



September 2015

Dear friends of the Matthew 25 House:

This is my late summer update covering the comings, goings and doings at the house and in the lives of the men who call 330 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street “home.”

The house currently has four residents, and we have a number of other men approved to come to the house upon parole.

### **Head Resident**

Vernon B. stepped into the role of head resident in June and is doing a good job. He recently faced some challenges due to an accident which resulted in a severe infection in his right ankle and lower leg. A week in the hospital and two surgeries later, he returned to the house a few days ago. He will make a daily trip to the hospital for the next two weeks for treatment. Please pray for complete recovery for Vernon. Vernon recently got his driver’s license and is now studying for his Commercial Driver’s License (CDL). His hope is to have passed the test by the time his foot is healed and then start applying for local jobs that require a CDL.

### **Current Residents**

Brian B. – Brian moved into the house in early July and is currently working for *In God’s Hands*, a cleaning company in Ames. Brian’s employer has played an important role in keeping him in the house and making positive progress. Brian is very focused on doing what is needed to place him in a position to obtain his driver’s license. This would bring both him and his employer significant benefits. Brian is discovering new ways to deal with some of the old challenges that placed him in prison. It is surprising how quickly a person can fall back into old behavior if he is not 100% focused daily on preventing a backward slide.

Robert K. – Robert moved into the house in mid August and is currently working the night shift on the assembly line at Danfoss, a leading manufacturer of valves and fluid handling components for HVAC and industrial applications. He is enjoying the job and adjusting to the work hours well. He has also adjusted well to his new freedom outside of prison.

William B. – William moved into the house early August and is currently working for Ames Concrete. He is doing well at his job and recently obtained his driver’s license. His employer has worked closely with him to position him for success both at work and in his personal life outside of prison. William has found the opportunity to provide support to his daughter and her two young children in ways that he was not able to before coming to the Matthew 25 House.

### **Former Residents**

Dave R. moved out of the Matthew 25 House in August after successfully completing his twelve months. I witnessed many significant changes in Dave during the time he was at the Matthew 25 House. One of the most significant was the relationship he has developed with his two young sons. Dave is living in Boone, IA, and his oldest son has come to live with him. This son started school this fall at Boone and is enjoying the

school and teacher and new friends. Both Dave and his son(s) attend church each week at Christ Community Church (CCC). David was asked to join the worship team at CCC. He is enjoying the activities and the new friendships he is making as a result of being a part of the worship team. The Matthew 25 House Board gave Dave a graduation celebration. It was well attended and gave individuals a chance to encourage Dave in his next adventure.



Jeff Boyd has joined the Matthew 25 House support team. Jeff has assumed the responsibility of managing our application process. He has a heart for the men and the purpose of the Matthew 25 House. He is also very active in many areas of the house and the lives of the residence. If you have any questions about the house or the application process, please contact Jeff Boyd at [jboyd562010@hotmail.com](mailto:jboyd562010@hotmail.com).

I hope this short update provides you with a glimpse of life at the Matthew 25 House, the lives of the men currently living there, and the lives of our graduates.

Kevin Z. Geis  
Matthew 25 House Board Member  
P.O. Box 1906 / 330 South 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Ames, IA. 50010  
[kevinzgeis@gmail.com](mailto:kevinzgeis@gmail.com)  
(515) 231-4385 Cell