

WESTERN MICHIGAN TEEN CHALLENGE

February 2014

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

Dear Friends,

I thank each of you who have stood with us in prayer, faith and financial giving for years and years. Others have joined us along the way, and still others even more recent. Your prayers, faith and giving have meant so much to each of us here at Teen Challenge. God is faithful to remember your work of faith and labor of love toward us and His work. People are continuing to come. Souls are being saved. People's lives are continuing to be changed. And each of you is a very important part of what God is doing here. I would like you to hear from some of those who are in the program and making such wonderful progress in their lives through Jesus Christ.

You Are Invited!

UPCOMING SPRING BANQUETS

Muskegon Banquet

March 20, 2014
at 7:00 pm
Maranatha Bible
Conference Grounds
4759 Lake Harbor Road

Grand Rapids Banquet

April 24, 2014
at 7:00 pm
First Assembly of God
2100 Forty-Fourth Street

Will you please attend one or both of these banquets and perhaps host a table of eight or more? R.S.V.P. Cindy at 231-798-7927.

My name is Jillian Reese and I am 23 years old from Brighton, MI. I was raised by two God-fearing parents. Just a short time ago God brought me to the end of a very long road. I was engulfed in addiction. All I knew was sin. I was on the edge of total destruction when God spoke to me and said, "Follow me." Out of complete desperation for a better life, I did just that. Thank God for Teen Challenge! This amazing ministry has me rooted and grounded in the Word. God has restored my emotions and my mind. My will has been delivered from rebellion. I am no longer bound by sin. I am free! **John 8:36 says, "Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed!"**



My name is Austin Peyla and I am 24 years old from South Bend, IN. I grew up in a very loving family. I was raised knowing right from wrong and was saved at a young age. During my teen years I began to slip away from my faith. I was introduced to the party scene and dove into it head first. At my rock bottom, I found myself hopeless and broken, addicted to both drugs and gambling. After

coming to Teen Challenge and recommitting my life to Christ, I have never felt better. By His grace I am still alive, and I am excited to see what plans He has for my future. **Proverbs 14:12, "There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death."**



My name is Misty, and I am 29 years old from Muskegon, MI. I grew up in a loving Christian home knowing the Lord, but I never pursued a personal relationship with him. As a teenager I drifted away from the Lord because sin seemed more enticing. I became addicted to drugs at an early age. My addiction to methadone took complete control over my life leaving me empty and hopeless. I lost everything, including custody of my two young boys. By God's grace I came to Teen Challenge, and my life has been completely transformed. Since being here I have been set free from sin, addiction, and the guilt and shame that came along with it. God has given me peace, joy and rest. He has restored broken relationships, and He is giving me a second chance at being a Godly mother. He has given me a hope and a future. **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."**

Graduates



Kevin Hawkins



Leisha Wilson

As you have read the testimonies of those in this letter, you can see that God is doing a very special precious work in their lives. And you are a big part of what God is doing. All of us here at Teen Challenge say a big thank you. May God continue to bless you. And may we together see one of the greatest years spiritually in the history of Teen Challenge. By His grace we will work till He comes. Thanks again. God bless. We love you.

In Christ's Love,
Phil & Michelle McClain



Phil & Michelle McClain

Student Testimonies



My name is Austin McElroy and I am 30 years old from Lenoir City, TN. I grew up in a great Christian home. I was involved in church, a great student, and a standout athlete. On the outside, it looked like I was on track to a great life, but on the inside I struggled to find my identity. For me, going to church wasn't about a personal relationship with Christ, it was about pleasing those around me. Because my foundation was never in the Lord, I set a standard of compromise that caused my life to spiral out of control. Drugs and alcohol consumed my life. I was lost and broken and ready to give up on life. But I thank God that He never gave up on me. He restored my family and is performing new miracles everyday in my life. Because of His work through Teen Challenge, I have my hope and peace back. He has shown me my true identity: Son of the King of Kings, and heir to a throne in Heaven. All glory to God!

My name is Leisha Wilson and I'm 23 years old from Muskegon, MI. I grew up in a loving Christian family and was raised in church. At the age of 17, I turned away from the Lord and began drinking. Alcohol quickly consumed my life. I dropped out of high school and distanced myself from my family. After the death of my mother, I completely gave up, lost all hope and spiraled out of control. Although I turned away from the Lord, He kept his protective hand over my life even while I made reckless decisions. My father, being a Teen Challenge graduate, understood my struggles and encouraged me to come to Teen Challenge. I now have a relationship with Christ, and I no longer live with the guilt of choosing my addictions over my family. **Joshua 1:9, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; be not afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."**



My name is Kevin Hawkins and I'm 31 years old from Livingston, TN. I grew up in a loving Christian family. At the age of 13, I started smoking and then began drinking alcohol. That was just the beginning of my downward, out of control spiral as I used all types of drugs. While sitting in jail, I determined that was not where my life would end. I asked God for help. He opened the door for me to come to Teen Challenge. I have given my life to Christ and thank God for everything. The verse I stand on is **Job 31:6, "May I be weighed on honest scales, that God may know my integrity."**

And all people of the earth shall see that thou art called by the name of the Lord