

the MESSENGER

Serving, Reaching, Teaching — *Together*

SEPTEMBER 2017

CARRIAGE TOWN MINISTRIES

Lessie is a
New Man

Your generosity impacted
his entire family!



carriage town
MINISTRIES

Serving the Needy Since 1950



A Note from Dr. Dallas Gatlin

CARRIAGE TOWN MINISTRIES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Productive. Redemptive. Community.

Dear Friend,

When all of our children were born, it was immediately clear they were ours. The power of genes being passed along from parents to children is unmistakable. They inherit so much of who we are from the way we look to the way we feel.

At Carriage Town Ministries, we've become deeply invested in the "genetic make-up" of our programs. That's why we've made being a redemptive productive community an important part of our DNA.

The heart of our program is the notion that we're all of equal value in God's eyes. We might have different roles, but those responsibilities don't make us any better or worse than someone else with another set of skills.

From residents to staff to volunteers to guests, we actively strive to understand the power of redemption, productivity and community together.

We all need to be redeemed from our wayward direction in life. We all need to feel productive, utilizing our gifts in a way that brings dignity and value. And we all need community — to know that we belong, not only to God, but to each other.

This culture has taken time to build, but it's a privilege to see it grounded in the notion that everyone is a personal project of God Almighty. You are His idea — and if God says you have value — then without question, you do!

Lessie is a living testament of the redemptive, productive community at Carriage Town. And there are so many others like him who are walking with security and purpose today, thanks to God's provision through friends like you.

No matter what circumstances brought a guest to our doors, their DNA is the same: imprinted with God's seal of approval and unconditional love. We are his. All of us are. Let's continue to love our neighbors as such.

Dr. Dallas Gatlin
Executive Director

“Just as a body,
though one,
has many parts,
but all its many
parts form
one body, so it
is with Christ . . .
God has placed
the parts in the
body, every one
of them, just as
he wanted them
to be.”

1 Corinthians 12: 12 & 18

How God Uses You to Transform Lives, Families & Communities!

Every day at Carriage Town Ministries, your generosity is on display -- from the delicious meals prepared and served in our dining room to the beautiful grounds where guests pray, study and serve. As you look through these pictures, please know that every smile, every meal and every hope-filled life is possible because of your compassion. Thank you for sharing it with our Carriage Town community.



Ask
AND IT WILL
BE GIVEN

Every day, your support helps to serve over 390 meals to guests in our men's ministry! You are filling stomachs with wholesome food and spirits with renewed hope. Thank you!

A foundational element of our Personal Success Plan program is spiritual awareness and growth. Through visiting speakers, biblical teaching and personal study, men are developing a rich faith life and gaining practical tools for daily living.





Your generosity is a great reminder to our guests that when we give, we receive! Every morning, residents spend time cleaning up our neighborhood so they can take pride in their surroundings and community.

It's exciting for men to gain new career skills and grow in their confidence. Our Career Edge Job Search program plugs men into career options and opportunities in which they can excel!



Honor a Loved One in the CTM Memorial Garden



The garden at Carriage Town Ministries has been serving the residents here and in the surrounding community since 2010. It provides not only food, but an opportunity to learn gardening skills from the Master Gardeners who regularly tend the gardens.

In 2011 the garden was named the "Denny Nichols Memorial Garden" in honor of one of its founders. In 2013, a brick entrance was added as part of an Eagle Scout Project. In the spring of 2017 the memorial brick path was added.

For a \$50, \$100, or \$200 donation, a brick can be engraved in honor of a loved one, to show support, a special gift, or to acknowledge a group, business, or church, etc.

Funds raised from this project will be used for The Children's Center Garden and Playground Project.

To order or get more information, please contact Marilyn Nichols, our Master Gardener, at ctmgarden@gmail.com.

“My family would thank you, especially my mother, my wife and children.”

When Lessie stepped through the doors of Carriage Town Ministries, he was homeless, jobless, suicidal, and addicted to crack cocaine.

He will be the first to tell you, the only reason he's alive today is by the grace of God.

Lessie became addicted to drugs at age 16. Living on the streets, he was shot, stabbed, and narrowly escaped threats on his life. He hit rock bottom in 2009, his health failing.

One morning after a heart surgery, he woke up and thought, “This is it. My life is not gonna get any better if I stay here, if I continue smoking these drugs, living this lifestyle.”

