



**Christina Jones**



# God has revealed the location of the Discipleship Outreach Center

**Happy Thanksgiving** everyone! I'm thankful that Sherri my secretary and I are able to come into the Jail and do ministry. I'm thankful for softened hearts that respond to the Gospel. It's the Good News of salvation through the redeeming work of Jesus Christ on the cross where He shed His blood and paid our sin debt. I'm thankful for each of you who prays for this ministry and gives so generously. I'm thankful for changed hearts and lives that are radically different. I'm thankful for all law enforcement Deputies, Detention Officers, dispatch, and clerical staff of the Sheriff's Office. There are hundreds who keep us safe and protected. We have so much to be **thankful** for!!

I've learned that thankfulness is the key to releasing God's power in our circumstances of life. The Bible speaks of giving a sacrifice of praise from lips that proclaim His dear Name. This sacrifice I believe is our choice to thank Him, no matter if it's going good, bad or whatever our circumstances may be. The giving of thanks should be spontaneous, but some struggle when it comes to thinking of even **one** item to be grateful for.

The Scriptures tell us in the last days men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers (abusive language), disobedient to parents, **ungrateful** – the list goes on (2 Tim 3:1-5). These attitudes and behaviors by people are so prevalent in our society today! Since they are indicative of the last days it's even more urgent than ever to get the life changing message of the gospel to a lost and

dying world especially those in the PC Jail. I am **truly grateful** for your powerful and effective prayers. Their impact is immeasurable! The Board and I want to say thanks for all of your financial gifts as well that allow this ministry to flourish, and help accomplish what God has called us to do. What a great eternal investment you have made in lives which will gain eternal rewards!

I'm so thankful the Lord has revealed the location of the **D.O.C.** (Discipleship Outreach Center) here on the east side! It's a church body who has been earnestly praying for the last year for the East side of Des Moines specifically the 50317 zip code. When they read the last newsletter, they knew they were the church to serve as the location for this outreach! Praise the Lord for God's faithfulness to raise up a people who will obey His calling and the burden He places on His children. It's near the Jail and right across the street from the church is a bus stop PTL!!! The bus stop was one of our main requests. It's on E 42nd & Douglas, has adequate parking, lighting, lots of rooms for meeting with groups or one on ones, flexible hours, and office space. We are like minded in our desire to see discipleship occur, and recidivism reduced with those who continually go back to Jail. What an open door God has provided! May we all give the Lord praise and glory for His awesome answers to our simple faith filled prayers! **Amen!!**

*– In His Service,  
Chaplain Jerry*

## Tip of the Month:

**The key to releasing God's power in our lives comes through lifting our praise to Him no matter the circumstance. Giving thanks reveals trust!!!**

## Christina Jones – Another RESCUED Life!

Growing up my mother was in and out of our lives because she always used drugs. My dad was absent because he was always working trying to provide for our family. When my mother wasn't around, my great grandmother raised my brother and me. We learned about God, and said salvation prayers at a young age, however, we didn't have a normal childhood. I started using drugs with my mother when I was 12. I was tired of my parents fighting and my mother periodically leaving us, so I decided I would go with her. We traveled and used drugs for about a year until I was taken from her, and put into foster care. I was a part of the juvenile court system until I graduated from high school. As soon

as I was able, I was drinking and using drugs again. For most of my twenties I was able to function while living this lifestyle. I had managed to hold onto a job, buy a house, and go to college. I thought living this way was ok. I lived my life with the philosophy that "if it feels good do it" until my drinking and drug usage caused me to lose everything. My life really got out of control when I used drugs intravenously. I began to hurt everyone around me. I lost all of my relationships, including my family. When I was 27 I was charged with my first felony, and I couldn't seem to stay out of jail thereafter. My life was out of control and I was at

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## PRAYER REQUESTS:

