

WESTERN MICHIGAN TEEN CHALLENGE

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

MARCH 2007

DEAR FRIENDS,

From start to finish the Christian life is a walk of faith. We are saved by faith yet, we need continued faith for the journey. 2 Corinthians 5:7 says, "For we walk by faith, not by sight." Life can yield its challenges, disappointments, difficulties and trials. Perhaps the death of a loved one, divorce, unemployment or a child on drugs are some life struggles that can be quite demanding. At that point, the devil comes in to discourage and instill doubt and fear. That's when faith is so important. Faith looks beyond the circumstances and challenges to God and His promises. Abraham is known as the father of faith of all those who believe, who walk in faith. It was written of him that he hoped when there was no hope. He chose to believe God when all circumstances dictated otherwise. And God was faithful to His promise to Abraham. What we see in Abraham's life, we can experience in our life. The devil is going to fight you just like he has the rest of us. But he is a liar and the father of lies.

The just shall live by faith. (Rom. 1:17b) Faith in God and His promises will bring us through to the other side. It will give us strength to endure. 1 John 5:4 says, "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith."

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

GRADUATES



Michelle Becraft



Megan Eyer



Jill Polglaze



David Pratt



Jennifer VanderGallen



Christine Born

ALUMNI CELEBRATION

February 16th's Alumni Banquet was well attended. Great to see familiar faces and to hear of God's faithfulness!



NEW STUDENTS Pictured are our newest students. Pray for them as they endeavor to allow God to work in their lives and change them.

STUDENT TESTIMONY

Deb - I am 45 years old and from West Virginia. I was raised in a great family. I knew of and believed in the Lord, but I didn't have a personal relationship with Him. At the age of 18, I started rebelling. I was full of pride and spent many years drinking and caring about no one but myself. At the age of 35, my marriage of 10 years ended. I was devastated. Instead of turning to the Lord, I turned to drugs. I was prescribed Tylox, Percosets and eventually Oxycontin. Of course, I abused these drugs. When I didn't get high from eating or snorting them, I started doing drugs by IV. I would lie, cheat, rob, steal and do anything to get more. My health deteriorated. I had grand mal seizures and was on two blood pressure pills a day. I had abscesses in both arms. But, all this did not make me quit. I continued to abuse drugs trying to fill the void and pain in my heart.

By God's grace I was arrested for selling drugs. While incarcerated, I gave my heart to Jesus. When I was released, I walked the Christian life for over a year. I had a job and was happier than I had ever been. But struggles came into the home. My younger brother went to prison on drug charges, and my older brother took his own life, also due to addiction. Through all the pain, I once again started compromising and fell harder than ever. Again I was arrested. I had failed my family, the court system, myself, and most of all God. I had even planned a way to end my life. But once more I cried out to the Lord, and once again He heard my cry. He worked through my probation officer and the judge, and I was sent to Teen Challenge. Today, I know that Jesus is all I need. My Lord has healed me. He has given me a peace and joy that floods my soul. He comforts me and fills that void in my heart. He has also healed my body. I am no longer on high blood pressure medication, antidepressants or nerve pills. Isaiah 40:31, "For they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings as eagles. They shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint."



When doubts and fears assail and the storms of life are raging, look away to Jesus. He is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother. He will never leave you nor forsake you. As He stilled the raging storm at sea when His disciples were perplexed, He is going to still the storm in your life. He said, "Be still and know that I am God." We stand in faith with you. Only believe!

I thank each of you for your prayer and financial support of this ministry. You are a vital part of this ongoing work. You are needed, appreciated, and loved. May God bless you.

Phil & Michelle McClain

Phil & Michelle McClain

