

the MESSSENGER

Serving, Reaching, Teaching — *Together*

NOVEMBER 2018

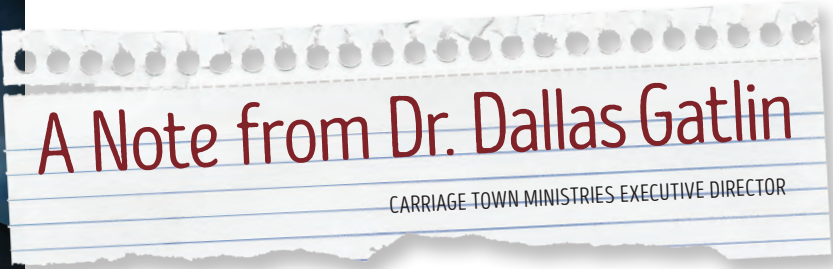
You give
hurting neighbors

A
Home
for the
Holidays



carriageTown
MINISTRIES

Serving the Needy Since 1950



A Place To Call Home

Dear Friend,

Home.

There's something about the word that makes you feel at peace, refreshed, and like you belong. When you don't have a place to call home, you can feel the opposite. Insecure. Tired. Alone.

At a time when most of us are preparing to spend the holidays with loved ones, I am thankful that your generosity provides hurting guests with a place to call home at Carriage Town Ministries.

If you haven't stepped foot inside our doors, you might not realize how warm and welcoming Carriage Town is. Our kind staff, loving volunteers, and hospitable rooms make men and women feel at ease. And when residents begin planning a better future for themselves, they settle in even more and realize they have a true sense of family here.

Katherine and Jeremy can both tell you in this edition of The Messenger how having a place to call "home" has been an important part of rebuilding their lives. God calls us to live in community, and that's exactly what your generosity has given them.

As you spend time with friends and family this holiday season, take some extra time to show loved ones you care, say why you're grateful, and cherish every moment you have together.

Thank you again for your compassion and for showing God's love to people in need this Thanksgiving.

Dr. Dallas Gatlin, Executive Director

“Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.”

PSALM 100:4

“I could’ve been out on the streets.”

God used you to lead Katherine home

From pillows to blankets, Katherine is gifted in creating soft, cozy pieces that make a house feel like a home. But when she was evicted earlier this spring, nothing could make the prospect of homelessness feel comfortable.

Searching for a place to sleep, Katherine called Carriage Town Ministries. Right away, Katherine knew God wanted her here.

“I could’ve been out on the street,” Katherine shares. “But God put me here to learn how to respect myself, be patient, and love Jesus more and more.”

Katherine also had a supportive environment to put her weaving and sewing skills to use, making more pillows and pillowcases to display and share with others.

Thanks to your generosity, Katherine was immediately welcomed and treated like family.

Staying here provided more than a place to live; it was a place to call

home as she worked through personal and spiritual issues and charted a course to finding a new apartment.

In fact, at the time of preparing this issue of The Messenger, Katherine is getting ready to move into her new place! She already has two sets of tables and chairs lined up -- one set for eating and the other for creating more beautiful household items and crafts.

“I’m really thankful for Carriage Town Ministries,” Katherine says.

“They showed me how to love, taught me responsibility and showed me how to keep my house in order. And I’m going to remember all of that.”

Your support this Thanksgiving season can provide more guests like Katherine with a safe place to land during a difficult time. And in creating a sense of home, they will regain a sense of hope for their future. Thank you!



Hope-Filled Holiday Events

Every holiday season, your support helps children and families enjoy Thanksgiving and Christmas surrounded by caring people and warm hospitality.

Thank you for putting your generosity and Christ's love on full display this season!



Thanksgiving Dinner

November 22

Our traditional holiday-style meal serves 130 residents and guests and is accompanied by a special chapel service focused on gratitude. Thank you to the local churches who donate delicious pies and desserts for our Thanksgiving meal!

Christmas Adopt-A-Family

December 14

Carriage Town Ministries partners with many families, churches and work groups to make Christmas morning special for over 500 needy children. Gifts are chosen specifically for each child and wrapped in beautiful paper. It is a wonderful demonstration of God's spirit of giving as many families experience the joy of the season through your gifts.

Community Christmas Dinner

December 21

This annual meal, held on the Friday before Christmas Day, is served after a special Christmas chapel service featuring traditional and sacred Christmas music.

Thank you for helping neighbors in need enjoy the holidays surrounded by delicious food, a sense of family and renewed faith. You make sure hurting souls truly have a "home for the holidays!"



We are honored to share many Gospel messages with guests at Carriage Town Ministries through the holiday season. As we give thanks and celebrate the birth of our Savior, we make sure each person who comes through our doors understands the true reason we are grateful this season!



