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Welcome 2025!

CHURCH OF THE DAMASCUS ROAD PRISON MINISTRY NEWSLETTER

It's Gonna Be a Great New Year!

After a year of praying and searching we've finally found a property for our new CODR Reentry Facility! It's a 5 bedroom home located at 512 N. 15th St. in Fort Dodge IA. We've gotten zoning approval from the city for a lodging house and we were able to take possession Jan 3rd. This is a huge new step for the ministry as it will allow us to offer safe and affordable housing for the men who are excelling in our reentry program. This also gives us space to do weekly bible studies with our guys and engage in real one on one discipleship during this critical time of transition from incarceration. It's truly an answer to prayer!



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We want to make sure we create and maintain a positive culture so our plan is to start slow and do a great job with just a few guys. We'll have an application/approval process, house rules, house meetings, a house leader and all residents will sign a lease agreement that defines expectations. We'll only have one resident per bedroom so the maximum number of people we'll have at any time will be 5. For the safety of all staff and residents, we'll also be contracting with a security firm to provide cameras for all common areas and property grounds as well as programmable fobs for all the main entrances. Ultimately, providing healthy reentry support in this way not only helps our residents, but makes our communities safer for everyone.

The house is ready for guys to move in as is, but will need significant work done in order to make it a great property long term. Over the next year, we'll be replacing the roof, gutters, soffits, fixing siding, windows, porch and paving the driveway next to the house. We'll also be remodeling and furnishing the inside. We can use all the help we can get so please consider a donation of time, talents and/or money as we create a great living space for our guys. Also please consider joining us for bible studies and meal times!



WEBSITE

*Pastor Kelli would love to visit your church or community group and share about the amazing ministry of CODR!
Just email us at codroffice23@gmail.com*



FACEBOOK

Ministry Update from Pastor Kelli Glasgo



It's hard work having this much fun! God did a great job of bringing us all together this year and showing us about the joy of serving in His kingdom. I continue to be amazed and humbled at how He's growing the ministry and changing the lives of our guys.



November 3rd we celebrated another great year of ministry at our annual CODR banquet. Thanks to all our speakers especially Nick Mount, James Rainer, Vanice Heath, and Kevin Mulling (*pictured right*). These men are doing amazing work in the community and I couldn't be more proud of them.



It's been a busy couple of months as we've been blessed to help a few of our guys move out of the Fort Dodge men's halfway house into their own apartments. At left is Mark Hasse and below is Nick Mount. These men are doing great and we're blessed to have them back in the community. Thank you so much to Candace (*pictured below*) and Dennis Booth for coordinating and storing donated furniture and other household necessities for our guys. You have been a blessing to CODR for many years and the guys are extremely grateful!



HELP! - We would also like to find a place in Fort Dodge to store donated items. Our current storage facility is in Lytton IA and may not be viable long term so if anyone has storage space available in Fort Dodge or knows someone who does, please let us know. It would help immensely.



Reentry Highlight - James Rainer.

James (*or just Rainer, as he's used to being called*) has been a faithful member of The Church of the Damascus Road for many years. He was actually the first guy I met when I started volunteering at FDCF with CODR 6 years ago. Honestly, it's one of the biggest blessings of my life to have the opportunity to spend time with him now outside the fence. God has big plans for this man. Great job Rainer!

CODR WORSHIP

THE FUTURE

Our worship at Rockwell City was great during the Christmas season as we travelled along with Joseph, Mary, Zechariah and Elizabeth in the months preceding Christ's birth. As we shift gears into the new year, we'll be continuing the journey with Luke as Jesus builds his ministry and ultimately makes his way to the cross.

The Tuesday night bible study at Rockwell will also be following along with a DVD set which explores the book of Luke by way of interviews with the main characters such as Theophilus and Luke, Mary, John the Baptist, Satan, James, Matthew and many more.



God has opened doors for us at FDCF to be able to participate in the inmate lead service there once a month. This Christmas we were also able to help with their annual IMPACT Church Christmas Banquet. We had well over 100 men in attendance. Special thanks to all the volunteers and staff for making this possible. Also, HUGE shout out to the inmate Deacon team!

After years of prayer and the efforts of some very determined people (*thank you Larry Lubinus*), we are thrilled to announce that Brothers in Blue will be allowed back inside NCCF for a one day event March 27th from 8-4pm.

BIB has made a huge impact in the lives of so many men over the years so we're excited to partner with them for this incredibly transformational event.



**BROTHERS IN BLUE
PRISON MINISTRY**



One of the biggest blessings for us this year was the opportunity to build relationships with the guys in FDCF through Prison Fellowship Academy. This March we will wrap up our first year facilitating the Academy and graduate 14 guys. Then we'll start back up again with a whole new group in April. We can always use more volunteers so give us a call if you're interested. Pictured left is part of the wonderful Prison Fellowship team.

