



## WARREN COUNTY PRISON

407 Market Street  
Warren, Pennsylvania 16365

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GERALD BRITTON  
WARDEN

STEPHEN SMITH  
DEPUTY WARDEN

*Pastor Jon Swart (Retired)  
(Cable Hollow Church, Russell Pa. 16345)*

*Assistant Clergy to Warren County Prison  
(Volunteer Status but sanctioned through Warren Count), Prison Board)*

*Pastor Swart pioneered an idea of allowing Warren County Inmates to attend outside religious services with in the community. This idea was presented to the Prison Administration, along with an outline of how the program could work and the benefits to the inmate as well as the county. Jon participated in all of the follow up meetings to set the goals and standards of the program as well as the eligibility standards for the participating inmate. The program was adopted and the first 8 inmates attended Cable Hollow Church on Easter Sunday 2009. (Jon was the pastor of the church at that time) With in weeks, new program ideas were incorporated, and we extended the opportunity for the inmate to have a friend or their family to pick them up at the prison and attend the service with them. Since this program was started over 20 inmates have attend Cable Hollow Church, 3 have actually joined the church and continue to attend with their families. Also only 3 inmates that have been released that have attended the program have returned to prison on minor parole violations. This program has expanded to several community churches and over a period of 3 years, over 80 inmates have become involved.*

*Pastor Swart has coined the phrase, "The program is all about new relationships" Jon frequently spends time in the cell blocks just visiting and being a friend. He has initiated a music appreciation program and on 12 December 2011, he presented an inmate choir that actually performed a Christmas program in the county courthouse court room. 3 county judges, police officers, prison staff, public and family members of the inmates attended. Jon spends time working with prison staff and attends special meetings that pertain to prison development.*

*Pastor Jon Swart has changed the lives of many individuals including the attitude of staff and how they interact with inmates. There are no words to describe what he has accomplished in the Warren County Prison except we are all better because of him.*

*Gerald Britton (submitting nominee for partner's award on behalf of the County of Warren.)*

*Warden Gerald Britton  
Warren County Prison  
407 Market St., Warren Pa. 16365  
814 688 4220*