- The Sheriff is allowing us to do the annual Christmas event of popcorn and two stamped Christmas cards for the inmates on Dec 4th. The volunteers are allowed to come into the roll call room where we will stuff sacks of popcorn, and have a brief meeting about Jail activities. Please pray as the officers hand out these tokens of the Lord's love that the Spirit of God will move in the hearts of the inmates in a powerful way, draw them to the claims of Christ and His sacrificial gift for all mankind.
- Prayer for volunteer David Hamlin, his wife Edna, and Jason their son as they each battle cancer. Jason is weakening as his cancer has gotten worse.
- Pray for the D.O.C. Discipleship Outreach Center this new vision and expansion of the ministry introduced at the banquet. Please pray for a director, the volunteer base to disciple/mentor former inmates released from PC Jail or prison, and be operational by January to start the new year.
- Continued spiritual growth and discipleship for the inmates who recently came to Christ.
- Prayer for inmate believers who are released that they will daily seek the Lord and are faithful to attend a Bible believing church, get a mentor and job.
- Safety for our public servants the Detention Officers in the Jail as they supervise the incarcerated, and for those Deputies out on patrol as they protect our communities.
- A greater number of inmates would watch Sunday services at 10:00 A.M.
- More and more local churches will participate in this incredible ministry as a viable mission's effort both prayerfully, financially and the D.O.C.
- Family members of the incarcerated have their lives touched by the undeniable changes that God has brought about, and to see their own need for redemption as they too experience brokenness.
- Inmates who have gone off to prison will stay faithful to read God's Word daily, and be active in sharing their faith where they've been planted.
- There would be a host of faithful prayer warriors lifting this ministry before God daily.
- Pray that God will soften the hardest of hearts.
- Prayers that the Jail open back up for me to see inmates face to face and that volunteers could come back as well.

## ANSWERS:

- Thank God for each volunteer and their faithful commitment as they wait.
- Praise the LORD for all those who gave their hearts to Jesus Christ!
- God is faithful to His Word to change and mature new believers.
- Location was found for D.O.C. PTL!
- Praise and thanksgiving to the Lord Jesus for all He's doing and has done in this incredible ministry all year!
- Praise God for so many who've given stamps! Thanks to each of you!

## MOST WANTED:

- Men's winter coats and all types of shoes.

## Ministry Monthly Report: November 2021

	Monthly:	Ytd:
Inmate Request:	724	7,779
One-on-One inmate counseling:	626	6,244
Religious reading materials given:	311	3,224
Bible Study groups:	56	701
Inmates involved with studies:	311	3,776
View Worship Service:	292	3,418
Volunteer Hours:	40	481
Number of Volunteers:	3	79
Bibles given:	255	2,358
<b>Number of New Believers:</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>172</b>

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the bottom. It was then that I cried out, "help me Jesus and forgive all my sins. I surrender my life to You". He did and things began to change. My father and brother visited me faithfully every week. Every time they visited their encouragement was to live a Godly lifestyle. I went to church in jail on Sunday mornings to listen to Chaplain Jerry's sermons. I became an inmate worker and saw Jerry's smiling face in the hallway every day. He would always give me words of encouragement about Jesus. Jerry brought a Bible to me, and I grew in my faith. At that time I was facing prison but did have the option to choose the Drug Court Program. I knew prison would be easier, but I wanted my life to change. For the next 3 years I focused on recovery. I completed the Bridges of Iowa Program, worked the 12 steps of the AA Program, transitioned into a half-way house, and finally was able to get my own

place. Throughout this process I was able to pay off all of my state fines, finish college, and complete the Drug Court Program. I graduated with an Associate's Degree in Applied Science and am currently employed in a law office working as a paralegal. I couldn't have done any of this without Jesus in my life. I completely surrendered myself to do His will. I trust God to direct my path wherever He may lead me.

Here is another rescued life made possible by faithful partners like you!  
Thank you! – Chaplain Jerry

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The  
Polk County Jail  
Ministry

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