

western michigan teen challenge

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

January 2007

dear friends,

I trust that each of you had a wonderful Christmas, and I pray that each of you will have a blessed New Year. 2006 was such a precious year in the Lord and in service unto Him. We saw many victories, accomplishments and blessings. The opportunity of 2007 now lies before us. As our Lord said, "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh when no man can work." (John 4:9) The night represents lost opportunity - it's too late to work. The day represents opportunity. Now is the time to work - to work for the Lord! We are labors together with Him. Our labor consists of spending our time working to affect people's lives spiritually - to help them come to know God, to be born again, and to prepare them for eternity. The exact time of Jesus' return is uncertain. However, by the signs He has given us, we know it is very soon. We must seize the moment - this window of opportunity that the Lord has given us to accomplish His work. So many still do not know Jesus. Many need to grow and be encouraged in their faith. We must remember Paul's words, "...your labor is not in vain in the Lord." (1 Cor 15:58) He also said, "and let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." (Gal 6:9) The work of the Lord is indeed work! But then again, it is a joy. By the grace of God we will work 'til Jesus comes. 2006 is now history and 2007 lies before us. So we roll up our sleeves and rise up in faith, prayer, joy, giving; and work while it is day. We seize the moment. We take advantage of this God-given opportunity to labor for Him. And we do it with joy!

Outreach To New York

What a tremendous outpouring of the Holy Spirit! Over 400 people came to Christ!



graduates

Take time to be holy, speak oft with thy Lord; take time to be holy, the world rushes on..." Be still and know that I am God." -Psalm 46:10



Ian Zimomra



Todd Endsley



Andrew Thompson



Greg Henderson



Glenn Morris



Erica McElfresh



Anita Romeo



Brian Conover



Debra Abbott

WOMEN'S CENTER-SOUTH DORM



The remodeling of the south dorm is now complete and in operation. The improvements and repairs were much needed and a blessing. Now we plan to start the repairs and remodeling of the north dorm.

ALUMNI FELLOWSHIP

Friday, February 16, 2007 at 7:00 pm. At Teen Challenge, 440 Pontaluna Road, Muskegon, MI
RSVP to Sharon Berg at 231.798.7927

VICTORIES AND BLESSINGS OF 2006

1155 ...Decisions for Christ
213Filled with the Holy Spirit
87Baptized in water
118Completed the 3 month induction program
99Completed the full year program
15Completed our 3 month restoration program
282Rallies/Church Meetings

BOWL-ATHON

Saturday, February 3, 2007 at 12:00 Noon.
At Northway Lanes, 1751 Evanston Ave., Muskegon, MI

Registration Time: 11:00 am to 11:50 am

For More Info: Contact Shawn or Rob at 231.798.7927



testimony

My name is Jennifer and I am 35 years old. I was raised in a Christian Reformed home with very godly parents. Every time the church was open we were there. When I graduated from High School I went off to college and stopped going to church. I got away from God and started doing the selfish things of the world. Whatever was exciting, entertaining and popular is what I was into.

After college I landed a very successful sales position. However, I was diagnosed with a medical condition and was prescribed the pain medication vicodin. I loved it! I took it every day. When that doctor stopped prescribing it, I went to another doctor. When that doctor stopped I went to another, and soon I was doctor hopping all over the State of Michigan. I would take any prescribed narcotic that I could get and this continued for the next eight years.

Through all of this I was miserable and empty inside, so I started going to therapists and psychiatrists to find out what was wrong with me. They diagnosed me with ADD, ADHD, depression, anxiety and bi-polar and started prescribing me medications for these conditions on top of what I was already taking.

In January of 2004, a doctor busted me for doctor hopping and sent me to my first secular rehab. This is where I met

people who introduced me to the drugs heroine and crack cocaine and my life fell apart. Over the next two years, I was in and out of seven different rehabs and detox centers and I was locked up in a state mental institution. I totally lost my sales career.

This past January I was alone in a sleeze-bag motel in Grand Rapids doing whatever I had to do to get the drugs. I had no car, no job, and was homeless. I had no contact with my family, they were done with me. I was in complete darkness. That's when I cried out to God. He brought back to my remembrance Teen Challenge and for the first time I felt a sense of hope. He gave me the strength to call my mother, and she will testify today that she had been praying and an hour later the phone rang. You see, God had already started working.

Two weeks later, I came skipping through the doors of Teen Challenge because I had already begun to experience God's peace.

I do not have ADD, ADHD, bi-polar or depression. I sleep soundly every night and I don't wake up with that awful pit in my stomach trying to figure out how to get through the day. I am learning to rest under the protection and care of Jesus. I am eternally grateful and very thankful. To God be the glory!



JENNIFER VANDERGALIEU

Many opportunities for ministry lie before us this year. We look forward to it with anticipation and joy. Like Jennifer, hundreds were saved and discipled last year and the momentum continues. This is the Lord's work. It is a work of faith and labor of love. Thanks to all of you for standing with us and laboring with us in the gospel. Your prayers, friendship, encouragement and giving are an all-important part of this precious, fruitful ministry. Thanks again! Remember, "Your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

Michelle and I, along with all the staff and students here at Teen Challenge, love you dearly. Be blessed!

Yours serving Christ,

Phil & Michelle McClain
Phil & Michelle McClain