Upcoming Sermon Series

1/9 - Luke 3

John the Baptist

1/16 - Luke 4:1-13

The Temptation of Jesus

1/23 - Luke 4:13-44

Jesus Begins His Ministry

1/30 - Luke 5:1-32

The First Disciples

2/6 - Luke 5:33-6:19

Fasting and the Sabbath

2/13 - Luke 6:20-36

A Different Kind of Kingdom

2/20 - Luke 6:37-49

Good Fruit & a Solid Foundation

2/27 - Luke 7:1-17

True Faith

3/6 - Luke 7:18-50

The Power of Forgiveness

3/13 - Luke 8:1-18

Fertile Soil

INSIGHT from INSIDE

Our Prison Fellowship Academy participants were asked to give some feedback about the program and what they're getting out of it. Here are some of their responses:

This is a great program. It makes us search what we believe in and thin about our future - **JL**
Experiencing great emotional relief from past trauma. Learning to acknowledge our creator and accept life as his creation her on earth. Scripture memorization has helped with day do day struggles as well as fellowship with other believers. God is good all the time, favorite bible verse - Proverbs 27:17 - **JM**

Since being in this program my walk with Jesus has improved a lot and so has my attitude. My family see how I'm improving and others around me do too. Even though I still have bad days and negative people, thanks to PFA I'm learning how to be a light for others to see how Christ can help. Peace, Love, Hope and Prayer - **WM**

Learning that the only things I control are my thoughts, feelings and action and that only I am responsible for myself and not others. That while my body is in prison, my mind and spirit is free to enjoy life and to continue to learn and grow. If I'm alive, then I have a purpose. Every saint has a past, every sinner has a future! **AW**

Awesome!! Learning to be more patient, tolerant and to ask for help. Having a closer relationship with God. CHANGE!! - **AW**

I think PFA is life changing. I am realizing that my faith is stronger than I thought. I am willing to let my faith be known for the proud Christian I am. **BLS**

Using the skills I've learned in PFA, I'm making better life choices, less angry, praying more, not holding grudges against other, and feeling better about myself. So, thank God that He allows this program in the prison setting and thanks to the team who brought it here and the volunteers.

MG

It's a good, safe environment where you can talk abnd grow yourself with a faith basis. I hope we can have a "graduate" class that can continue the program after the required 42 weeks. **BB**



God is dependable! **Anonymous**

INSIGHT from Outside

Words of Gratitude from Reentry

Hello fellow Christians. For those who have been following my journey or listened to my testimony or were there for my baptism. I would like to let you all know that I finally made it out of the halfway house and into my own house! Life is so food, but God is even better! I appreciate all the advice, the positivity and the encouragement I have received along the way.

The transition has been so smooth from prison to the halfway house and from the halfway house to my own house! I can't wait to see where this journey with Christ takes me! If there is one thing I know, it is that there is no going back for me and there is no giving up on my faith and spirituality. It means everything to me! And to anyone coming from prison I want you to know that you can do it too! All things are possible with God! Special shout out to CODR, They are truly doing God's work!

Nick Mount

Thank You So Much For Your Generosity!

Adam & Inga Sanford - TX, Allan & Armona Redenius - Ft Dodge, Barry Fisher - Gowrie, Brian & Carol Grannon - Ft Dodge, Brian & Lorae Current - Forest City, Brian Underwood - Alta, Charles & Linda Danielson - Ft Dodge, Chris Walker - Ft Dodge, Dale & Lisa Siebrecht - Curlew, Dale & Nancy Bruns, Daniel & Colleen Goodwin - Somers, Deb Zemke - Moorland, Dennis & Candace Booth - Lytton, Elwood & Lavon Rieke - N.D., Everette & Becky Jo Vardaman - Merrill, Gail Boock - Ankeny, Gary & Linda Eichelberger - Manson, George Hedges - Scranton, Georgia Hovde - Webster City, Glen & Sharon Houts - Sioux City, Jack DeWitt - Jefferson, James Willis - Rockwell City, Janet Bird - Somers, Jean Basinger - Des Moines, Jim & Gracia Willis - Rockwell City, Jim & Marilyn Fevold - Humboldt, Jim & Mindy McColley - Ft Dodge, John & Martha Doyle - Ft Dodge, Jon & Terry Mogenson - Manson, Judith Walrod - Somers, Keith & Kay Lowe - Waterloo, Kenneth & Joelle Puck - Manning, Kim/Amy Courter - Rockwell City, Larry & Cindy Lubinus - Boone, Larry & Karen Handy - Ft Dodge, Lee & Molly Gallentine - Webster City, Linda Galbraith - Laurens, Lyle & Hilda Hartling - MO, Margaret Jackson - Ft Dodge, Mark & Connie Gustafson - Ft Dodge, Marlyce Hauge - Manson, Matthew & Lynnae Harvey - Ft Dodge, Mel Renken - Manson, Melba Shelby - Ft Dodge, Mike Cormack - Corning, Noel & Linda Singer - Webster City, Paul & Noralyn Erickson - Dayton, Paul Stone - Eagle Grove, Richard & Betty Houge - Ft Dodge, Rodney Amlie - Humboldt, Roger Natte - Ft Dodge, Ronald & Norine Powell - Stratford, Sandra Mickelson - Badger, Scott & Solveig Lundgren - Ft. Dodge, Steve & Barb Licata - Dakota City, Steve Pederson - Ft Dodge, Troy & Karyn Leininger - Spencer, William & JoAnn Robb - Webster City

