

Invocation for the MDOC Employee Recognition Awards Luncheon
written by MDOC Chaplain Eugene Wiglesworth

Today we come together for the purpose of celebrating the very best in service to the Mississippi Department of Corrections. The individuals chosen to be honored during this occasion represent many who put their lives in between danger and public safety on a daily basis. The employees who serve this department as correctional officers and professionals are about changing lives within our society. Sometimes change comes easy like a gentle breeze, mostly change come like a contrary wind. The storms of change often causes turmoil, blowing in directions we never could have imagined, causing us to struggle and grow in our efforts. Many times change produces results far better than we could ever have anticipated or planned. To steer a steady course through change, it takes everyone concerned to be involved and on board with the same agenda, with one accord and one purpose. Your disciples experienced fear and doubt in the storm of their life until they saw you walking upon the waves through the contrary and changing winds. Then even in the midst of unsettled circumstances they came to receive the Peace of God that passes all understanding. Our nation and our state are going through drastic and unprecedented times of change. We ask your blessings of wisdom and guidance upon our national, state and departmental leaders as they seek to navigate these times of contrary winds and change. It is the people, the leaders and professionals gathered here for this occasion that can make the right kind of changes happen through the Department of Corrections. Change and correcting human lives in positive directions are the business of this department. With this special occasion, we beseech your blessings of grace upon the ones who we celebrate as the finest in our department.