

WESTERN MICHIGAN TEEN CHALLENGE

May 2016

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



Dear Friends,

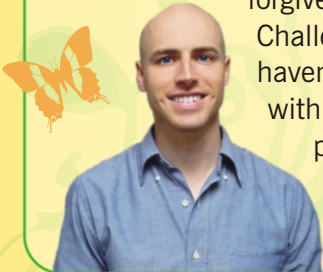
Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. This month has been a very busy month here at Teen Challenge. Beyond our **busy daily** schedule we had the privilege of having two get-acquainted, fundraising banquets in behalf of the ministry of Teen Challenge - **Muskegon** and **Grand Rapids**. Both banquets were well attended and greatly anointed by the Holy Spirit. Besides the spiritual blessing at each banquet, the people gave wholeheartedly with joy and gladness. Their giving was with freedom and liberality. Truly these banquets were a blessing to all who attended and to Teen Challenge as well. I believe that this great refreshing and enthusiasm will continue.

Truly we live in exciting days. Though the devil is working hard to discourage the people of God, God is pouring out of His Holy Spirit. Christians are being strengthened, encouraged, empowered, and being witnesses for Christ. The church is on the move for God. The devil is defeated, and Jesus is coming soon. Church, "stand and look up, for your salvation is near." Luke 21:28b (NLT)

We have several graduates this month and they want to express their appreciation to you, for through your prayers and giving you have assisted in their deliverance from addiction and their salvation through Christ our Lord. Thank you.

GRADUATES

My name is Andrew. I am 29 and from the Detroit area. For years, my life was chaos. The heroin, lying, manipulation, theft, depression, porn and promiscuity were the climax of a slavery that began as a bitter, arrogant Pastor's kid rejecting God. In jail, I committed my life to Christ, feeling unworthy of any love or forgiveness. I had lost all hope, money, and trust, and I am so thankful for the open doors of Teen Challenge made possible **through your prayers and support**. Teen Challenge has been a safe haven for me to learn how to live in the victory Jesus had available all along. Now I move forward with freedom, faith and hope, giving God control. I am so thankful for the restoration already in place, and I am excited to work hard in the Lord's calling for my life. Micah 6:8, "He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" -ESV



ANNUAL BIKE-A-THON

Saturday, July 16, 2016

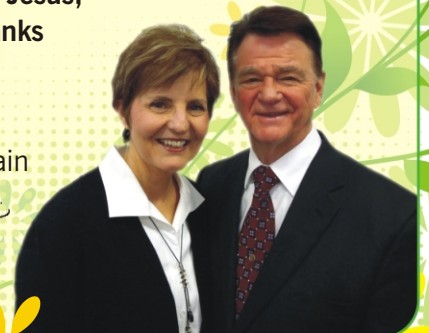
This is a great event. We usually have about 100 riders. We ride from Holland, MI to Grand Haven. Yes, it is a fundraiser. In fact, usually one of the best of the year. Riders must raise a minimum of \$150 to ride. However, some riders raise \$500, \$1,000, \$2,000, \$3,000 or more.

First, second and third place winners for raising the most finances will receive prizes such as an iPad, Bicycle, tickets to Unity Fest and more. After the ride, friends and family are invited to join us for the prize presentation, a brief evangelistic service, and a great BBQ. Please join us for the ride. For sponsorship forms or to sponsor a rider, call Teen Challenge at **231.798.7927** and ask for Cindy, Barb or Brenna.

Oh how we love the Lord and this wonderful ministry of seeing the oppressed set free through the power of Jesus Christ. And we love you on our mailing list. Thank you for being a great part of what Jesus is doing here at Western Michigan Teen Challenge. Your prayers and monthly contributions are much needed and appreciated. One day the sower, the reaper and the contributors to the ministry will sit down in God's eternal kingdom and rejoice together. Our labors and giving will be worth it all. **I know you love Jesus, and we love you. Thanks again.**

