

SPRING 2019

Samaritan MINISTRY

THE LONDON PATIENT AND THE CURE

For just the second time since the epidemic began, a patient appears to have been cured of an HIV infection. The news comes nearly 12 years after the first patient known to be cured, a feat that researchers have long tried, and failed, to duplicate. The surprise success now confirms that a cure for HIV infection is possible, if difficult.

Publicly, the scientists are describing the case as a long-term remission. In interviews, most experts are calling it a cure, with the caveat that it is hard to know how to define the word when there are only two known instances.

The first instance was Timothy Ray Brown, the “Berlin Patient”, who underwent bone marrow transplants for cancer treatment in 2008, and now this second case, dubbed the “London Patient”. Read more about these exciting developments [here](#).



TESTING AT THE OFFICE

We have been excited about the down-trending graph of new HIV infections in the U.S., a trend mirrored by results from Tennessee.

There its also cause for concern, as recent numbers from the CDC suggest a slight up-tick in 2017.

This has been shown also by our own testing at Samaritan Ministry which identified two new cases so far this year.

If you need a test, let us know, or use the link at the right.

TAKE THE
TEST
TAKE
CONTROL
National HIV
Testing Day
June 27

GET TESTED!
Check [HERE](#)
for places to
get tested near
you.



OUR MISSION

Our church should be a beacon of light and hope, by way of Christ, to anyone who suffers from or has family or friends who suffer from this disease.

NATIONAL ATTENTION

We are in the news.



JUDSON-RICE AWARD

Wayne is the recipient of the 19th **Judson-Rice Award**, given to honor Baptists who have consistently and effectively demonstrated Christian leadership with the highest integrity.

The Judson-Rice Award recognizes leaders who make a significant impact through their ministry callings.

Wayne was recognized with a reception and program at Central Baptist Church of Bearden on April 25.

RX CONFERENCE

Wayne was a speaker at the 8th **Prescription Drug Abuse & Heroin Summit**, held in Atlanta on April 22, 23, and 24. The presentation, **Practical Approaches to Addressing the Infectious Disease Consequences of the Opioid Crisis**, outlined some significant progress in Vermont, San Francisco, and Tennessee.

Samaritan Ministry partners with several East Tennessee agencies to promote and implement Syringe Services Programs, one strategy to interrupt these disease consequences.



HARM REDUCTION CONFERENCE

Samaritan Ministry was featured at the **Southern Regional SSP** (Syringe Services Program) and **Drug User Health Institute** conference in Nashville in March.

This conference highlighted collaborative efforts between government, private not-for profits, and the faith community.

CONFERENCE SEASON APPROACHING

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship General Assembly - Birmingham - June 17-21

The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship is a Christian network comprised of individuals and churches that work together to spread the hope of Christ. For 25 years, CBF has been driven by its mission to serve Christians and churches as they discover and fulfill their God-given mission.

We are proud of our long association with CBF and CBF Tennessee.

The United States Conference on AIDS - Washington, DC - September 5-8

Since 2004, we have been a partner with NMAC and the United States Conference on AIDS, the largest domestic gathering dedicated to ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

We will gather and exhibit in DC this September as we work to spread the unconditional love of Christ.

USCA is awesome and we are excited share and learn in this exciting and diverse environment.

RECOGNIZING OUR FINANCIAL PARTNERS

Samaritan Ministry has a terrific financial under-pinning, that comes from the support of a variety of organizations and individuals that represent faith groups and churches, not-for profits and foundations.

Every so often we need to say "thanks" and let you know who these supporters are!

Central Baptist Church of Bearden

General Budget Support and many In-Kind contributions

Broadway CARES/Equity Fights AIDS

Emergency Assistance for our clients, primarily rent and utility assistance

The City of Knoxville

HIV Testing and Food Programs

Cedar Springs Presbyterian Church

General Financial support and Thanksgiving Baskets

Central Baptist Fountain City

General Financial Support and Volunteer Team

East Tennessee AIDS Fund

Financial Support for our Case Management services

FISH of Knox County

Regular and Emergency Food Support

Knox County

Hepatitis C Testing Programs

MAC AIDS Fund

Syringe Services Support

Tennessee Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

General Financial Support through Volunteer Missions Offering

And, of course, we are grateful to the many, many individual donors that ALWAYS close the gaps in our financial need.

SM HAPPENINGS



JIMMY ALLEN PASSING

The world lost a faith leader in January, and Samaritan Ministry lost a friend. Dr. Jimmy Allen, was a past leader of the Southern Baptist Convention, and a founding inspiration for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (a Samaritan Ministry financial supporter since its beginnings in 1996).

