



"For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me."

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- The need for housing in Re-entry Ministry
- Ministry update from Pastor Kelli
- Thank you to our donors
- Notes from Inside and Outside the walls
- Upcoming Events
- Volunteer opportunities



We could use your prayers!

As we're discerning how CODR can best serve the Kingdom post Covid, it seems that safe and affordable housing is the biggest need for individuals re-entering society after incarceration. Men in the re-entry process don't just need a place to sleep, they need a caring and structured environment where healthy habits are taught and supported. Most of all they need a place where the Gospel of Jesus Christ is lived out.

So to that end, CODR would like to start a residential facility for men transitioning out of incarceration. We've created a business plan and are looking at potential properties. Please keep us in your prayers as we seek God's guidance in this incredible new adventure!

Invite the Pastor

Pastor Kelli would love to visit your church or small group and share about the work of CODR Prison Ministry! He's also available to fill pulpit supply. Please e-mail us at the address below to arrange a visit.



MINISTRY UPDATE FROM PASTOR KELLI GLASGO

Hello CODR Family! I hope your summer has been fun and relaxing. I can't believe it's almost time for school to start. Summer always goes by so quickly! I can't complain though, my family and I have had a great time and made the most of it. I'm actually looking forward to school starting and getting back into more of a routine (don't tell my kids) 😊

The prison ministry has been busy this summer as well. Our weekly service at Rockwell City Prison has continued to grow with new guys showing up as others are being released. We did 4 baptisms and 6 reaffirmations of faith recently so the kingdom is growing! The guys have been stepping up, getting involved in the service and our volunteers have been amazing. I just found out last night that a new batch of volunteers will be having their orientation soon, so that will bring our total volunteers at Rockwell up to around 20! Thank you to everyone who has participated. It means so much to the guys to know they are not forgotten.

I'm also very pleased to report that we were able to get back into the Fort Dodge Prison for worship after a 3 1/2 year absence. Unfortunately at this time they are only letting clergy into the facility so volunteers are not allowed yet, but we're praying that this changes soon. I've also just recently been informed that the prison chaplain has accepted a new position out of state and that until they find a new chaplain, I will not be allowed to go in for services. It's frustrating, but we know God has a plan. Please keep the Fort Dodge Prison in your prayers. Staffing shortages are what's hindering our access, so we pray that new correctional officers are hired and trained soon and that the guys continue to worship on their own.

On the re-entry side, we've continued building partnerships with the good folks down at the Fort Dodge Community Corrections Center (men's halfway house). Soon we'll be able to communicate with men via tablet, prior to their release, to support their re-entry plans. The IDOC is very motivated to partner with local re-entry groups so this part of the ministry is expanding fast.

What we've continued to hear from all the stakeholders in the process is that housing is the biggest concern. Great resources are currently available to support the men's treatment, health care and mental health needs and employment is relatively easy to get in our current job market. Where men struggle most is finding a healthy place to live and forming healthy relationships. When the only available housing is in rundown, crime infested neighborhoods and there is no healthy family support structure, it's only a matter of time until good people, who are trying hard, start to lose hope. We want to fill that gap by providing a safe and supportive living environment for men. It's a big task so we could use your prayers and financial support. Thank you so much for all you do for this ministry. It's making a difference!

- Pastor Kelli

Ministry Supporters for June, July, August

Bethany Lutheran Church
Lyle & Hilda Hartling
Paul Stone

Trinity Lutheran Church - Milford
Reginald & Robert Yoder
Augustana L.C. - Manson
New Covenant - Fort Dodge
Ronald & Norine Powell

American Lutheran Church - Melvin
Faith L C - Marcus

Christ Lutheran Church - Fort Dodge

First Lutheran Church - Algona

Our Savior's LC - Albert City

Saint Paul's LC - Rockwell City

Grace LC - Fort Dodge

Lorae Current

Faith L.C. - Holstein

Good Hope LC - Titonka

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Alan & Connie Bergman

Adam & Inga Sanford

Carol Rich

Dennis & Candace Booth

George Hedges

St. Paul's Rockwell City

Our Savior's Albert City

Bethany LC Laurens

New Covenant Christ. Fort Dodge

Our Saviours Humboldt

Elwood & Lavonne Rieke - ND

Brian Underwood

Jim & Mindy McColley

Mel Renken - Manson

Lost Island Lutheran - Ruthven

Steve & Barb Licata - DC

Margaret Jackson - FD

Glen & Sharon Houts - Sioux City

Mark & Connie Gustafson - FD

Dennis & Candace Booth - Lytton

Paul Fitzgerald - Forest City

Jay & Nancy Borchardt -

Good Hope - Titonka

Faith Lutheran -

Leah Glasgo

Jacob Marxen

Steve Pederson

Tamera Snyder

Notes from the Inside



God of My Salvation By Brennen Weiland, (Deacon/inmate FDCF)

God of my salvation, why did I ever leave
I ran and I suffered until I could no longer breathe
I was only a kid with emotions that bounced up and down
I was bullied and tormented and turned to drugs,
I was thrown to the ground