Providing guests in our Personal Success Plan program with work opportunities not only builds their marketable skills, it increases their dignity! Thank you for helping men and women discover new strengths and put together a plan to share their skills as they earn a living.



Memorial & In Honor Of Gifts

Gifts received July 24, 2018 – September 18, 2018

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
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

Betty Bonathan

*Christine Bonathan
Matt & Joyce Clevenger
Karen Shovels
Paul & Janice White*

Phyllis Bontrager

*Donald & Eileen Andrews
Arthur & Martha Austin
Gerald & Bernadine Baumann
Paul Bontrager
Greg Hilliker Family
Mark & Kimberly Murphy
Joanne Shrigley*

Sandra Boshaw

Mrs. Flossie Weaver

John Ford

Robert & Sharon Welch

Jeff Keehn

*Christopher Bachman
Jeffrey & Phyllis Bachman
Mrs. Christie Haus
T. Hensler
John Lester & Annette Milits
David & Berneice Pfeiffer
William & Helen Veschuroff
Kelly & Mary Wright*

David Krueger

William & Ann Marie Erlenbeck

Clarence Lemon

Mrs. Joan Lemon

Dorothy L. Middleton

Bonnie J. Martinson

Jacob Morse

Eric Morse

Vivian Slocum

*Mr. & Mrs. Rodney Hoeflinger
Richard & Cynthia Lucius*

Gary Thompson

Aaron & Arlene Cannon

Kevin Tobias

Terry Tobias Family

Robert A. Wilson

*Shiawassee Shores Retirement
Park, Inc.*

Robert & Joyce Wilson

*D.M. & K. E. Elizondo
Eileen Greiger
Anthony & Anne Magalski
Mark Magalski, Suzanne Fraim,
Sally Harris and Family
Menzel Family: Craig, Lois, Jake &
Ashley
Scott & Lori Somers*

HONOR

Gene Dolby

Mr. & Mrs. Donald Green



Seeing is Believing

Take a look at what God is doing through your support

At our recent Fall Benefit Dinner, guests were able to see a video featuring many of the lives changed as a result of your generosity and partnership with Carriage Town Ministries. We would love for all of our volunteers, donors, and prayer warriors to get a better look at what their compassion does for men, women and families in the greater Flint community. Enjoy.

See how God changes lives through you at:
www.carriagetown.org/vision-2019



Give Back and Enjoy Great Furniture



Flint is filled with local family-owned stores who wish to impact their community. This holiday

season, as you do some shopping, we have a great opportunity for you to enjoy great deals while giving back to important causes in our community.

From Friday, November 23rd through Monday, November 26th, Skaff Furniture Carpet One will offer their Save and Share promotion with 5% of the proceeds to a local charity.

Carriage Town Ministries is honored to be among this year's charity partners.

During the Skaff Save and Share event, customers select which organization they want to support through their purchase.

Please stop by the Skaff Save and Share Event, get some great furniture or floor coverings, and select Carriage Town Ministries as your charity of choice!

You can visit their showroom at 5301 Hill-23 Drive in Flint or call (810) 767-1380 for open hours.

Thanks for making sure your local furniture purchase also helps men and women get back on their feet and renew their hope for the future!



“My parents died. I was homeless.”

Jeremy never imagined he would need the help of a place like Carriage Town Ministries.

But when he moved back to Michigan to help his parents who were going through some health challenges, Jeremy stopped working in order to care for them.

Not long after moving, both of Jeremy’s parents passed away, leaving Jeremy with tremendous grief and nowhere to go.

“I had a hard time finding work,” says Jeremy. “I don’t have a lot of relatives around here and my car was old. If I didn’t come to Carriage Town last winter, I might have frozen to death.”

Thankfully, your warm generosity gave Jeremy a place to rest—and a safe environment to work through the trauma of losing both of his parents.

“I was emotionally wrecked when I first came to Carriage Town Ministries,” Jeremy understandably shares. “But they gave me a warm place to stay, food to eat, clothes, and a chance to get my GED and some work skills.”

Jeremy has worked hard and given back ever since he arrived, always with a thankful attitude. He has earned his GED, completed a welding certification program and is currently pursuing a full-time job.

Jeremy is grateful for the chance to work through his grief and plan for his future. He hopes people continue to give to help guests like him.

“Carriage Town really does minister to each person who comes,” Jeremy says. “Everybody has hard times once in a while, and Carriage Town gives us clothes, food, a warm place to sleep. This place really is a blessing.”



Wise Stewardship Of Your Generous Donations



Carriage Town Ministries is committed to excellence in financial accountability. We’ve earned a 4-star rating with Charity Navigator for our transparency, with 85% of your dollars going directly to ministry. Thank you for your continued support!

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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.



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

