

## Honor Hard Workers

Greetings! Recently our country celebrated Labor Day when we honor the American worker. Have you ever thought about all the labor intensive work involved in cooking food, preparing trays, washing dishes, and providing clean clothes for over 1100 inmates? That will make you take a deep breath, and ponder the magnitude of those jobs! At the Jail both male and female inmates apply to become inmate workers. It really is a prestigious position for those who qualify, and are hired. Instead of being paid money their time in Jail is reduced. For every day they work a day is taken off their sentence. This reduces their costs of restitution when they get out. These jobs are short term, because most will be released or sentenced soon. If an inmate is sentenced to prison then he/she can no longer be a worker. Preparing and delivering trays of food three times a day is one main job. The men are up at 5 AM to cook and serve breakfast by 6:00, wash dishes, clean up the kitchen, and go back to their pod to rest up for the next meal. They put in long hours. Some men are assigned to the kitchen, more of them work in the laundry room, and other inmates have janitorial responsibilities. The women inmate workers also serve three shifts in the laundry department to wash, dry and fold clean clothing for the 200 female inmate population twice a week.

Ministry is all around us daily at the Polk County Jail. These people are hurting and need to be rescued from poor choices that are destroying their lives. You have participated in this labor of love that is producing an eternal **investment** through your powerful prayers, and generous financial gifts. It is my intention monthly to let each of you know just how vital your **prayers**, and sacrificial **giving** are to

this ministry. **Thank you** for partnering with us!!

Today many people in our society believe they're entitled rather than to work and earn a living. The statistics show that nearly 40% of Americans receive some form of assistance from government programs, and it's increasing more and more. At the PCJ Ministry our goals are to encourage new believers upon their release to attend a good Bible preaching church, get a job, work, and find an accountability partner. Some may think we are only about spiritual change, but when a heart is converted a person's life is changed for economic reasons as well. They actually get jobs and pay taxes. Many become hard workers who are responsible, conscientious, dependable, and often are some of the best employees.

I also want to highlight the Sheriff's staff as they do their work under extreme stress and public demands that can take a toll. The public's safety and protection comes with a 24 hour 365 day a year responsibility. Just think of how quickly a Deputy must make split second decisions that impact lives. Even when off duty they are still mindful of their commitment to protect and serve. Those in dispatch also are under extreme duress as they receive 50 to 100 calls per shift, each one an emergency, and often with life or death consequences. These unsung heroes need our support, prayers and respect as well for their dedication to work which is indeed a high calling from God.

– Your servant,  
Chaplain Jerry

**Tip of the Month: No one is born a winner or a loser we are all born a chooser.**

## Look what HE'S done! – Peter Kund Larsen III

My name is Peter Kund Larsen III, and I began my new life with Christ in 2020. This is my story. I was born to Pamela Crowse and Peter Kund Larsen II on 11/14/90. I have 2 older brothers, an older sister, and my twin brother. My father, God rest his soul, was a military man who was a tank engineer for 12 years, and my mother was a stay at home mom. Just after my 1st birthday my father tried unsuccessfully to commit suicide, but my grandfather lost his life when he came to take my father to the hospital. My mother was left alone with 5 children. She later married my stepdad Mike Rideboard. He was a God fearing man who raised all 5 of us in the church. Some time later my parents began using drugs and alcohol. After 11 years of substance abuse and domestic disputes my parents separated. I took their separation very hard, was torn between my parents, and I fell away from

God. At 14 my mother left and I was alone to make my own choices without my parent's or God's influence. I too began to use alcohol and drugs which became the foundation of my life. They seemed to help me with the pain, and to better fit in with other people. At 19 I found my first love, and we had a daughter. Two years later we separated, and I went deeper into drugs and alcohol. It was all I knew, and led to the separation from my daughter for 7 years. My son was born in 2017, but I missed his birth because I was too drunk, hung over and coming down off drugs. For the next 3 years I was heavily into drug use and had 3 drug overdoses. Slowly but surely I lost everything. Family, friends, children, my sense of pride, and who I was were all gone. It felt like a lifetime. I cursed God and asked Him why He had let this happen to me?

