

# WESTERN MICHIGAN TEEN CHALLENGE

440 PONTALUNA ROAD MUSKEGON, MI 49444 231-798-7927

FEBRUARY 2007

## dear friends,

I am constantly reminded of the gracious kindness and love of our Lord Jesus Christ. He continually sustains us and gives us strength for every test. He never leaves us, nor forsakes us. He is a constant guide and supplies our every need. He understands us at every moment of our lives. He has told us that He is the vine and we are the branches, that without Him we can do nothing. How true it is. When we are helpless and weak, He comes to our aid and helps us. He never fails. The songwriter penned it so well when he said, "What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear. What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer." He is our comfort in sorrow, our strength when we are weak. To whom shall we go? There is none like the Lord. In Him we put our hope, our trust, our complete future. Lord, we are yours.

## ALUMNI

Friday, February 16 at 7:00 PM  
at Teen Challenge

We are looking forward to good food, wonderful fellowship and spiritual encouragement. RSVP Sharon at 231.798.7927 or [sharonb@wm-tc.com](mailto:sharonb@wm-tc.com).

## UPCOMING BANQUETS

Muskegon Banquet  
March 29th at 7:00 pm  
Maranatha Bible Conference Grounds  
4759 Lake Harbor Road

Grand Rapids Banquet  
April 19th at 7:00 pm  
First Assembly of God  
2100 Forth Fourth Street

We invite you to attend one of these banquets and perhaps host a table of eight or more. Contact Sharon at 231.798.7927 or [sharonb@wm-tc.com](mailto:sharonb@wm-tc.com).

## graduates



Gadson Pompey



Pamela Steinlicht



John Wese



Henry Goldner



Fallon Ruby

## student testimony

My name is Gabriel Dorris. I'm 21 years old. I am from Lansing, Michigan. As far as I can remember, my mother was an alcoholic and drug addict. Life for me as a child was very stressful. When I was eight years old, my parents divorced and things continually got worse. At the age of 12, I began to experiment with alcohol and drugs. At the age of 16, my mother introduced me to crack cocaine. Then my life really fell apart. I began robbing my family to support my habit. I continued to use more and more crack cocaine to fill the void I felt deep inside me. I began stealing credit cards from my dad. I would send money transfers to myself on my dad's credit cards and even ordered more credit cards in my dad's name until the credit card company called my dad. He gave me a choice to enroll in Teen Challenge or live on the streets. I came to Teen Challenge, stayed for one week and then my dad let me go back home. I still



didn't get what God had for me. I started doing the same things again. More crack cocaine, more stealing, more robbing, more pain, and more loneliness. I just wanted to be loved.

This time, I ran up over \$12,000 on credit cards, and once again my dad found out. This time he threatened me with prosecution or Teen Challenge. Again I entered Teen Challenge and stayed for one week. Again I went back home. Again I still didn't get what God had for me and again I began smoking crack cocaine. Then I spent my college funds of \$15,000 on crack cocaine. After this, I became depressed and thought about suicide. I hated the person I had become. For the first time in my life, I knew I needed to change, and deep down inside I wanted to change. Once again I decided to come to Teen Challenge. My father bought my ticket and put me on the bus. As soon as he drove away I got off the bus and told the bus driver I wanted my bags. But at the last minute something inside of me told me to get back on the bus. I did. I had a pocket full of crack, and I smoked it all the way here. Immediately God began to work in my life. I've been here for seven months now, and for the first time in my life I feel the love I so much desired. I am now learning the peace of God. I now have hope and faith that God has a wonderful plan for my life. I am so thankful God never gave up on me even when I gave up on myself.

*For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.*

When trials overtake you and your life seems hopeless and in despair, remember Jesus is there. He, too, suffered being tempted or tested. Therefore, He understands and is able to help you when you are tested or tempted. He is touched with the feeling of your infirmities, your weaknesses. In your time of struggle, you can come to His throne of grace where you can obtain mercy (for all your short comings) and find grace (enabling strength) to help in your time of need. Be encouraged. He will not suffer you to be tempted (or tested) above that which you are able. But, will with the temptation or trial make a way of escape that you might be able to bear it. I love you, and Michelle and I will be praying for you.

Meanwhile, keep the faith. Fight the good fight of faith. Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. And remember, our Lord is coming soon. Maranatha. My heart is full. "My tongue is the pen of a ready writer." (Psalm 45:1b) My true desire is to be an encouragement to you.

Thank you for standing with Michelle and I through your prayers and faithful financial support for this ministry. Your prayers and financial support are constant reminders of your love for us, for Jesus, and for precious souls. May you be blessed as we continue together in this great harvest field for souls.

*Phil & Michelle McClain*  
Phil & Michelle McClain

