

the MESSSENGER

Serving, Reaching, Teaching — *Together*

APRIL 2018

This spring,
Sheila celebrates
God's promise
of new life!

Thanks to your support!





A Note from Dr. Dallas Gatlin

CARRIAGE TOWN MINISTRIES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

From Darkness To Light

Dear Friend,

As a Michigan native, I am thankful for experiencing four full seasons most of my life. Spring is especially powerful as we visibly see light and life burst forth after a cold, darkened winter. I don't have to wonder if spring will come. God demonstrates his faithfulness year after year.

I believe we need these reminders, consistently, to understand God's vision for us. Though we live in a world filled with dark intentions, decisions, and consequences, God faithfully extends each of us the light of new life in Christ.

As you'll read in this issue of The Messenger, Sheila knows the helpless feeling of despair as drugs strangled hope from her life for decades. But death didn't have the last say for Sheila. God did — and He has used your generosity to show her His light at the end of her dark tunnel.

But the new life proclaimed at Carriage Town isn't just for neighbors like Sheila. It's for you. It's for me.

When you give your time, talents and treasure to support our ministry, I believe God is using stories like Sheila's to serve as a "spring" in our lives. He reminds us that His promises are still true, His Word is still active, and His offer of new life still stands.

I hope that your generosity to Carriage Town Ministries stems from an overwhelming gratitude for the life God has given you. As you share your hope with men and women like Sheila, they, too, get an opportunity to experience the freedom and renewal of a redeemed life.

I thank God for spring, and I thank God for you.

Dr. Dallas Gatlin
Executive Director

“Though you
have made me
see troubles,
many and
bitter, you will
restore my life
again...”

PSALM 71:20a

God Gives New Life to People in Need through You!

Thank you for sharing God's love and promises with the Carriage Town community!

Each picture represents the renewed hope available as residents give their lives to Jesus Christ.



Thanks to all of our volunteers who serve with joyful hearts, whether helping in our dining room, chapel, learning center and more!

Your generosity helps men and women develop new computer and job skills in our Learning Center. Thank you for giving them tools to secure meaningful work.





Many thanks to our visiting speakers and Bible study leaders who help our residents grow closer to Jesus Christ and deepen their understanding of God's Word.

The expansion of our clothing ministry is serving more neighborhoods than ever before. We thank the many local churches and civic leaders who help to ensure the needs of neighbors are met quickly and effectively.



Through our Family Center, your generosity provides women and their children with a safe place to regain stability and grow together as a family!

Blueline Donuts

Bringing people together and helping the homeless

From fritters to glazed to seasonal specialties, Carriage Town Ministries is baking up some delicious donuts each morning through their Blueline Donuts shop.

This unique job training program helps residents learn marketable career skills, whether they go into food service or another industry.

Freshly baked donuts are available every Wednesday morning from 7 AM to 11 AM at Carriage Town. You can also find our signature espresso donut Monday-Friday at Foster Coffee Company located in downtown Flint.

Thanks to our incredible team of bakers and staff, as well as the faithful patrons of Blueline Donuts. We're here to serve you the tastiest treats in town.



“Only by the grace of God am I still here.”

How God used you to save Sheila’s life

At 61 years of age, Sheila has already lived a very full life by human standards. Sadly, most of those years have been spent in an unrelenting, unforgiving cycle of substance abuse.

“I’ve overdosed three times,” Sheila shares. “And just before coming to Carriage Town Ministries, I was very depressed and suicidal.”