In Christ's service,
Phil & Michelle McClain

Phil & Michelle McClain



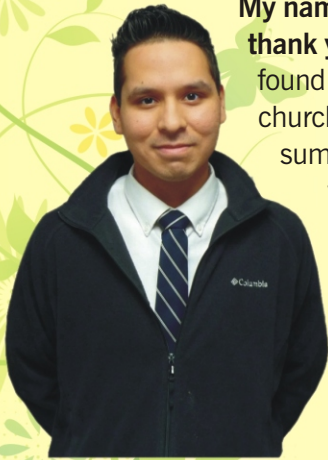
TURN OVER ▶

STUDENT TESTIMONIES



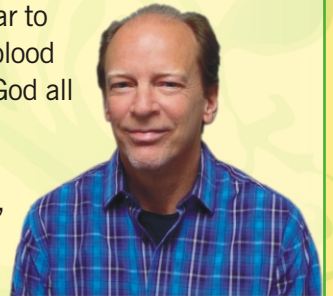
Hi, I'm Brenna. I'm 31 years old, and I'm from Grand Haven, MI. I was raised in an amazing, loving home, but at a young age, Satan got ahold of my mind and spoke lies to me. Thoughts of being worthless and insufficient gave me a false identity. I began using alcohol to change the way I felt and quickly found myself in utter darkness. Depression, shame and physical dependence on alcohol kept me in bondage for years. Treatment centers, doctors and medication could not break the chains of sin in my life, but Jesus Christ has. I know now, that Satan is a liar and has no power in my life. The Lord has delivered me and promises me a future of hope and happiness. **I am grateful to each and every one of you who support Teen Challenge with your prayers and contributions.**

My name is Amber Crihfield. I'm 30 years old from Las Vegas, NV. I used methamphetamines for the last 12 years to help numb depression. I didn't want to live anymore. I let the enemy steal every bit of hope I had, but God had different plans for me. Hallelujah! God used my Aunt to reach out to me and help me get to Teen Challenge. Since coming to Christ, I no longer suffer from depression! I have peace for the first time in my life and true joy in my heart. And you each have been a part of my growth. **Thank you for praying for me and giving to this ministry.** A verse that I hold dear to me is Colossians 1:13, "Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son."



My name is Chas Wilson, I'm 23 and am from the Muskegon area. I want to start out by saying **thank you for your giving to Teen Challenge.** Without this ministry I would be lost, but now I am found and saved. I am married with two kids. I grew up in Twin Lake, MI and was brought up in church, so I knew a little bit about God and the Word. I first started down the wrong path the summer before high school, when I began to smoke weed. That led me to hanging out with the wrong people, and then I soon started drinking and doing pills. Alcohol and sinful activities slowly brought me to the lowest point in my life. I got into a wreck while drinking and driving. After that, I came to Teen Challenge. The first time I was here for 10 months and left. I thought I had it down, but I didn't. Slowly, I went back to drinking and found myself in jail again. This time I truly, whole-heartedly called out to the Lord and gave myself to him. From then on, He's opened my eyes to a number of things I missed the first time. He's restored my marriage, relationships and my life. I give all the glory to God. 1 Corinthians 1:31 says, "That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord."

My name is Joe Humphry. I'm from Detroit, MI, and I'm 55 years young. I've been using drugs and alcohol for 40 years, with the last 20 years trapped in a severe heroin addiction and all the destruction and degradation that goes with it. For 40 years, I've been trying to fill a spiritual void with worldly things. God has lifted me out of the darkness so many times that I've lost count. This time God removed me from everything that was familiar to me and guided me to Western Michigan Teen Challenge. Here I learned about the redeeming blood of Jesus and the constant battle between flesh and spirit. From now on, I will purpose to give God all the honor, glory, and praise for everything I do and accomplish in my life. God is good, all the time...to me! **May God bless you as you have blessed this ministry with your prayers and donations.** If this place was not available to me, I would be lost and hopeless. Luke 15:7 says, "I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance."



My name is Jason, I'm 41 years old, and I'm from Sydney, Australia. All my life I have chased after the approval of the world. I knew about God, but never understood what it really meant to be a Christian man. When I was 21, I married a beautiful woman from Kalamazoo, MI and now have 4 children. God has blessed me immensely throughout my life, but my desires for the world consumed me. This led me to an alcohol addiction which nearly destroyed me. I was bound by my guilt and shame. My marriage was all but over. Satan had me by my throat. I dropped to my knees one night, cried out, and the Lord spoke to me, "I've always been here waiting for you to turn back to me." Jesus took my hand and that moment I knew God was going to take me on the ride of my life. I found out about Teen Challenge through a graduate. In April 2015, I made the commitment to enter Western Michigan Teen Challenge. Here, I surrendered everything to God. As I open up to him, he floods me with his love. My whole outlook on life has changed. He has set me free and delivered me from all my guilt and shame. My marriage has been restored, and I now have a passion to proclaim the name of Jesus in a dark world poisoned with sin. I'm confident in Christ Jesus, that as I go forth from this place, he will lead me, and I can be the husband and father God created me to be. **I would like to thank each and every one of you who contribute to this ministry.** Without the vessel of Teen Challenge I wouldn't have had the opportunity to get the relationship I needed with Jesus to fulfill the purpose He has for my life. II Corinthians 3:17-18 says, "Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord."