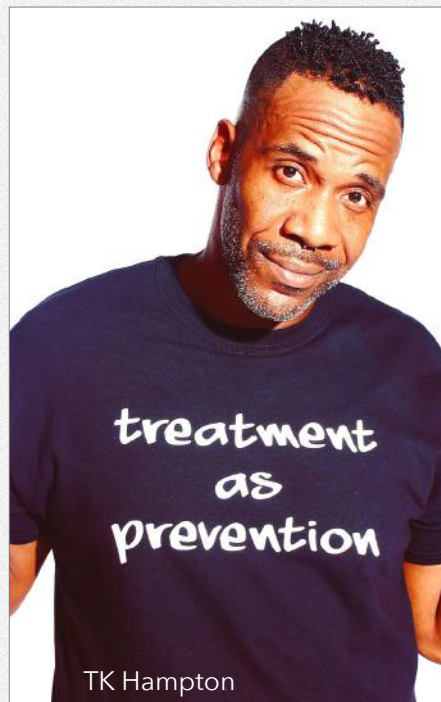
In 1995 Dr. Allen authored a book called *Burden of a Secret*. This book told the story of his family's encounter with HIV/AIDS and the terrible rejection that he faced at the hands of Christians. Stigma, isolation, fear, and ignorance all impacted this family as he wrestled with AIDS diagnoses for 4 family members. Rev. Mack Bingham, one of the ministers at Central Bearden at the time, read Dr. Allen's book and decided that our church needed to learn more about HIV/AIDS and explore ways to impact our community. This was the birth, in 1996, of Samaritan Ministry.



WORLD AIDS DAY AT PELLISSIPPI

We spent another December 1st at Pellissippi State Community College observing World AIDS Day with faculty and students. PSCC **ALWAYS** does a great job engaging students in World AIDS Day activities and they also help us with our Hope Bucket Project.

A special thanks to Kim Thomas-LaRue for many years of service to the students she loved.



TK Hampton

NATIONAL WEEK OF PRAYER FOR THE HEALING OF AIDS

Samaritan Ministry participates in an annual event, sponsored by the FAITH Coalition, that seeks to raise awareness about HIV, particularly in the African-American Community. This year's event featured TK Hampton and his theatrical production called "Getting to Zero."



HEPATITIS, HIV, AND THE OPIOID CRISIS

Locally and Nationally, the Opioid Crisis has made headlines. Overdose deaths are on the increase and statistics are sobering.

More than 72,000 Americans died from drug overdose in 2017, including illicit drugs and prescription opioids—a 2-fold increase in a decade. New HCV (Hepatitis C) infection rates (41,000 in 2016) are three times what they were in 2010. (CDC/Positively Aware)

But, there has been progress in preventing new HIV infections as a result of injection drug use, with 40% of new infections coming from IDU in 1990, but only 6% as recently as 2015. (Positively Aware)

Samaritan Ministry is engaged in this crisis in several important ways:

- 1) We are providing HIV and Hepatitis C (HCV) education in our community. In 2018 we reached 600 with HCV education in 22 separate presentations.
- 2) We are providing HIV and Hepatitis C testing, counseling, and referral. In 2018 we tested 770 individuals using rapid HCV antibody technology with a 32% positivity rate.
- 3) We are providing life-saving Naloxone to our community through local partnerships.
- 4) Samaritan Ministry supports three Syringe Services Programs in East Tennessee.

Do you want to know how to help someone? We suggest a good read in an article just published in the Jan.-Feb. 2019 Edition of Positively Aware. [You can read it here.](#)

And the TENNESSEE **REDLINE** is available for immediate assistance for those needing help.

1-800-889-9789

Samaritan MINISTRY



JOIN OUR 100 X \$100 CAMPAIGN!

We are beginning our Annual Fundraising drive as we seek to underwrite our 2019/20 Budget. We need your support so we can operate programs and services to serve the HIV Community and to advocate for people in our community who often do not have a voice. Your gifts to Samaritan Ministry support our Thanksgiving Banquet and Summer Cookout, monthly grocery deliveries, salaries for our Director and Ministry Assistant, HIV and Hepatitis C testing programs, case management, and many other support services to the men and women we serve.

100 gifts of \$100 will do the trick.

Will you make your gift today?

SAMARITAN MINISTRY

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www.samaritancentral.org

There are two
ways to give:

#1

Send a Check made out to
Central Bearden with
Samaritan Ministry in the
Memo.

#2

Go to our website,
samaritancentral.org
Select DONATE
Choose SAMARITAN