newsletter Volume 13 Nov. 2025



Meeting at Reach The Forgotten Jail Ministry 1500 Buchanan Ave. SW • Grand Rapids, MI 49507 Sundays 10:00am & Mondays 6:00pm

CBMI WALL OF PRAYER

May the Truth Be Revealed and May the Truth Prevail!







I met David Perez on May 30, 2024, when he attended CLEAR for the first time. CLEAR, (Coalition, Leadership, Education, Advice, Rehabilitation) was formed about seventeen years ago as a collaborative effort between the Grand Rapids Police Department and Michigan Department of Corrections.

David had been sent to prison for 30 to 50 years for a CSC. He was released on Parole after 30 years. He had been home for three weeks. On Monday, June 3, I picked David up in the morning and brought him to Central Bible Ministries.







Ross Hayes invited David to share his story on June 6, 2024 at CLEAR. David openly, honestly, and transparently shared his story of continual, repeated, horrific, mental, emotional, physical, and sexual abuse by both of his parents, several of his siblings,

and other extended family members, for his entire childhood. His parents would take him to church on Sunday, then bring him home, sexually abuse him, and lock him in a room in the basement.



I invited David to share his story and his testimony at Central Bible Ministries during the Monday morning and evening services on July 1, 2024.















We are the church for those affected by incarceration evidenced by freedom in Christ, transformation, and testimony (2 Cor. 1:10; Rev. 12:11)







David enjoyed purchasing beverages at Costco for our Monday morning and evening services.

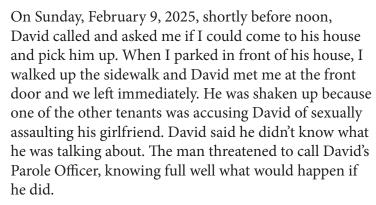




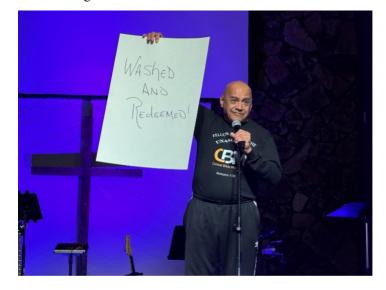


Missionaries Noah & Hannah Kay donated their household furniture to CBMI as they were preparing to leave for the mission field. I was able to bless David with some of their furnishings.





David and I got into my car and we talked for a few



minutes by the curb. Then I drove him to my house and he spent the next six hours in our home where my wife listened to David share his life story in detail. David also called and left a message with his Parole Officer explaining what was happening and the accusations that we being made against him.

On Monday morning, February 10, 2025 I picked David up in the morning and drove him to church where he cooked breakfast for our morning church service. While he was cooking breakfast, his Parole Officer called him and told him not to worry. Everything would be OK.



After the service, I drove David to Costco, where he joyfully purchased over \$100 of beverages for our church services. We brought everything back to church and loaded the beverages into our storage closet.

When I drove David home, he said he would take the bus back to the Monday evening church service. David never arrived at Church

When the Grand Rapids Police received the complaint of David Perez sexually assaulting a woman, they picked him up and took him to Kent County Jail.





At his first and second court hearings, David was offered a plea deal of 15 to 25 years in prison. David refused to take a plea deal. It required him to plead guilty to something he didn't do.

The woman accusing David of sexual attack, appeared in court at his second hearing and testified against David. At no time during any of his court hearings was David allowed to speak.

From the moment we heard that David had been arrested and taken to jail, Sue and I both believed David was innocent and was being falsely accused. We had spent a lot of time with David over those seven and half months. He was at our house for 6 hours on Sunday afternoon, the

day before he was arrested.

His landlord believed David was being falsely accused. His Parole Officer believed David was being falsely accused. His court appointed public defender attorney believed David was being falsely accused. His court appointed public investigator believed David was being falsely accused. Our church family believed David was being falsely accused.

There were some people who assumed David was guilty because of his past crimes. They put David on The Wall of Shame, because he had been arrested and taken back to jail.