Lessie found a new path of redemption at Carriage Town Ministries. After his arrival, he received the immediate blessings of food, shelter and care for his health. He was then able to take advantage of the Personal Success Program, bringing order and direction back to his life.

He began daily employment, became involved in Alcoholics Anonymous, went back to school and earned a master's degree in Social Work. He now serves as a shift manager at the Mission.

Today, Lessie is driven by hope in Christ and a passion for helping others. He finds joy and encouragement in his leadership role. He welcomes the homeless and needy, provides for physical needs and shares his own journey.

Lessie is reminded that Jesus said, “It is not the healthy that need a physician, but the sick.”

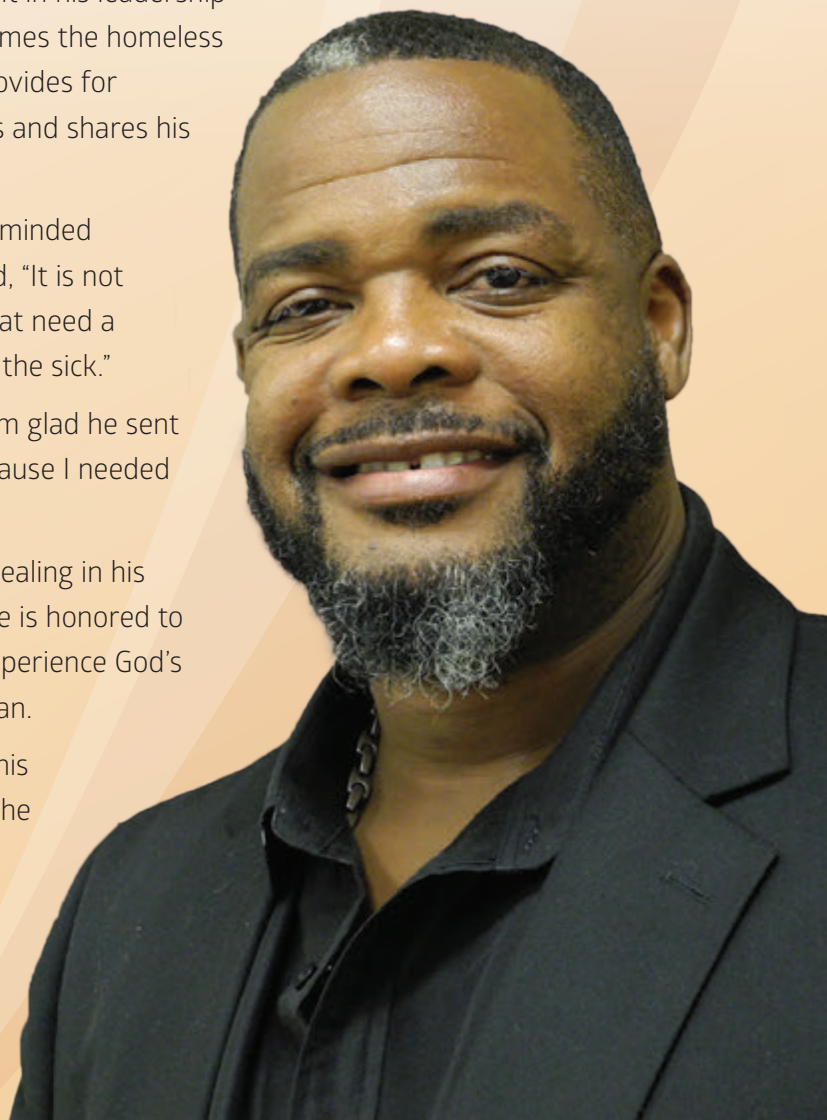
He says, “I'm glad he sent this place, because I needed a physician.”

After the healing in his own life, Lessie is honored to help others experience God's redemptive plan.

He shares his gratitude for the generosity of Mission supporters.

“My family would thank you, especially my mother, my wife and children.”

God works through your gifts to transform lives and further the work of his kingdom in servants like Lessie. He says, “I'm giving back what was freely given to me.”



Memorial & In Honor Of Gifts

Gifts received March 9, 2017 – June 30, 2017

An honor or memorial gift to Carriage Town Ministries is a special way to offer hope to the needy in the name of a friend or family member. Our deepest sympathies are with friends who have lost loved ones.

