

WESTERN MICHIGAN TEEN CHALLENGE

May 2013

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

Dear Friends,

I have had the privilege of sitting down and having fellowship with the original Founder/Director of the Teen Challenge ministry, David Wilkerson. I have heard him minister many, many times. He and his wife are now deceased; but, he was one of the most compassionate, caring, and powerful men of God I have ever met. There are now over 1,180 Teen Challenge centers in the world. So David Wilkerson and his wife have had a spiritual impact worldwide. I thank God, too, for the compassion, burden, and power He has given me in my life to reach the desperate with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. God is doing a mighty work here at Western Michigan Teen Challenge. I have had the privilege of being here in this ministry now for 43 years. God has delivered thousands of drug addicts and alcoholics and brought His glorious salvation to them. My wife and I want to continue to reach the desperate of our society with the Gospel of Christ and see them set free. Our prayer is for souls for the kingdom of God.

Remember not against us former iniquities: let thy tender mercies speedily prevent us: for we are brought very low.

BIKE-A-THON

Our 35th Annual Bike-A-Thon will be held on Saturday, June 22nd. If you would like to participate in this fun-filled day by riding from Holland to Grand Haven or by sponsoring a rider, please call John McKinnon at 231.798.7927 or email johnmckinnon@wm-tc.com. The families of students are welcome to join us after the bike ride at 3:00 pm for activities and a picnic.

ALUMNI FELLOWSHIP

Alumni, please join us for our summer Alumni Fellowship on Friday, July 19, 2013 at 7:00 pm at Teen Challenge. If you know someone who graduated from Teen Challenge, please encourage him or her to attend. If you are a graduate, please join us for a wonderful evening of food, fellowship and encouragement. We look forward to seeing you! R.S.V.P. to Cindy, 231.798.7927.

Michelle and I want to thank all of you for your compassion and love and for pouring into this ministry. You have prayed for us and financially given faithfully, some of you for many, many years. Thank you kindly. Great is your reward in Heaven. One day all of us will stand around the throne of God in humility, love, and praise, giving Him glory for the opportunity to serve Him. We will cast our crowns at His feet in gratitude and worship to Him. We love Him, and we know you do too. We look forward to hearing from you again this month. God's richest blessings be on you.



In Christ's Service
Phil & Michelle McClain

Phil & Michelle McClain

GRADUATES

Some of those affected by the power of the Gospel through this ministry...

My name is Shelley. I am 37 years old from Grand Rapids, Michigan. After stepping away from the Lord seven years ago, I found myself completely hopeless and broken. Sin and the devil had robbed me of my family, my career and my dignity, but most of all I lost my relationship with God. Since coming to Teen Challenge the Lord has restored everything that sin and the devil robbed from me. I have my family back but most importantly I have my relationship back with God!



SHELLY MODZELEWSKI



VELMA MORA

Hi, I'm Velma. I am 40 years old from Chicago. Growing up I went to Catholic School, believed in Jesus, but never knew of a "personal relationship" with Him. That void created emptiness in my heart that I tried to fill with things of the world. I started selling drugs and I became addicted to that fast lifestyle. I experienced things no decent person should have. I was filled with so much guilt and shame that I used drugs to numb the pain. This vicious cycle lasted until I had my daughter. That is when I realized I needed help. The Lord blessed me with Godly in-laws who brought me to Teen Challenge. Here I was able to take all my pain, guilt and shame and lay it at the cross. I've learned nothing the world thinks up or creates can fill the place in our hearts that God made only for Himself. The Lord has raised me up and restored me to that right perfect plan He has for my life. Praise God! **Romans 8:28-And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.**

Hello. I'm Debbie. I am 50 years old from Chicago. I was happily married to a military naval officer for 17 years. After being physically abused, my marriage ended. Life took on a different look. I became addicted to cocaine. Feeling lost and broken, I called for Jesus to help me. He then led me to Teen Challenge where I feel the very presence of God. I am now heaven bound on my journey. **John 8:36 - If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.**



DEBBIE DAVIS



SHANNON LAHUIS

My name is Shannon. I am 31 years old from Grand Rapids, Michigan. Before coming to Teen Challenge, I was searching the world for the happiness and comfort I desired. The things I was doing to help me cope with this emptiness I was feeling is what was slowly sucking the life out of me and left me feeling hopeless and depressed. But my God is mighty to save and He breathed life back into me. **Nehemiah 8:10 For the joy of the Lord is my strength.**

Hi, I'm Whitney. I am 25 years old from Kalkaska, Michigan. My mother's suicide when I was 11 years old left me angry, blaming God and the family I had left. I tried to numb the pain and fill the void with drugs and alcohol. Within a few short years, I was a full-blown opiate addict. My addiction and the lifestyle that accompanied it caused me to lose everything and everyone I cared about and landed me in jail. I cried out to the Lord, and since coming to Teen Challenge the Lord has restored my family relationships and He has given me a fulfillment and an inner peace I never thought I'd have.



WHITNEY TANNER

Lamentations 3:25 - The Lord is good to those who wait for Him, to the soul who seeks Him.



CAYLA BIRDWELL

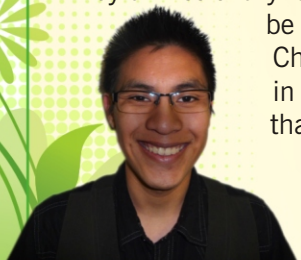
Hi, I'm Cayla. I am 23 years old from Cookeville, Tennessee. Before coming to Teen Challenge, my life revolved around drugs. Cocaine had gotten the best of me. By God's loving grace, my trouble led me here. Jesus delivered me from the bondage of sin and filled me with joy and hope. I've anchored my soul in Him. **Ps. 40:2 - He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand.**

My name is Jesse and I am from Chicago. Upon the death of my wife in 2010 and my mother in 2011, I became completely overwhelmed with grief and anger. Instead of turning to God for comfort and strength, I turned to alcohol to numb the pain and emptiness that accompanied my losses. I withdrew from my Christian friends and was unable to even manage my affairs. Simply put, my life was falling apart and I desperately needed help. When I arrived at Teen Challenge I was totally broken and without hope. Since coming here, I have experienced God's transforming and healing love in a whole new way! **Psalms 34:18 - The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.**



JESSE PICKENS

Hi, my name is Tyler and I am 21. I was born in the jungles of Venezuela and was adopted by a missionary family. When I was 18, I rebelled against my parents and God. Wanting to be in control, I allowed darkness to consume my life. I came to Teen Challenge in hopes of mending a broken relationship, but I did not want God in my life. After two months, I finally broke and gave myself to God. I am so thankful He brought me out of darkness and into the light!



TYLER OLMSTEAD

GRADUATION DATE IS MAY 2, 7:00 PM – 440 PONTALUNA ROAD