We placed David Perez on the CBMI WALL OF PRAYER!
Our prayer was simple and powerful:
May the Truth Be Revealed and May the Truth Prevail!

In mid-May, 2025, David's daughter received a few phone calls from the boyfriend of the woman who accused David of sexual assault. The boyfriend said he has the original letter with the fabricated story of what his girlfriend is accusing David of doing. He said the letter would result in David being set free. He wanted to meet with David's daughter, but she was uncomfortable doing so. He finally sent her a text message, stating that he had the original fabricated document that could set David free. He concluded by saying this was the last time he would contact her and they were moving in two weeks.

On May 14, 2025 at 5:15PM David's daughter sent me a copy of the text message from the boyfriend about the complaint filed against David Perez by his girlfriend:

"Ok that's fine...Hey Ana..No problem with that. Just thought that if his Attorney had the original copies of her fabricated documents...He knowingly making this up..! Do you hear me Ana' I have what I think will have him walk this week free..- (Original fabricated hand written letter.)..This will be the last time you hear from me..- (Moving.) in two wks.."

On Thursday, May 15, 2025, at 9:17AM I copied and pasted that text message to David's Parole Officer. She texted me back. "Good morning, you need to contact his lawyer with this information as this is a new criminal matter. His attorney can help him." I immediately texted it to David's Public Defender Attorney. I followed up with a question: Is there anything I can do to help? His attorney replied: "Not right at the moment."



David's third court date was on June 2, 2025. There were six of us from Central Bible Ministries International in the courtroom all afternoon for moral support and encouragement. David was in shackles in a small holding room the whole time. David never entered the courtroom. The public defender attorney was at another trial. Her replacement was not familiar with the case and had nothing to present the Judge, so he requested a postponement.



I spoke with David on the phone every week, sometimes multiple times. We sent him notes of love and encouragement from his church family.

After 5 or 6 failed attempts to persuade David to take a plea deal to go back to prison for 15 to 25 years, the Judge set David's trial date for November 3, 2025.



On Sunday morning September 28, and Monday evening September 29, I preached from Acts 12:1-25. It's the story of the church praying for Peter while he was in prison. Everyone was shocked and surprised that God sent His Angel to release Peter from prison.

My message was titled, Praying for God to Do It Again. We prayed like we may never have prayed before for David Perez to be released from jail!

On Friday, October 24, 2025 Anna Perez called me to share the amazing news — her father's case was dismissed. He is coming home!







Because it was the weekend, and his Parole Officer is off on Mondays, David wasn't released from Kent County Jail until Tuesday, October 28, 2025. On Friday, October 31 I brought David to Lynn and Jeff Hitchcock's house so they could treat him to lunch.







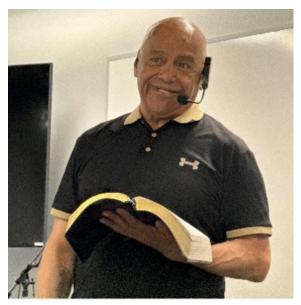


I brought David to church Sunday morning — everyone was so delighted to see him!





I invited David to preach on Sunday morning, November 16, 2025. He learned that Adversity is God's University! David has learned to get out of God's way and let God have His way in his life. To God alone be all the glory and honor and praise for ever and ever! Amen



Central Bible Ministries International is a 501c3 non-profit organization. We receive no government funding.

We Invite You to Partner with us Financially in this Strategic Kingdom Ministry

- Text the word "GIVE" to (844) 973-0157 Visit CentralBibleMinistries.org and click on the GIVING tab
- Mail a Check made out to Central Bible Ministries to: 8056 Burlingame Ave. SW, Byron Center, MI 49315



Church Planters
Pastor John Smith, President
& Chief Encouragement Officer
Sue Smith, Board Advisor
& Chief Discernment Officer
John's Cell: 616-304-8543
john@centralbibleministries.org
www.centralbibleministries.org



Central Bible Ministries
Meeting at Reach the
Forgotten Jail Ministries
1500 Buchanan SW
Grand Rapids, MI 49507
Sunday 10:00am
Monday 6:00pm
Food • Fellowship • Worship
Testimonies • Word of God