



# The seed must die so it can produce many seeds!

Greetings dear friends! Christ has risen! We serve a living Savior who paid the price for our sins by offering His life, shedding His blood, and rising from the dead to prove He's God!

Hallelujah!! We say **thank you** for your eternal perspective and Kingdom investments! The Polk County Jail Ministry could not flourish without your partnership and love for God's kingdom work through your faithful prayers, and generous financial gifts.

I like to think of the Bible as a **Book of Seeds** that we can sow throughout the Jail on the various soils represented by individual's hearts. The Jail becomes a seed planting place as we teach nearly 100 Bible studies monthly and give out over 4000 Bibles a year. That's a lot of seed!

Your prayers are so impactful as we trust God to prepare the hearts of all those who come to the PCJ. As spring arrives, we watch the farmer plant his seed in hopes of a harvest come autumn. The planted seed is dead, nourished by the rich moist soil which causes roots to sprout, and then a plant grows to produce a fruitful harvest. Thus it is with anyone who places their trust in Christ for salvation. God is waiting on us to come to the end of self, to die to ourselves (pride, rebellion, self-reliance, piety, works, religion, rituals, and traditions), and realize our utter despicable condition, the depravity of man. We are unable to fix ourselves no matter how hard we try before a three times Holy God. 99.9% won't cut it, .1% is enough to send a person to hell! No solution will do but One. He's the only One, the One and only Jesus Christ our



**LORD and Savior! Jesus said, "I tell you the truth the man who loves his life will lose it, while the man who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves Me must follow Me; and where I am, My servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves Me"** John 12:25-26.

In one of the movies viewed by inmates called Risen, Pilate turned to one of his centurions, and stated how unusual this Galilean fellow was. It seemed that He desired His own death. Jesus said, **"The reason my Father loves Me is that I lay down My life only to take it up again. No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of My own accord. I have authority and power to lay it down, and authority and power to take it up again. This command I received from My Father"** John 10:17-18.

**"It was the LORD'S will to crush Him and cause Him to suffer, and though the LORD makes His life a guilt offering, He will see His offspring and prolong His days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in His hand"** Is. 53:10.

Society throws people away without a thought, yet God throws them a life line. His name is Jesus Christ! The Gospel changes everything! Resurrection Sunday has come and gone, but the enlightening presence of the tree of Calvary still impacts my life daily.

How about yours?

In His service,  
Chaplain Jerry

**Tip of the Month: The cross was the place where God and sinful man were merged with a tremendous collision, and where the Way to Life was opened. But all the cost and pain of the collision was absorbed by the Son of God.**

Polk Co. Jail Ministry, Inc. , 1985 N.E. 51st Place, Des Moines, IA. 50313 • [www.polkcountyjailministries.com](http://www.polkcountyjailministries.com) • [Jerry.VanCleave@polkcountyjailministries.com](mailto:Jerry.VanCleave@polkcountyjailministries.com) • Phone: (515)-875-5711  
\*\* Please forward all gifts to Polk County Jail (1985 N.E. 51st Place, DSM, 50313), [www.polkcountyjailministries.com](http://www.polkcountyjailministries.com) through Paypal - trusted and easy!

## Ed Luncsford – A transformed life



I'm the youngest of 8 children with 4 brothers and 3 sisters. I can say that as a young child I was exposed to alcohol, drugs, violence, and criminal activity by my dad and uncles. My mother was a saint. Then one night, 6 of our family members were in a car wreck that took the life of my mother and my sister, Jeanette. This set my life on a course of anger and hate that was fueled by alcohol and drugs. It sent me to jails, prisons and institutions. I was bound by chains of sin and couldn't get free no matter how hard I tried. Shame, guilt, and depression became my life until I met Jesus the Son of God. You see I was introduced to Him by a man in Jail.

I became free of the old man and was born again. Don't get me wrong, I've struggled even after becoming a man after God's own heart. I acquired a BA in Christian Education, and have been a tutor, mentor and spiritual counselor to men.