If you would like to give a gift in memory of a loved one who has passed away, or in honor of a special occasion, please mail your gift and the name of the person(s) being remembered or honored to:

Carriage Town Ministries
605 Garland Street
P.O. Box 318
Flint, MI 48501

We will let your honoree or the family of the deceased know of your gift with a special card.

Thank you!

MEMORIAL

Loren Adams

Karen Molina

Richard Adomat

Marvin Bielski Family

William Allen

Audrey Henderson

Dorothy Anthony

Carl & Lisa Burkeen

Timothy Denney

A. Freeman

Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Gillmer
Sue Graham

James & Kathleen Harvey
Mr. & Mrs. Brent Little

Layne Little and Family
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Miller
Robert & Sandra Nickora
Donald & Betty Storey
Mr. & Mrs. David Turner

Eva Bone

Cheryl Fabean

Sharon Ward

Mr. & Mrs. David Batema
Merrienne Rodgerson

Herb Butler

Sally Berry

Mary Lydia Carter

Mr. & Mrs. Ted Rodgers

Mr. & Mrs. Donald Coffin

Debra Christman

Edmond Collins

Carolyn Collins

Collins (Mike) Dark

Helen (Dark) Bierwirth

Pat Downey

Carl & Carol Castles

Dennis & Jeanie Castles

Dennis & Winona Castles

Pat Downey Family

Daniel & Karen Schmidt

Nancy Duplanty

Mr. & Mrs. Gary Smothers

Larry Elliott

Carolyn Elliott

Freda Farone

Eileen Branoff

Vern & Bessie Filer

Mr. & Mrs. Bob Filer

Terry Fisher (Vietnam Veteran)

Jose & Caroline Capuchina

William Flynn, Sr

Dole & Julie Boadway

Evelyn Forman

Roberta Goergon

Brandon Green

Eileen Prabucki

Carlton Gregory

Mrs. Terry Koliopoulos

Donald Griffin

Brenda Nedefskit

Jim Scriptor

Rae & Rob Shay

F. Harb

Jumana Barden

Wilhelm Hense

Holiday Springs Men's Club

Anna Hess

Raina J Palso

Dennis Hiltz

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Allen, Jr

Clarence Lemon

Joan Lemon

Joan Lowe

Jose & Caroline Capuchina

Larry McInnis

Patrick and Laura McInnis

Margaret Mortenson

Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Bielski

Helen Murphy

Charles Birney

David Oskey

Mr. & Mrs. Eldon Price

Bertie Pauline

Phyllis Gentry

Edith Pfundt

Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Ketner

James Schaffer

Diana Potter

Marcella Kayko

Mike Prabucki

Eileen Prabucki

Raymond Scott

Carolyn Collins

Thomas Shahin

Tami Shahin

Sallie Stinson

Gloria Stinson

Gene & Pauline Tipton

Joanne Tipton

Stuart Turfus

Marjorie Farver

Luke Volker

Tom & Mary Volker

Mrs. R. Joan Wartella

Mr. & Mrs. Alvar Aho

Patricia Beasley

Lucinda Brier

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Britton

Dana Chappell

Mr. & Mrs. Clark Cook

Crossroads District United
Methodist

Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Cymbal

S. Fischer

Dennis Fischer

Shirley Franklin

Rhonda Jensen

Curtis Johnson & Anne
Marie Gierens

Elouise Kilmer

Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Nelson

Niles Bros Investment LLC

Barbara S. Reid

Donna Rice

Roxanne Roach

Richard Vosburgh

Nancy Wartella

Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Weller

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Zellej

Wilma Wheatland

Mr. & Mrs. John Lamb

Dean Wilson

Cora Wilson

HONOR

Fathers and Mothers

Otisville United Methodist
Church-Women

Ron Mielke

Amy Hannigan

Steve Simms

John & Beth Reynolds

Board of Trustees

Mrs. Sharon Fouts
President

Mr. William Stanke
Vice President

Mr. Donald Rockwell
Secretary

Mr. Gary Cooper
Trustee

Rev. Eric Lewis
Trustee

Mr. Robert Meyer
Trustee

Rev. Dean Stewart
Trustee

Dr. Beverly Walker-Griffea
Trustee

Our Mission

is to provide
help, hope, and
the Good News to
our community through
the skills and means
of God's people and
the transforming power
of Christ's love.



P.O. Box 318
Flint, MI 48501-0318
(810) 233-8787
www.carriagetown.org

