new front door frame. And he is taking care of it. Jonny and Martha are helping with the landscaping and gardens as he is a horticulturist and Larry Harrell has helped me with moving dirt into the beds. We are praying for God to give us a "ministry team" for Grace Place. He has been sending experienced people our way and we are listening to the Lord. Please pray for **jobs** so that those who have want to serve can support their families as they serve.

It has been a wonderful, fruitful ten years serving with all of you. I know that surely John enjoyed it. We have the best volunteers in the world! I am looking eagerly to another ten years and praying that we all have the faith and courage to be

**servicing when He comes!**

*But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly. But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.. Mt 3:6*



Below is our former office/storefront on North Ridgewood Dr.



**710 S. Eucalyptus St**

Reminiscing .. As I was preparing this newsletter, I read the letter that was in the newsletter of the Open House with John on the ladder in 2004 and it expressed so well the sentiment on the cover of this newsletter that I have decided to include it again! Enjoy and be encouraged as I was.



## THE SAGA OF A BOOKMARK

Dear Friend in Christ..

Enclosed is a bookmark with your name and address stamped on the back. I'm not sure how it came to be in my hand, but I have used it to mark my place in my bible for many months. Every time I look at it, I tell myself that I should write to "Little Lambs" and tell them that somehow their bookmark from Florida came into my hands here in a prison in New Hampshire. We never know how many lives we will touch when we do what the Lord tells us. We never know who he will bless through our good work. I wanted you to know that your hands have blessed me in no small way, because many times when I was close to giving up – I saw the bookmark that you stamped and I remembered that there were people outside that care. The message on the bookmark says "God bless you!" And God has blessed me – a sinner – a terrible man. I have done many bad things – things which I cannot speak of without crying. But this small gift with its simple message has brought me a comfort in time of distress and great soul searching. "God bless you!", it says. Even me a prisoner and a man of low character? It has taught me to ask this question many times. The answer always comes back to me, "yes".

I have used your bookmark to mark the pages of my bible until I wore my bible out and then I used it on another. I marked the story of Abraham and Moses. It set in place while I slowly read over and over Psalm 51. It marked my way through judges and the courage of men like Gideon. I opened my bible to the place where Ruth lay at Boaz' feet – where David killed Goliath – where Job pondered his relationship with God – And Jesus - and Peter – and Paul. The list goes on and on, but I won't. sometimes I get carried away.

I started out to just say thank you because you cared enough to give me something that has helped me, but now I think I've gone on long enough. I've been locked up for three and a half years. I have 14 more to go. With God's help maybe not that much. I'm trying to say that in here kindness is not always something that a person can understand without question. When it comes without price, without consequence – even a small thing – a flag is raised in your head that says, "Look out". Sadly this is true.

But your little bookmark asked for nothing. Your stamped address only raised the question in my mind of 'who are these people?' The message does not ask for anything but rather gives. "God bless you!" What a wonderful gift. I thank you for your time, your prayer, your devotion to God. So – if you wanted to know if your bookmarks got used than the answer is yes. If you wanted to know if your bookmarks really did bless people, the answer is still yes. If you wanted to know if what you do makes a difference, the answer is very much yes. I'll close this letter by asking you to please return the bookmark to me. I've grown attached to it! I often wondered who John and Eileen Sala were. God knows. I think I know too. May God bless you both. May He bless your ministry and your home. May He bless your work and may His Joy and Love fill your lives with Happiness and long life. Al from Berlin

**Graduation at Last** Sully (on the left) came to us six months ago. Entering into our Overcomers Addiction Recovery Program, she attended meetings faithfully for six months every week. She also attended our Boundaries Course for ten weeks. Sully maintained her sobriety and participated fully in the program facilitated by Ms. Kim Tish, on the right. Sully experienced emotional healing and renewed her faith in God.. We are proud of her accomplishments as she had secured a good job and has taken so many steps to get her life in order. Sully now attends her church faithfully with her family.

The Overcomers Program at Little Lambs also graduated Dawn 3 weeks ago. Dawn has done very well and we were encouraged to see the steps she took to reclaim her life. She struggled with a brittle diabetes as well. Once her six month program was complete, she moved to Winter Haven to help her elderly parents. She came to an understanding how her addictive behaviors and severe codependency sabotaged her life.. Please pray for strength for these two young women as they move out on their own and face the world and all its trials and temptations.



### SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER 2013

- Mondays.....Overcomers Addiction Recovery  
Little Lambs Inc @ 7:00 pm
- Tuesdays.....Overcomers Addiction Recovery  
Avon Park Prison
- Tuesdays.....Marriage Family & Parenting  
Avon Park Prison
- Wednesdays.....Overcomers Addiction Recovery  
Bible Fellowship Church @ 6 pm
- Wednesdays..... Anger Management/  
Biblical Boundaries  
First Presbyterian Church, 6:45 pm