

# the MESSENGER

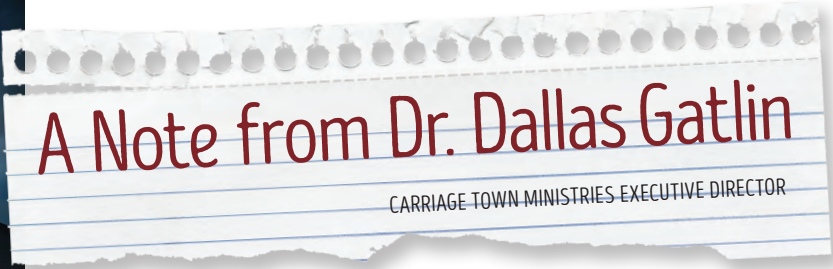
Serving, Reaching, Teaching — *Together*

MARCH 2019

From  
cancer  
and  
homelessness  
to  
renewed  
hope

You help guests like Chuck  
discover the power of faith in Christ





# What keeps you from hoping?

Dear Friend,

After 10 years of serving at Carriage Town Ministries, I'm hard-pressed to think of a challenge at least one guest hasn't experienced before coming here.

Chronic pain. Financial problems. Relationship struggles. Death in the family. Near-death experience. Homelessness. Joblessness. Loneliness. They've all been carried through our doors.

Nobody is immune from hardship. Yet, difficulty often causes us to lose hope. We just can't see beyond — or through — the circumstance. But here's some Good News.

**The Savior of the world understands our pain.**

Jesus was tempted in the desert. He knew poverty as He ministered. He felt heartbroken when Lazarus died. He was weary from his journeys. He was betrayed by His best friends. Jesus was cursed, struck, spat on and tortured ... all because He loves us.

While at Carriage Town Ministries, your generosity provides incredible care for men and women staying with us. Meals, shelter, practical education and career training. All of these tools lift people from physical hardship and provide tremendous comfort, relief and guidance. And that is good.

**But what gives our guests true and lasting hope is knowing Jesus Christ.**

As you'll read in Chuck's story, he is more hopeful today even though cancer still resides in his body. He discovered real hope at Carriage Town Ministries — not just a change in his circumstances.

In the end, Jesus conquered the most devastating challenge of all. He rose from the dead. We celebrate His victory this Easter, because He offers us the same promise.

Thank you for your commitment to helping people in need rise above what tries to bring them down — and ultimately gain the hope of rising to eternal life.

Dr. Dallas Gatlin, Executive Director

“Where,  
O death,  
is your victory?  
Where,  
O death,  
is your sting?”  
1 COR. 15:55

# Stage 3 cancer took him out of work, but led Chuck to greater faith

**“God has been really generous to me,” Chuck says.**

It’s not what you would think someone might say after enduring eviction, joblessness, homelessness and a stage 3 cancer diagnosis. But that’s the attitude your compassion has helped Chuck to develop.

Last year, Chuck was kicked out of his apartment when he found out his roommate wasn’t paying his share of the rent. Chuck had already left his job as an overnight manager of a local grocery store after a stage 3 melanoma diagnosis forced him to stop working. So here he was, a Boston native searching for a place to survive in Flint, Michigan.

“I actually stopped a police officer and asked him for a shelter recommendation. He immediately said, ‘Carriage Town Ministries.’” And Chuck is so thankful he did.

“Sure, going through treatment and losing my job and living situation has been a challenge,” Chuck says, “But I’ve looked at every day as a blessing. It’s been a gift to have a roof over my head, a bed to sleep in, food, and opportunities to work towards my goals.”

Thanks to your support, Chuck has also received the guidance of our Health Clinic volunteers and medical professionals as he endures chemotherapy.

**“We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.”**

**2 CORINTHIANS 4:8-9**

“Coming here and having a chance to create a Personal Success Plan has helped me reset my goals and make my priorities a little straighter,” Chuck shares.

With the help of his plan, Chuck has already secured housing with a good friend he met at Carriage Town Ministries. His hope is to get into remission, and

then he’d like to go back to work.

