

WESTERN MICHIGAN TEEN CHALLENGE

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

May 2015

Dear Friends,

Haggai 1:7-8 says, "Thus saith the Lord of hosts...Go up to the mountain, and bring wood, and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, saith the Lord." **Verse 14b**, "...And they came and did work in the house of the Lord of hosts, their God."

We have been extremely busy here at Teen Challenge the last several months. Of course you know that we have been working on a new recording project. We still have work to do to bring it to its full completion. Also, we have been doing a major remodeling at our men's facility which included:

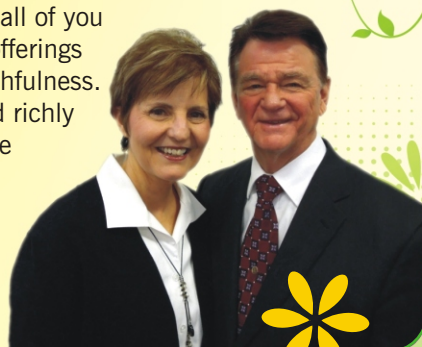
- Major changes to the main administration office area including my personal office, as well as the reception area, and the offices for the bookkeeper, receptionist, my personal secretary and the booking department.
- Painting, new carpet and new chairs in our 40' x 80' chapel. It looks very nice, thank the Lord.
- The men's program offices which include the Men's Supervisor, Intake Director, reception area and other work areas were totally redone.
- Re-carpeted, purchased new mattresses and spruced up one of the men's dorms.
- Purchased new tables, re-carpeted and painted the large upstairs classroom.
- Installed two new offices and a staff meeting room in the upstairs area above the main offices.
- Repainted and re-carpeted two pastoral offices.
- A plumbing contractor installed a 300', 6" drain line from our laundry room to the city storm sewer line and a sump pump to keep the water out of the lower level of our building.
- **See photos of some of the improvements.**



With anticipation we look forward to a joyful ingathering of souls this year through our various ministries here at Teen Challenge. We thank all of you for standing with us through prayer and your financial gifts and offerings for this ministry. Thank you for your kindness, generosity and faithfulness. All of us here at Teen Challenge say a big **THANK YOU**. May God richly bless you. **II Cor. 9:15**, "Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift."

In Christ's Service,
Phil & Michelle McClain

Phil & Michelle McClain



TURN OVER 

OF COURSE DURING ALL OF OUR BUSYNESS we were still carrying on the ministry to the students, doing street evangelism, doing rallies at churches, preaching chapels, teaching classes, counseling students and having special times of prayer; plus, having fund-raising banquets and having our personal devotions. But, through it all the work of the Lord is a joy. It's only through the Lord's strength and your support that we could accomplish all these things.

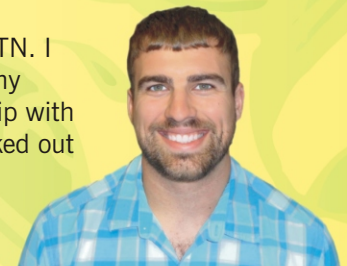
Take a look at and read the testimonies of the graduates this month.

My name is Rachael Barner. I'm 34 years old from Medina, OH. I have battled a severe drug addiction for 23 years. After trying numerous treatment centers over the years that didn't work, I truly thought I would always be an addict. Praise God for the effectual fervent prayers of my loved ones. The Lord directed my steps to this ministry and I am now a new creature in Christ. I look forward to the future; going home to be the wife, mom, and servant of Christ that the Lord intended me to be. 1 Timothy 1:16, "But God had mercy on me so that Christ Jesus could use me as a prime example of His great patience with even the worst sinners. Then others will realize that they, too, can believe in him and receive eternal life."



My name is Greg Illum. As a preacher's kid, I was involved in church for as long as I can remember. But I saw a lot of things in the church that really hurt and frustrated me. Because of this I began to build walls around me which became almost impenetrable. I also let in cynicism, and the unbelief that God could truly change a person on a real and personal level. Satan gained a foothold when I was injured on the job and prescribed pain medicine. It took many years before the addiction took complete control, leaving me hopeless. Psalm 51:12-13, 17 says, "Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and make me willing to obey you. Then I will teach your ways to rebels, and they will return to you. The sacrifice you desire is a broken spirit. You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God." This is where God brought me to, and it was there at the Cross that He showed me what His grace and mercy are truly about. I'm excited about my future, and I look forward to rebuilding relationships as well as building new ones by helping others find the hope that I have found through Jesus Christ.

My name is George Fordyce. I'm 24 years old from Livingston, TN. I grew up in a separated, yet loving family. I accepted Christ as my personal Savior at 13 years old, but I didn't pursue a relationship with Him. I began using drugs and alcohol at age 16, and I was kicked out of high school at 17. I chased material things and ended up losing my children to the state. I eventually reached a point of brokenness that led me back to God. I asked Him to take control, and it was then that I considered Teen Challenge. Now, rather than looking to the world, I choose to be close to my Savior every day. 1 Timothy 6:6-7, "Yet true godliness with contentment is itself great wealth. After all, we brought nothing with us when we came into the world, and we can't take anything with us when we leave it."



My name is Jeremy Shellenbarger. I'm from Oscoda, MI. I was raised by very loving Christian grandparents. I went to church twice a week, but I never had a personal relationship with Jesus. I began drinking and doing drugs as a teenager, and I eventually became a full blown alcoholic and drug addict. I've been in and out of jail and secular rehabs, but I couldn't stay clean. Here at Teen Challenge I found what I was missing; Jesus Christ. I've been set free from the chains of addiction. John 8:36 says, "Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed."

My name is Steve LeGrand. I'm 46 years old from Baldwin, MI. I grew up in a broken home where I witnessed and experienced abuses that made me very angry. I turned to alcohol to deal with my anger and to fit in with the "in" crowd. My 30 year alcohol addiction included several run-ins with the law and 3 divorces. I alienated myself from all those who loved me and I turned away from God. Last year, I rededicated my life to Jesus at Teen Challenge. He has given me love for life and a heart to help others. He has become the center of my life. I am confident that God will lead me and guide me after I leave Teen Challenge. Praise God that He paid my debt and gave me hope for a future.

