

WESTERN MICHIGAN TEEN CHALLENGE

August 2012

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

Dear Friends,

As you look around at the world today, you may wonder what is God doing at the present? What is His will for my life at this time? During the time of David there arose such a question. The nation of Israel was divided because David had become King in Judah after Saul's death, but the northern tribes were under Saul's son, Isbosheth. When Isbosheth died, the tribe of Issachar (a northern tribe) joined themselves to David because they were men that had a deep understanding of the times. They knew that God wanted David to be King of **all** Israel. How does this relate to us? As we look around at the world today, it speaks to us of the coming of the Lord for His saints. Knowing this, how are we to respond, what are we to be doing? The **first** thing is to be watching for Him. Heb. 9:28 says, "...unto them that look for Him shall He appear the second time without sin unto salvation." The **second** thing we need to be doing, as taught by Jesus, is to occupy till He comes. We're to live our lives in service to the Lord, and tell as many people as we can about the wonderful gift of salvation. He is our hope of glory, which brings comfort and joy. Very soon now "...the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore, comfort one another with these words." (1 Thess. 4:16-18) So don't be confused as to all that's going on in the world today. It all speaks of the soon return of Jesus Christ. As John the Revelator said in Rev. 22:20, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus." Amen.

BIKE-A-THON

We want to thank all riders for their participation and a big thank you to those who supported the Bike-a-thon financially. It was a great day of exercise, fellowship, fun and prizes. Also, it was a great financial blessing to Teen Challenge. The rally that followed was a real spiritual blessing to all of us.

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| 1st Place Scott Tadjerson | 7th Lindsey Callihan |
| 2nd Dawn Detra | 8th Dave Krasean |
| 3rd Jesse Mansell | 9th Jessica Garrett tied with Matt Garrett |
| 4th Rick Swanson | 10th Tyler Olmstead |
| 5th Elizabeth Collier | 11th Desmond deBoer |
| 6th Whitney Tanner | |



UPCOMING...BANQUETS

Fall is approaching and that means fund-raising banquets for Teen Challenge! Would you partner with us by hosting a table of eight or more? It will be an evening of good food, fellowship, wonderful student testimonies, and inspiring music. Call Cindy at 231.798.7927 to reserve your place.

GRAND RAPIDS – September 27 at 7:00 pm
Grand Rapids First Assembly of God
2100-44th Street SW

MUSKEGON – October 25 at 7:00 pm
Maranatha Bible Conference Grounds
4759 Lake Harbor Road

HOLLAND CHRISTMAS BANQUET – November 29 at 7:00 pm
(Unique/Different)
Beechwood Reformed Church
895 Ottawa Beach Road



While we know Jesus is coming soon, we here at Teen Challenge want to occupy till He comes. We want to tell as many people as we can about the glorious salvation of our God. We want to see many, many souls come to Christ and be saved. Therefore, we continue to tell the old, old story of God's redeeming love. And, praise God, many are coming to Christ!

All of us here at Teen Challenge thank each of you for your faithful prayers and financial giving to this ministry. You are needed, loved, and appreciated. May God bless you richly.

In Christ's Service,

Phil & Michelle



Phil & Michelle Miller

ALUMNI FELLOWSHIP

Friday, August 24th, 7:00 PM at Teen Challenge

We are looking forward to good food, wonderful fellowship, and spiritual encouragement.

RSVP Cindy at 231.798.7927

OVER ►

GRADUATES

Ashley Veldman

My name is Ashley. I am 23 years old and I'm from Chicago. Even though I went to church as a kid, I had no real knowledge of the Bible. At age 15, I traded sports for partying and what little faith I had disappeared. By the age of 17, I was an alcoholic and I left my parents home. For the next several years I lost jobs, had unhealthy relationships and hurt my family. I turned into someone I couldn't recognize. At the age of 22, I had finally had enough and I surrendered my life to Christ. He has restored my joy, my mind, my family - my entire life! I am forever grateful to this ministry and to the Lord for transforming me. **2 Corinthians 4:17, For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.**



Kim James



Because my family and I moved around so much, some undeserving situations were inflicted upon me which distorted the way I saw myself and the world. All along, the Word of Truth was sown into me. After our family became homeless, I became angry, feeling that God didn't care and I completely rejected and turned away from the Lord. I now believe that the Lord was preparing me for brokenness so that I would completely give my life to Him. After years in multiple relationships, two suicide attempts, and drugs to numb me, I found myself back in my mom's basement drinking myself to oblivion. My pastor, ex-boss, and parents were gently drilling into me that I needed to redirect my life. I knew in my heart it was true, because I would look in the mirror and I would see a monster. After coming to Teen Challenge, I have created a relationship with my Almighty God. Nothing can pluck me from His hand. I give Him all glory for what He has done and has yet to do in my life!

Robert Kaszowski Jr.

I am Robert Kaszowski, from Warren, Ohio. I grew up in a broken family full of violence and drunken rage. I developed a hard heart and anger at a young age. After a football accident my senior year, I started using pain pills which led to a heroin addiction. I ended up in and out of psych wards for 2 months before coming to Teen Challenge broken and angry. After a full surrender to God and being baptized in the Spirit, I now have joy, peace, happiness, and it is all by the grace of God I am alive today! The verse I stand on is: **Psalms 119:105, Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.**



Cody Besteman



Hi, my name is Cody Besteman. I am 19 years old from Hudsonville, Michigan. I grew up in a good, loving family that gave me everything I needed or wanted. I was home schooled, and I didn't have a lot of friends growing up, so I sought friendship with older kids, which led to smoking, and eventually drinking. By the age of 16, I was an alcoholic. I was out of control, and I couldn't help myself. About two years ago I was in a car accident that almost took my life. To be honest, I was so far into my mess, that I don't remember most of it. I

was ejected from the passenger side of the pickup truck doing 70 mph, and I hit the pavement face first, which resulted in several head injuries. The doctors were amazed that I was still alive, and that my brain was still active. It took several surgeries to fix everything, and I still have a few to go. I know now that God was with me all of the time. **Jeremiah 29:11, For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you, and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.** I know now that I have a future as long as I have Jesus Christ in my life!



Jami Moon



2012 BIKE-A-THON PARTICIPANTS
Glory to God!