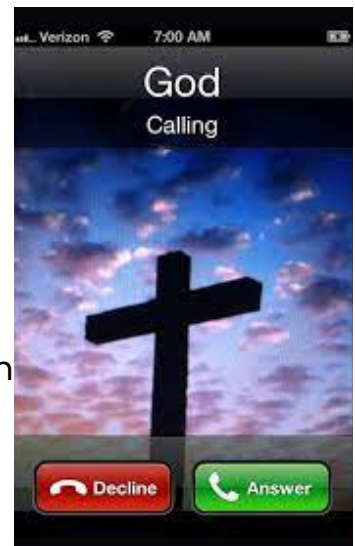
God of my salvation, why did I ever leave
I felt like I was different, like I was not one of yours
Like a misfit toy that forever sits on that shelf in the store
I could not find what was wrong, I could not understand
How could a lost soul like me ever survive in this land
Drugs replaced you, they made me feel better that I ever felt
But they lied to me, now I am living in my own hell

God of my salvation, why did I ever leave
You brought me into this world, you gave me something to believe
You were loving, you were gracious, you gave everything to me
Yet I turned to a drug which leaves me in bondage,
only something you can set free
I've been in rehab, I've been in jails and now I find myself in prison
One constant always remains; the news of the good Lord has risen

My name is Jerald Hill
(inmate FDCF),
Last week I got bad news
about my mom not
doing well.
She was starting to
become sick.
So me and Chaplain Tim
prayed about her and
for her.
This last Saturday I
called home to my mom
to see how she was
doing.
Well, she told me that
she had stopped
drinking and doing drugs
and she is getting help
to do better.
I praise God for being
there for my mom.
Amen.

Notes from the Outside

God calls all persons into communion with Him, including those who are incarcerated. Prison ministry offers unique gifts and talents to provide opportunities for spiritual rehabilitation, not only to impact inmates' world upon their release if able, but to other inmates during their time while serving their penance. Perhaps, a missing spiritual foundation is what these folks had been missing all along. To open our hearts to God and those He calls as a witness of faith is always a priority for me as I try to follow the Holy Spirit as an instrument of sharing His love and good news. Church of Damarcus Road is a prison ministry looking to shed God's light and to ignite the cardinal virtues of faith, hope, and charity instilled in each of us with prison inmates, no matter their story. If you have been praying or discerning how you can answer God's call, prison ministry may be nudging you to share the gospel and share in Jesus' unending love and healing power. - **Jenny Condon**



*We're looking for submissions!
Email us your observations, poems, praises, testimonies, deep thoughts, humor,
devotionals or anything else relevant to prison ministry.*

CODR Upcoming Events

- ➔ **Food, Faith, and Fellowship – Tues evenings 5:30–7pm**
Come join us Tuesday evenings from 5:30–7pm at Grace Lutheran Church, 211 S 9th St Fort Dodge IA. We serve a meal, enjoy some time of fellowship, then discuss a section of scripture or another relevant faith topic. *All are welcome!*
- ➔ **Fort Dodge Growth Alliance Golf Outing – Thu Sept 7th**
CODR is now a proud member of the Growth Alliance in Fort Dodge and will sponsoring a tee at this year's golf outing. This is a great chance to connect with others in the Fort Dodge area and raise awareness about who we are and the great work we're doing. Currently the registrations to golf are full but if you're interested in helping us during the event, just give is a call or email.
- ➔ **CODR Annual Donor Appreciation Dinner – Sun Nov 12th**
We have been truly blessed with support for this ministry. Your faithful donations throughout the pandemic and now as we rebuild have enabled us to make an immediate impact both inside and outside the prison walls. Join us Sunday Nov 12th from 3–6pm (Location to be announced) as we introduce our new leadership team, celebrate the amazing things God has done this past year and look ahead to the future.

Volunteer Opportunities

- ➔ **Connie's Closet**
Men entering the Fort Dodge Community Corrections Center (men's halfway house) after release have next to nothing, so we supply their closet with basic needs such as: Clothing, Shoes, Coats, washcloths, towels, and Hygiene supplies. This level of support requires no special training and is coordinated by a CODR volunteer lead (Connie).
- *Currently we are in need of Towels, Washcloths, and men's shorts and sweatpants (XL–3X), Shirts (XL–5X), Belts (all sizes), Shoes (tennis shoes, black dress, non-slip and work boots, socks (6–12 size), Underwear (L–3X), Plastic hangers. Donations can be dropped off at St. Olaf or Grace Lutheran Church in Fort Dodge Ia.*
- ➔ **Transportation Assistance**
Men reentering society often times do not have access to transportation, so volunteers provide rides to appointments, job interviews, home visits etc. This level of support happens in partnership with AFES (Athletics for Education and Success – Fort Dodge) and does require some training and a DOC background check.
- ➔ **Become a CODR Council Member**
As we're reimagining what this ministry will look like in the future, we could use your support. Our goal is to have our CODR Council reflect the diversity in our community as well as the diversity of the population we serve. We would love to have more churches, community organizations and demographics represented. Give us a call!

If you're interested in volunteering, connect with us via the addresses below. Thank you so much!

(515) 955–3579

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www.codrcare.com

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