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## PRAYER REQUESTS:

- The ever increasing numbers of released inmate believers need our prayers as they face discouragement, and opposition in their growing relationship with the Lord Jesus. They would go to a Bible teaching church, connect with a spiritual mentor, find gainful employment, make godly choices and break off ungodly relationships.
- Health issues for David Newell the Asst. Chaplain and finishing his last weeks of college.
- Continued prayer for volunteer David Hamlin as he's treated for leukemia, for his wife Edna, and his son Jason with cancer as well.
- Please pray for Board member Bud Krisinger who has leukemia also.
- Prayer for a continued mutual working relationship with the Sheriff's office as we are their privileged guests.
- God will use the ministry with the entire Jail population, and the Sheriff's office staff to touch lives with the Gospel.
- Continued need for paper back Christian Hispanic reading materials.
- Sunday services at 10:00 A.M. will be greatly attended as a greater number of inmates awaken to watch.
- Pray for more opportunities to preach, and share with local churches of God's work here at the Jail.
- God will protect and be a shield to all of the volunteers as we minister His truth on the front lines. He will protect and strengthen each marriage and family.
- An insatiable appetite for God's Word in the inmate's lives.
- We would stay sensitive to His daily divine appointments.
- God will keep our public servants the Detention Officers in the Jail, and those Deputies out on patrol safe from harm's way. God will protect the emotional wellbeing of the Sheriff's office staff with work related stress as well.
- Brokenness will continue to be evident in those coming to the Polk Co. Jail, and they will see their ultimate need for a relationship with Jesus Christ.
- God will raise up more prayer warriors, and investing partners to come along side in this great work of God prayerfully and financially.
- That the ministry will be more effective in making disciples thru the Bible studies.
- Wisdom from God for daily decisions with ministry needs that arise.
- Perseverance as we face daily oppositions.



Please trim along the dashed line and insert in the enclosed envelope with your gift.

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If not for men like Jerry Van Cleave who told me that Jesus never left when I failed, and that He was looking over the horizon just waiting for me to come home.

I honestly can't say that I'd be in the place I am today. You see God has given me the desires of my heart. I have a house with a garage, a dog, a job I like, and great spiritual fathers such as Chaplain Jerry.

"Who the Son sets free is free indeed!" John 8:36

## ANSWERS:

- The obvious out pouring of the Holy Spirit as we have watched the Lord of the Harvest draw many souls to Himself this month!
- Inmates are actively sharing their faith with others in the pods, and encouraging one another through prayer and Bible studies.
- Noticeable favor from the Sheriff's administration with the ministry.
- The morale of the Sheriff's Jail staff has improved significantly.
- Many new staff has been hired, both for the Jail and the Sheriff's Deputy positions.
- Many decisions were made as we showed The Passion of the Christ!
- The Holy Spirit is breaking down strongholds in the inmate's lives.
- Increased numbers of inmates awoke to watch Sunday services.
- The faithful sowing of God's Word, which He waters and brings the increase (harvest) and growth for His glory! AMEN!!!!

## MOST WANTED:

- Women's shoes no heels and men's clothing and shoes
- A late model desk top computer for ministry at home (ours is a 2007). Windows 10 operating system preferred.

## Ministry Monthly Report: April 2019

	Monthly:	Ytd:
Inmate Request:	492	1,986
One-on-One inmate counseling:	973	3,569
Religious reading materials given:	868	2,862
Bible Study groups:	105	379
Inmates involved with studies:	1,218	4,029
View Worship Service:	464	1,913
Volunteer Hours:	289	1,025
Number of Volunteers:	26	104
Bibles given:	453	1,729
<b>Number of New Believers:</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>141</b>

*Here is a transformed life that represents the prayers and financial investments of faithful partners like you! Thank you! - Chaplain Jerry*

**Please help support**



**The  
Polk County Jail  
Ministry**

**YOUR FINANCIAL GIFTS AFFORD THIS MINISTRY CONTINUED GROWTH AND IMPACT IN THE LIVES OF THE INCARCERATED AND THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE STAFF.**

Enclosed is my gift of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  I am making a monthly commitment of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Please make checks out to the Polk Co. Jail Ministries Inc. and use the enclosed, self-addressed envelope. THANK YOU!)