Augustana Lutheran Church - Manson, Bethany Lutheran Church - Emmetsburg, Bethany Lutheran Church - Laurens, Bethany Lutheran Church WELCA - Emmetsburg, Ebenezer Church Women - Audubon, Elfsborg Lutheran Church - Pomeroy, Elk Creek Lutheran Church Memorial - Kensett, Emmanuel St. John Lutheran Church, Lytton, Evangelical Lutheran Church Women - Eagle Grove, Exira Lutheran Church Women - Exira, Faith Lutheran Church - Holstein, Faith Lutheran Church - Marcus, First Covenant Church - Ft Dodge, First Lutheran Church - Algona, First Lutheran Church - Sioux Rapids, First Presbyterian Church - Jefferson, First United Methodist Church - Ft Dodge, Grace Lutheran Church - Ft Dodge, Holmes Evangelical Lutheran Church - Home Circle - Holmes Immanuel Lutheran Church - Harlan, Immanuel Lutheran Church - Waukee, Inmates FDCF, Inmates NCCF, Kanawha Lutheran Church Women - Kanawha, Living Faith Lutheran Church - Le Mars, Lost Island Lutheran Church - Ruthven, New Covenant Christian Church - Ft. Dodge, Our Savior's Lutheran Church - Albert City, Our Savior's Lutheran Church WOW - Callender, Rock Creek Lutheran Church Women - Rock Creek Saint Paul's Lutheran Church - Rockwell City, Samuel Lutheran Church - Eagle Grove Samuel Lutheran Church Women - Eagle Grove, Spirit of Hope Church - Rockwell City St John Lutheran Church Women - Cushing, St. John Lutheran Church - Corwith, St. John Lutheran Church - Palmer, St. Mark's Episcopal Church - Ft Dodge, St. Olaf Lutheran Church WELCA - Belmont, St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church - Rockwell City, St. Paul's Lutheran Church - Rockwell City, Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church - Fort Dodge, Trinity Lutheran Church - Linn Grove, Wheatland Presbyterian Church Women - Wall Lake, Zion St. John Lutheran Church - Sheffield

Ministry Goals

MENU

Here are some of the great ways we'll be investing in the Kingdom in 2025



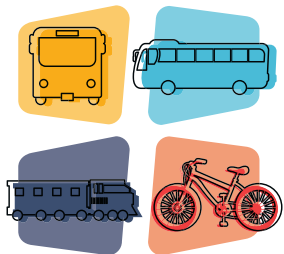
CODR Reentry House

We've purchased the house, now we're going to fix it up so that we can provide great living space for our guys and improve the quality of our neighborhood. This year we would like to invest in a new roof, new gutters and soffits, fixing siding, a new porch, new windows, and a new driveway. It's a lot but we're confident that this investment will significantly add to the value of the house and pay off in the long run.



Worship

We support the Christian worship services inside the Fort Dodge and Rockwell City IA prisons by providing: Pastoral Leadership for services, supplies for the sacraments of baptism and communion, coffee and cups, free bibles, journals and devotional materials as well as musical instruments and sound equipment for our worship teams.



Transportation Support

One of the biggest needs in Reentry is transportation support. We provide new and refurbished bikes for guys in reentry as well as rides to: jobs, interviews, appointments, church and recovery meetings. We also provide bus passes as an incentive for the men at the Fort Dodge halfway house to complete their treatment assignments via the IDOC tablet program.



Scholarships and Incentives

We provide gift cards and free haircuts as incentive for guys at the Fort Dodge halfway house to complete their treatment assignments via tablet. In 2025 we would also like to provide educational scholarships to men enrolled at Iowa Centra Community College. This greatly increases their marketability in the workforce and helps our community grow!



Celebrations

We help the men inside FDCF and NCCF celebrate the miracles of Christmas and Easter by providing funding for Christmas Card postage and Christmas and Easter Banquets (catered by HyVee). At the men's halfway house, we provide an annual cookout for residents and staff as well as holiday gift cards for the residential officers who do such a great job!

Donations can be mailed to 239N 11th St, Fort Dodge IA, 50501
We are a registered 501c3 nonprofit



Join us for worship!

The worship experience inside the prison is amazing and the guys love knowing that they're not forgotten



Connie's Closet

We supply the Fort Dodge Men's halfway house with basic needs like clothing and hygiene supplies



CODR Church Council

Come Join our amazing team of leaders as we provide for the needs of the ministry and plan for the future



Re-entry Support

We help individuals with the transition to society after release by providing appropriate support for their needs



Financial Support

We're able to do this incredible work because of the financial support we get from people like you!



Join us for PFA!

Prison Fellowship Academy is an amazing opportunity to disciple men as they prepare for life after incarceration



We're blessed with some of the best volunteers in the world and would love for you to prayerfully consider joining our team! It's an amazing opportunity to engage in real discipleship and kingdom building. Our volunteers consistently tell us that they get way more than they give. Give us a call!



**THE CHURCH OF THE
DAMASCUS ROAD**
PRISON MINISTRIES

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