

WESTERN MICHIGAN TEEN CHALLENGE

440 Pontaluna Road | Muskegon, MI 49444 | 231-798-7927

September 2016

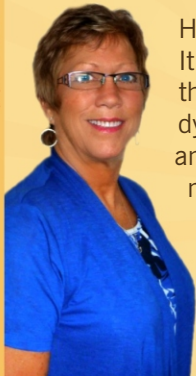
Dear Friends,

God is doing an amazing work in the lives of people here at Teen Challenge. The song writer wrote, "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases. His mercies never come to an end. They are new every morning. New every morning. Great is Thy faithfulness, oh Lord. Great is Thy faithfulness."

God is faithful to relieve the oppressed, those that are bound by sin in its various forms, and to free the captives bound by the powers of darkness. **Kathleen** was bound by depression and alcohol. **Samantha** was also bound by depression, which led to her alcohol addiction and a suicide attempt. **Taylor** was bound by anxiety that led to her IV heroin addiction. **Nicole** was bound by anxiety, bulimia, heroin addiction, cocaine and a variety of other drugs. **Duke** was bound by heroin addiction. **Luke** was bound by methamphetamines. **Brad** was bound by alcohol. God in His mercy, grace and power has set every one of these free. Thank God for the power of the blood of the cross of Christ and the power of the Holy Ghost. Truly the steadfast love of the Lord never ceases. His mercies never come to an end. They are new every morning. Great is Thy faithfulness, oh Lord. Great is Thy faithfulness.

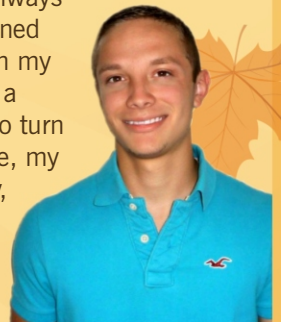
September Graduates

GRADUATE TESTIMONIES CONTINUED ON BACK.



Hi. my name is **Melissa Stewart**, and I'm from Mt. Juliet, TN. Long story short...raised in a "Leave It to Beaver" Christian household, very loving. Successful adulthood until age 40, when, between the devil & I, I became a successful functioning alcoholic. Two stints in secular rehabs, two times dying in the hospital E.R., I lost my job and ended up homeless last year. But God, by His grace, and with the help of family, I made it here. WOW! I found a relationship with God. He never left me, I left Him, and I found myself again. My future with my family, who stood by me always, is amazing, and I'm excited to share my story with everyone. I live daily by Philippians 3:13-14, "...forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

I'm **R.J. Lee**, and I'm 20 years old from Sparta, TN. I grew up in a loving, but separated home. Around the age of 7, my parents got a divorce, and my mom got full custody of me and my brother. Through it all, my mom has been my greatest supporter and always shown me love. At 15, I began drinking and experimenting with marijuana. This quickly turned into an everyday necessity, and I found myself becoming immune to the effects. That's when my addiction turned to pain pills. I was arrested, placed on probation, and violated twice. After a third violation, I left town and went on the run. After running all my options out, I decided to turn myself in. The court presented Teen Challenge, and I immediately took it. Since coming here, my life couldn't be better. I have my health back, my family supports me, and more importantly, I have Jesus by my side. The verse I stand on is 2 Corinthians 5:17, "Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come." Thank you and God bless!



Major Remodeling at Men's Center

We are presently doing a much-needed, major remodeling of our men's facility - dorms, heating, windows, doors and flooring. Our men are working hard to accomplish this task. Right now your financial gift is greatly appreciated. I want to thank those who have already given toward this project.

Upcoming Fall Fundraisers

Hors D'oeuvres & Desserts – New! Different! Great!

Grand Rapids

Thursday, October 6 at 6:30 pm
Grand Rapids First Assembly of God

Muskegon

Thursday, October 27 at 6:30 pm
Maranatha Bible Conference Grounds

Holland

Thursday, December 8 at 6:30 pm
Beechwood Church

Please attend and try to fill a table of eight with guests who could be helpful to Teen Challenge. For reservations, contact Cindy, Barb or Brenna at 231.798.7927.

We of Teen Challenge appreciate each of you. Your financial support is encouraging and vital. We need you and love you. We will be looking forward to hearing from you. We are praying for you, and may God bless you richly.

Love and Prayers,
Phil & Michelle McClain

Phil & Michelle McClain



September Graduates

CONTINUED

I'm **Chrissy Hudkins**, I'm 26 years old, and I'm from Charleston, WV. I grew up in Baton Rouge, LA in a very broken home. As a child, I witnessed and endured severe physical abuse from my mother and her boyfriend. They were both addicted to heavy drugs. My mom eventually gave me up to other family members, but I always felt so rejected. As years went by, I grew bitter & angry and used drugs and men to try and fill up that empty hole in my heart. Year after year, I only got worse. Nothing could ease my pain, not even my husband and kids. After the metro drug unit in Charleston kicked my door in and raided my home, I knew my life would never be the same. Coming to Teen Challenge, God has healed me completely, renewed my mind and restored my life, family and hope. To God be the glory for the things he has done. Psalm 139:14, "I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well."



My name is **Jenny Lynch**. I am 47 years old from southern Indiana. I did not grow up in a Christian home. I started attending church regularly in high school after becoming active in fellowship of Christian Athletes. I accepted Christ into my life as a sophomore, but did not develop a relationship with Christ. In college, I discovered alcohol and the partying lifestyle.

At the age of 26, I decided there must be more to life, and I quit drinking. However, I had already built walls around myself and lost my identity. I spent the next 15 years living 100% whole heartedly for my family, which is where my identity was. Life finally caught up with me in 2013, and everything I had stuffed behind those walls exploded. I was in a very dark place and began drinking again. My world ended and

I quit really living when my mom got sick and passed away in 2014. I came to Teen Challenge in 2015 very broken, depressed and lost. I didn't want to live or die. Since being here, God has broken down those walls and I've found my identity in Christ. This program has saved my life and given me hope, peace and joy. The verse I stand on is 1 Corinthians 15:10a, "But by the grace of God, I am what I am."

My name is **Austin Troyer**, I'm 22 years old, and I'm from Manistee, MI. All the way up to the point of coming to Teen Challenge, I was a complete mess. I've been in and out of psychopathic wards, Juvie, foster care homes, and jail so many times, that I've lost count. I've done just about every drug known to man. I've tried to take my life multiple times, in multiple different ways. The world as we know it, chewed me up and spit me out. I've not only run from the law for years, but ran from my problems as well. However, an amazing fact is that no matter how far and how hard you run, God will always get a hold of you, and that's what happened with me. The Lord brought me here. Since coming here, I've been filled with such love, peace and joy. I love Jesus, and am walking hand in hand with him daily. I love him above anything and anyone in this world. My graduation from this ministry is just the beginning, and I'm truly excited for the future he's laid out before me.

