

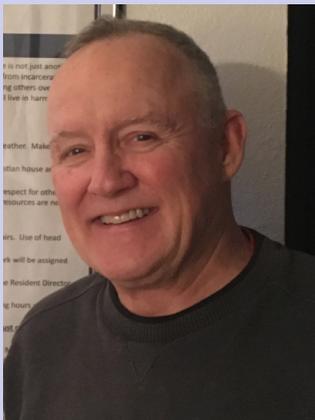
DECEMBER 2016

# MATTHEW 25 HOUSE

## DEAR FRIENDS OF THE MATTHEW 25 HOUSE:

**This is my winter update** covering the comings, goings and doings at the house and in the lives of the men who call 330 South 2nd Street “home.”

The house currently has three residents, and one open room. We have a number of men approved to come to the house upon parole. There has been significant interest by Correctional counselors, parole officers, and others to direct men to apply to the Matthew 25 House.



### HEAD RESIDENT

Dan Sheeler our head resident continues to enjoy his role at the house and the relationships he is building with the men in the house. He is a valuable sounding board for the men as they search out guidance and advice to help them make good life-changing decisions.

“Master, what are you talking about? When did we ever see you hungry or thirsty or homeless or shivering or sick or in prison and didn’t help? He will answer them, “I’m telling the solemn truth: Whenever you failed to do one of these things to someone who was being overlooked or ignored, that was me – you failed to do it to me.”

**Matthew 25: 44-45**

Please check out [our website!](#)

## CURRENT RESIDENTS

**ROBERT D.** – Robert moved into the house in late December, 2015. It is hard to believe that he has been in the house for almost twelve months. Robert is in the process of making plans to move out of the house in January of 2017. He is looking for affordable housing options which are difficult to find in Ames, IA.

He continues to attend church at Saint Cecillia Church in Ames, IA, with Terry, a board member of the Matthew 25 House. The Matthew 25 House Board is planning a graduation celebration for Robert to recognize the hard work he has put into changing his lifestyle and developing new life skills that have allowed him to handle challenges in a positive manner.

**CHRIS S.** – Chris moved into the house in early July and is currently working for *In God's Hand* service. Chris is also working hard to re-enter the radio business doing voice over work. He has set up a small recording studio in his room and spends hours working on sound tracks for many different organizations. His hope is that this past career will blossom into a fulltime job. I have been amazed by the sound tracks Chris has shared with me. **If you know of any opportunities for Chris, please contact me. He would be very appreciative of any leads you might have.**

Chris is attending Christ Community Church on Sunday mornings. He enjoys the teaching and the friendships he has developed there.



**JAMES C.** – James moved into the house in August and has been doing very well. Recently he was placed back into jail on an old federal charge that just got processed through the system. We are holding his place in the house waiting to see if the judge will allow him to return to the Matthew 25 House. Even with this set back he has a positive outlook on life and trusts that God will help him through this event.

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## EVENTS

We continue to have Bible study each Monday and Thursday evening. There are a number of men that are not part of the Matthew 25 House that attend the Bible study and share their lives with the residents. Monday evenings at the Matthew 25 House is one of my weekly highlights. It is a time to develop deeper relationships with the men and share our life's successes and struggles with each other.

In my last update I shared the Matthew 25 House Board strategies to increase the awareness of the Matthew 25 House in the local community and increase our support network over the next three years. One of those goals was to raise \$150,000 of additional support over the next three years that will help fund our strategic strategies. I am excited to announce that we are well on our way to accomplish this goal. As of December 15th we have raised \$131,920 or 88% of our three year financial goal.

I hope this short update provides you with a glimpse of life at the Matthew 25 House and the men currently living there. If you have any questions about the house or the application process, please contact me.



**Bible Study**