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# POLK COUNTY JAIL MINISTRY NEWS

## Open Doors



Pray for:



– Peter Kund Larsen III –  
(With his mentor, Charlie Browne)

## PRAYER REQUESTS:

- This year's Banquet Oct 4th @ 6 Grace Church; 300 attending God's Spirit working on each heart present.
- Prayer for an Assistant Chaplain.
- Continued prayer for Board member David Hamlin, and his wife Edna as they are battling cancer.
- Please pray for volunteer Jim Bagbey's wife Ruth as she battles cancer.
- A hedge of protection around each volunteer and their families.
- Pray for true repentance, and godly sorrow with those to whom we minister.
- God will stir the hearts of staff, and the incarcerated with the Gospel message as communicated through His Word, faith based books, and other materials.
- Safety for our public servants the Detention Officers in the Jail, and the Deputies out on patrol as they drive our roads and highways.
- Prayer for the Dispatchers with all the stressors of their daily responsibilities.
- Those who are disciples would see their personal responsibility to testify, and lead others to Christ. More inmates would then respond to the Gospel because of them.
- Inmates would awaken to watch Sunday services at 10:00 AM, also that the detention officers would make the services accessible to the inmates.
- More and more local churches would participate in this incredible ministry prayerfully, and financially as a viable mission's effort.
- God will move in hearts of family members of the incarcerated as the new believers share the gospel. Then they too will understand the glorious Gospel, and receive the LORD as their Savior!
- Those who have gone off to prison will stay faithful to read God's Word daily, and be active in sharing their faith.
- Prayer for released believers to have the self-discipline to go, and belong to an active Bible believing local church where they will use their spiritual gifts for God's glory. They might find love and acceptance from the congregations.
- God will raise up more prayer warriors, and financial partners to come along side in this great work of God.
- Prayer warriors to do battle for the inmate's lives who have strongholds that are generational. They might find victory and begin a new legacy for their families and future.

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In 2020 I had a feeling that I can only explain was God given. Something had to change and that time was now! My twin brother dropped me off at the homeless shelter with nothing but \$2 in my pocket. Three days later I heard of a program called The Door of Faith. It was a Christian faith based program. There I met a man who ironically had the same first name as my stepdad. He had worked with my family before which told me he was God sent. There was a time that it looked like I was going to fail, but he helped me reconnect with God and to understand the root of my problems. He also facilitated a connection with my son. Soon after he insisted that I start working with my mentor, Charlie Browne. I graduated from the program a year later with my family present. Since then God has not only begun to rebuild my life, but has given me full custody of my son. Also after 7 years my daughter is back in my life. She attended church with me recently after traveling over 9 hours from Ohio to visit. Now we talk and video chat every day. My mentor learned about a discipleship study through the DOC or the Discipleship Outreach Center. Together we have been working on the study called A New Life in Christ. It teaches the basic steps of the Christian life, and has been the cornerstone in my

- Upcoming speaking engagements would be empowered by the Holy Spirit in local churches.
- God will use the upcoming Christmas event to touch cold and indifferent hearts of the inmates.
- Bible studies would be well attended with 12 being the maximum.

## ANSWERS:

- Inmates leading fellow inmates to Christ PTL!!!
- Inmate requests have really increased significantly each week.
- Divine appointments are occurring with one on ones.
- God is faithful to bring back to Jail those who have turned again to their old ways before it's too late.
- Noticeable hunger and thirst for God's Word. I get many Bible requests. PTL!

## MOST WANTED:

- 2500 stamps for the two Christmas cards given to each inmate.
- Clothing closet needs: Men & women's coats & shoes
- The Five Love Languages by Gary Smalley paperback.
- Left Behind series Spanish and English

## Ministry Monthly Report: September 2022

	Monthly:	Ytd:
Inmate Request:	943	8,174
One-on-One inmate counseling:	733	5,968
Religious reading materials given:	731	6,142
Bible Study groups:	39	454
Inmates involved with studies:	209	2,546
View Worship Service:	186	2,559
Volunteer Hours:	155	1,014
Number of Volunteers:	20	141
Bibles given:	357	2,564
<b>Number of New Believers:</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>172</b>

relationship with God. My son is even beginning to know the Lord through it. When I first got full custody of my son, my mother would go over the lessons with me, and we studied the Bible together. The material really drew her to the Lord, and it was nice to see her want to get closer to Him again as well. When you feel all hope is gone put your trust in Christ! Listen for God to speak to you for only through Him can you get to where you are supposed to be. I give thanks to God, to all my church family and friends, and to my family for the strength and support they are giving me. Thank you everyone and God bless you all!

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

Please help  
support



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.)**