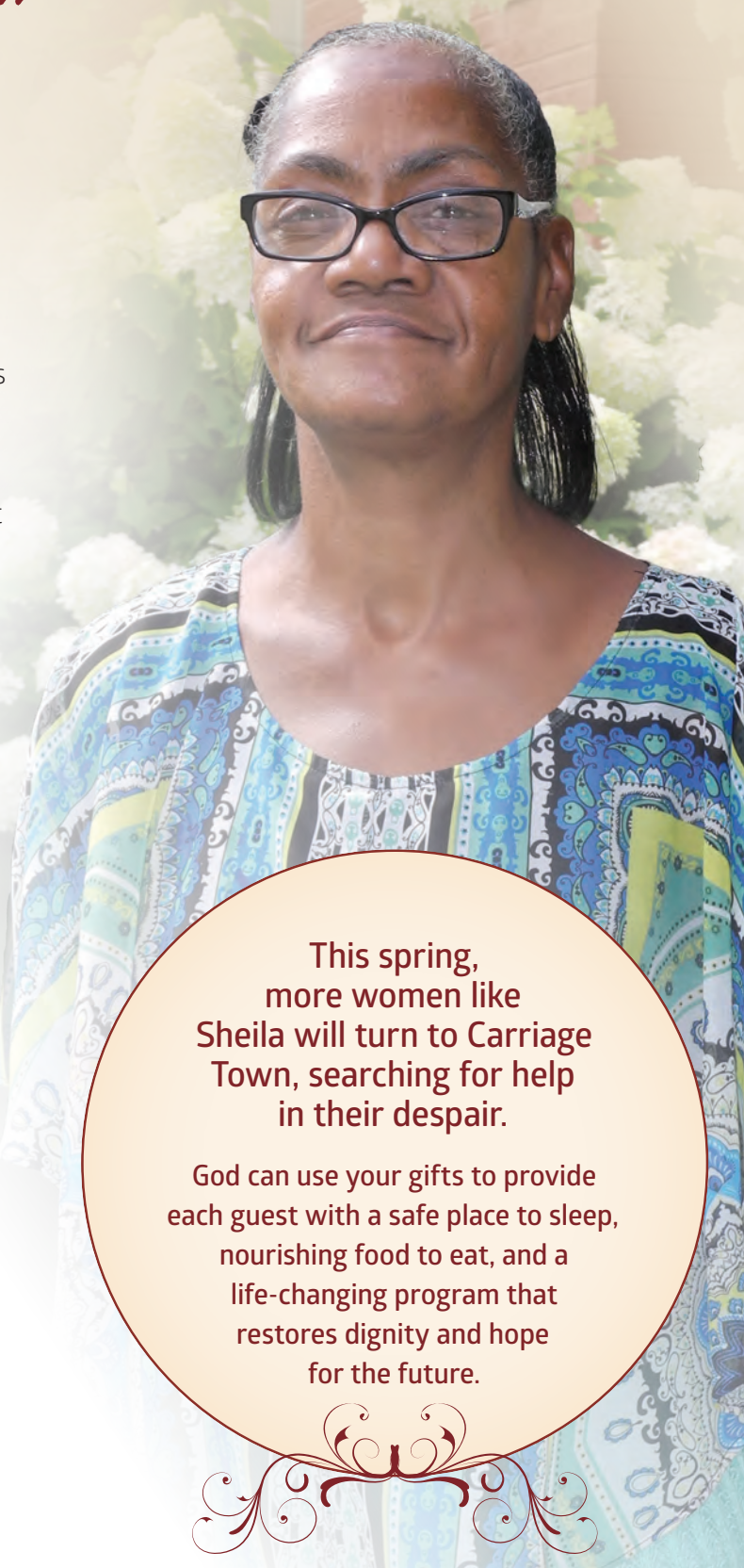
We thank God for intervening in Sheila’s life, leading her to a local hospital for immediate care. We also thank God for guiding her to call Carriage Town Ministries after being discharged, where she knew she could find a spiritual recovery program to get well.

Thanks to God’s provision through your support, we had a bed available for Sheila right away. Deeply aware of her need for spiritual renewal, Sheila wholeheartedly dedicated herself to our Personal Success Plan program.

“They teach you to put your relationship with God first,” she says. “And by following the plan and helping other people, I knew I was helping myself.”


Through her perseverance and commitment to drawing closer to God, Sheila is a new woman today. She is nearing an entire year of freedom from drugs, and currently serves in our Family Center.

“Only by the grace of God am I still here,” Sheila affirms. “Without Carriage Town, I’d still be struggling with my addiction.”



**This spring,
more women like
Sheila will turn to Carriage
Town, searching for help
in their despair.**

**God can use your gifts to provide
each guest with a safe place to sleep,
nourishing food to eat, and a
life-changing program that
restores dignity and hope
for the future.**



Memorial & In Honor Of Gifts

Gifts received September 16, 2017 – December 31, 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

Imogene Bailey

Richard & Phyllis Campbell
Jeffrey & Sheryl Engleman
Hazen Germaine
Susan Hagen and Family
Denny & Karen Pinkston
Richard & Michelle Ratliff
Thomas & Dorothy Yoder

Homer Bassett

Pat Bassett
Merell & Sonia Cameron

Derik Brendle

Debra M. Grossman

Virginia Bolerjack

Stephen Bolerjack

Sister Valarie Britt

Macedonia Baptist Church

Nick Clark

Kristina Vredevel

Osma Costello

Randall & Susie Stroud

Shirley Deneen

Mr. & Mrs. George Angell
Sherry Baxter
June Bitterman
Christine L. Campbell
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Coffron
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Desmyter
Alice Jewett
Dennis, Patsy, Ann Kelly
Timothy & Anne Ketner
Floyd & Elaine Olmsted
Betty Wenzlick

Edward Diebold

Susan Diebold

James Faught

Marie Faris
Daniel Smithingell

Brendon Fitch

Florence Fitch

Lela Gates

Mrs. John Lemon

Eloise "Ellie" Gilmore

Wade & Mary Lou Prestonise

Ruth Evelyn Harper

Major Dean Harper

Beth Florine

Bob & Shirley Florine

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Janet Forest

Alberta St Claire Frazier

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Terry O'Brien
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Mr. and Mrs. Terry Leonard

Dan Smithingell

Jacequeline Jakeway

Sallie Stinson

Gloria Stinson

Jacqueline "Kitten" Tate

James Drummond

Jeanette Gray

John and Mary Snell

C. M. Tate

Stuart Turfus

David & Rosario Petro

Renee Vertin

Cary & Michael Kalowick

Roger and Marcia Walburn

Jerry & Sandy Passow

R. John Wartella

Norman Isbell

Ron Winters

Victoria Russell

HONOR

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Rosemarie Hooper

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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.



Serving the Needy Since 1950

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www.carriagetown.org



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