Despite his very difficult challenges, Chuck is grateful that he has grown closer to Christ.

“Every night when I go to bed, I spend at least 20 minutes by the side of my bed praying,” Chuck shares. “And in the morning, I spend more time thanking Jesus for allowing me to have another day.”

It’s a perspective that can inspire us all.

Please join us in praying for Chuck’s health ... and praise God for the tremendous hope He has already given this faith-filled man.





Thanks to you, men and women at Carriage Town Ministries can access our Innovative Learning Center to learn new computer skills, receive help in creating a resume and grow in their confidence!

# Life at Carriage Town Ministries



It's a joy to help guests discover their personal style as they prepare for a job interview. Thanks for making sure our Clothing Room is always filled with shoes, shirts, dress pants and more that men and women can wear with dignity!



Through your generous gifts and volunteers, men and women have an opportunity to regain their confidence, receive meals and shelter, and create a Success Plan for their future firsthand. Thank you for giving!

# t e Town istries

Good meals are served with love at Carriage Town Ministries. Thanks to volunteers who sort pantry items, prepare delicious food and serve it with a smile to men and women joining us for a meal!



What a gift to see children enjoying a nutritious meal! Your compassion ensures our youngest guests have the nutrients they need to grow and thrive!



Gifts and the help of kind  
at Carriage Town Ministries  
in stability through  
developing a Personal  
and experiencing God's love  
ng guests renewed hope!



Carriage Town Ministries relies on our volunteers - particularly in the area of mentoring and encouraging our youngest residents. For information on how you can help, contact Brittany at [bwillingham@carriagetown.org](mailto:bwillingham@carriagetown.org) or (810) 233-8787 ext 12.

# Memorial & In Honor Of Gifts

*Gifts received Sept 19, 2018 to Dec 31, 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

<b>"Beloved Mother"</b> <i>Jumana Barden</i>	<b>Judy Dover</b> <i>Toby Dover</i>	<b>Charles LaCroix</b> <i>Gary &amp; Margie LaCroix</i>	<b>Dolores Summers</b> <i>Beverly Weaver</i>	<b>Doug &amp; Alyce Cue</b> <i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Ben Daveluy</i>
<b>"Dad"</b> <i>Rita L. Ball</i>	<b>Joyce Engle</b> <i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Erlenbeck</i>	<b>Father Garry McInnis</b> <i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Michael Hutchins</i>	<b>Gene &amp; Pauline Tipton</b> <i>Joanne Tipton</i>	<b>Dr. Dallas Gatlin</b> <i>George Wilson</i>
<b>"Dad"</b> <i>Gerald Rowland</i>	<b>Freda Farone</b> <i>Ms. Eileen Branoff</i>	<b>Dorothy L. Middleton</b> <i>Carolyn Green Phyllis Kristin Marilyn Wykes</i>	<b>Shirley Wash</b> <i>Mrs. Flossie Weaver</i>	<b>Fred Hensler-90th Birthday</b> <i>D. F. Wolfgram Mr. &amp; Mrs. Ralph Kleinedder</i>
<b>"Memory of My Aunt"</b> <i>Julie Teachout</i>	<b>Steve Field</b> <i>Cathy A. Field</i>	<b>Jacob Morse</b> <i>Eric Morse</i>	<b>Joyce &amp; Robert Wilson</b> <i>Eugene &amp; Barbara Cummings</i>	<b>Wendell &amp; Paula Jennings</b> <i>Nick Federici</i>
<b>Bruce Barlow</b> <i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Gregory Cocker Beverly Weaver</i>	<b>Eugene Friend</b> <i>Bonnie Friend</i>	<b>Helen Murphy</b> <i>Charles Birney</i>	<b>Joyce M. Wilson</b> <i>Shiawassee Shores Retirement, Inc.</i>	<b>Michael Keck Family</b> <i>Marie Keck</i>
<b>Homer Bassett</b> <i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. M. Cameron Pat Bassett</i>	<b>Lela Gater</b> <i>Joan Lemon</i>	<b>Wayne Partridge</b> <i>Julia Partridge</i>	<b>Merlin Card, Karl Harrison, Nancy Higgins and Helen Oqinsky</b> <i>Dye School class of 1958 Classmates</i>	<b>Paul &amp; Ruth Petro</b> <i>David P. Petro</i>
<b>Rev. Jack Bowen</b> <i>Mr. Roberto Martinez, Sr.</i>	<b>Donna I. Hopkins</b> <i>Kathy Takish</i>	<b>Mrs. Delphine Pavlik</b> <i>Mrs. I. Sobolesky</i>		<b>Cecilia Satkowiak</b> <i>Philip B. Satkowiak</i>
<b>"Aunt" Rhoda Campbell</b> <i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Michael Taylor</i>	<b>Ruth Pauline Horne</b> <i>Ms. Angela Purkiss</i>	<b>Beverly J. Ross</b> <i>Inta H. Davis</i>		<b>Mark Suckley</b> <i>Dr. Michael Suckley</i>
<b>Gloria Jean Cohel</b> <i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. John Wagner</i>	<b>Pauline (Polly) Hosler</b> <i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Steve Baillis</i>	<b>Richard Rusnell</b> <i>Diane Rusnell</i>		<b>Matthew Suckley</b> <i>Dr. Michael Suckley</i>
<b>Edward Diebold</b> <i>Susan F. Diebold</i>	<b>"Aunt" Hallie Howard</b> <i>Cathy Knudsen</i>	<b>Harold Steinman</b> <i>Mary Lou Anderson</i>		<b>Roger &amp; Jessica Van Noord</b> <i>Nick Federici</i>
	<b>Leona Kimmel</b> <i>Shelby Crespo Mr. &amp; Mrs. M. Hemingway</i>	<b>Sallie Stinson</b> <i>Gloria Stinson</i>		

## HONOR

**Aunt Corene Butts**  
*David Gilbert*

**Michael Crespo**  
*Shelby Crespo*

# New Welcome Center Grand Opening


## Take a look at what God is doing through your support

Providing a sense of home is an important part of welcoming guests at Carriage Town Ministries. While we understand that we are a temporary refuge on their journey to healing and wholeness, we want their time here to feel like home.

Thanks to the generosity of so many donors, community friends and partners, we were honored to open the doors of our new Welcome Center. When guests arrive, they will immediately feel welcomed

by our new updated entrance, warm atmosphere and beautiful décor.

Many men and women turn to us from surviving on the streets or living in less-than-dignified housing situations. We are eager to show them that God loves them -- and so do we -- no matter what they've endured in their past. We are ready to roll out the red carpet to treat our guests with the respect and honor all of God's children deserve.



“Show proper respect  
to everyone...”

1 PETER 2:17a

# YUM! BAKE FRESH FRIDAY



The 7th Annual Bake Fresh Friday will fill Carriage Town Ministries with the wonderful aroma of breads, cakes, and pies on Friday March 29!

Our generous friends at Mott Community College and the Genesee Valley Rotary Club will descend on our kitchen with resources, instructors, and students to work alongside our residents from morning until late afternoon—learning and sharing and baking goods that will delight our evening dinner guests in the days immediately following.

We are thankful for these great partners and the joy they bring to our campus.

# MAXIMIZE YOUR TAX BENEFITS

## Are you turning 70 1/2 this year?

It may be time to start thinking about IRA Required Minimum Distributions (RMD). Your RMD can leave you with a tax bill because it is taxed as ordinary income. This year, instead of paying more in taxes, use your IRA to support Carriage Town Ministries, your church, or other favorite qualifying charity.

You will not be taxed on the transfer, and it counts as your required distribution. Best of all, it is easy. Contact your IRA custodian to see how you can maximize tax savings. The IRA charitable distribution allows you to transfer any amount up to \$100,000 from your IRA directly to nonprofits. You pay no taxes on the transfer, and your gift supports our important work.

## 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.



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