

the MESSENGER

Serving, Reaching, Teaching — *Together*

MARCH 2021



You Help Neighbors
Like Scott Overcome
Challenges with Faith


**After persevering for 7 years,
you gave Scott a safe place to rest.**

Learn more inside!



carriageTown
MINISTRIES

Serving the Needy Since 1950



A Note from Dr. Dallas Gatlin

CARRIAGE TOWN MINISTRIES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Irreplaceable Work of Perseverance

Trials often come to prepare and equip us for the life of faith.

Dear Friend,

I imagine all of us during the past year have uttered the phrase, “I’m getting tired of ...” (I’ll let you fill in the blank). I’ve said it, too.

It can be easy to think life will be better if everything challenging just disappeared. Yet, if we’re not careful, we can miss what God is trying to teach us — and develop within us — along the way.

At Carriage Town Ministries, the Lord has used this time of refinement to teach me, our staff, and certainly our guests the value of persevering.

God, in His wisdom, reminds us in James 1:2–3 that trials often come to equip us for the life of faith. Enduring the pain and discomfort of difficulties gives us assurance that we will make it through the next challenge that comes (and it will come)!

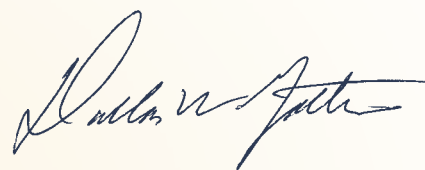
“When all kinds of trials and temptations crowd into your lives my brothers, don’t resent them as intruders, but welcome them as friends!”

—James 1:2 (J.B. Phillips)

As you’ll see in Scott’s story, when men and women who have experienced years of hardship develop the ability to persevere, their confidence and vision soar!

Thank you for your role in helping guests patiently work through their past, avoid rushing the recovery process, and diligently prepare for their future.

Trials don’t have to be met with frustration; they can be received with joy. It’s what our guests have learned this year. I pray it’s a lesson you’re able to embrace, too.



After 7 Years of Caregiving

You Gave Scott the Rest He Needed

If you do anything 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, for 7 years straight, you'll need a break. Or you reach a breaking point.

That's where Scott found himself last fall after giving up his job, his car and his savings to care for his aging mother and father for seven years.

The responsibility to help his parents stay in their home as their health declined weighed on Scott's heart. But as any caregiver knows, caring carries a heavy emotional, physical and spiritual toll. Then COVID-19 struck.

Scott's parents lost their home. His mom passed away in August. And his dad moved into a facility that wouldn't allow visitors due to safety regulations. For the first time in seven years, Scott didn't know where to go or what to do. So he researched homeless shelters and God led him to Carriage Town Ministries.

As a college-educated man who has tried to follow God his entire life, Scott hoped Carriage Town Ministries could prepare him for finding work again. He has progressed through our Personal Success Plan program with determination. But after years of persevering as a caregiver, Scott finally had a moment to take a deep breath, relax and even grieve.

"This is a place where I've been able to rest, be safe and even cry a little," Scott shares candidly.

"When I was caring for my parents, I never got to rest.

Here, people just help you and what they are doing is absolutely fantastic."

While working through his losses and having time to regroup, Scott continues to apply for jobs using a computer in our computer lab. Even though his mind and heart are at ease, he stays active by helping with laundry, receiving in-kind donations, vacuuming stairwells and more.

Please continue to pray for Scott as God restores his emotional and physical strength. But also join him in praying for the many other people who need care here at Carriage Town Ministries.

"This place is necessary," Scott says. "I just wish it could be bigger, because there are more people out there who could use what we have here."

Thank you for helping Scott, and others like him, rest, reset and rebuild with perseverance, faith and hope for the future.



PERSEVERING HEARTS

Thanks to your generosity, guests at Carriage Town Ministries have continued to learn, grow and serve in the midst of many trials this year. Their endurance is inspiring and their faith is maturing.



Welcoming guests with a smile looks different right now, but the kindness and hope are visible in the eyes of our guests and staff!



We are grateful for the men and women who continue to serve the Lord and each other with gladness at Carriage Town Ministries.



Sharing sweet treats through our Blueline Donuts career training program is a wonderful way to spread joy in the midst of hardship.



Sharing God's Word and praying with guests remains a top priority.

Your support has helped Carriage Town Ministries continue to nourish the hungry in our community. Thank you!



Memorial & In Honor Of Gifts

Gifts received September 24, 2020 to December 31, 2020

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

Mark Perez:

Joel & Lynne Lafreniere
The Lafreniere Family
Anne LaVelle
Thomas & Bethany Peterson

Olin Carrothers:

Myrta Boswell & Family
Irvaleen Marcum & Family
Frank & Gladys Weaver
Mary Retzlaff
Jeffrey & Alison Bayley
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David & Elizabeth Wehman
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Diane Chappel

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Susan Curle

Anonymous

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William Diebold

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Donald Sprague

Marian Whitehead

Sally Beth Dolby

Mary Lou Johnson

Billie Sue Galant

Annette Hinman-Murphy

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James & Kathleen Smith

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Mr. & Mrs. Gary Laroy

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Dugatich

Jim & Angie Cicalo

Mr. & Mrs. Jose Capuchina

Ilene Brown

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Clarence Lemon

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Doug Blunt

William Bouman

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Helen Murphy

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Albert Patsy

Alexandria Nolan

Mother

Carmen Leschuk

Parents

Sheila Zimmer

Joanne Tipton

Gene & Pauline Tipton

Bonnie & Dan Jones

Nicole Dragone

Nunzio (Father)

Isbella Columbus

Judy & David Kingsley

Amy Zimmer

"Friend" and all those lost to Covid

Elizabeth Lowe

Vanessa

Chris Woodworth

Chester & Helen Jawoski

Mr. & Mrs. Larry Rejniak

Norman, Marilynn & Dennis

Brainard

By their family

Everette Lafner, Jr. (Bud)

Nina Jackson

James & Patricia Collins

Sarah Cronk

Sandra LaVeck

Stephen Barzilowski

Doreen B Wager

Jeff Wager

Stanford Newman

Eugene Newman

HONOR

Mr. & Mrs. T Sunday

"remembering our wedding day"

Joe & Heather Mitchell

Robert Clark

Ben & Sue Daveluy

Benedict & Susan Daveluy

Steve Simmons

Mr. & Mrs. John Reynolds

Christine Campbell

Janet Hodge

Thomas & Norma Devine

Larry & Barbara Williams

St Jude

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Sholzenfeld Family

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Samuel Nock

Preston Walin

Shelly Ward

Mike Taubitz

Luke Contos

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Evelyn Vanover

Judith Brooks

Sarah Brooks

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Susan Walter

Brian Brower

Ronald & Rita Harris

Zach - Lance Brooke

Dixie Reynolds

Jim Nock

Kevin & Angela Cook

Mrs. Hall

David Hicks

Her Children

Tina Smith

Caroline, Jacob & Charlotte

Rathbun

Melanie Bass

Angela

Angela Blackwell

Ben

Bonnie Newman

Numzio

Sherry Jarvis

Erica Toth

Robyn Whetstone

The Communications Team at

Mott Stewart Foundation

Kathryn Thomas

Leona Kimmel

Nicole Crespo

Jerry & Fran Rucker

Jennifer Ferandey

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Robert Fontana

Ed & Charlotte Pedley

Liz Haldwick

Sherry Alice Campbell

Tiffany Johnson

Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Launstein

Joslyn Gibson

Elizabeth Curtis

Amy Wilson

Ashley West

Brad Ropp

Grandchildren

Eleanor Erber

Dallas, Brittany, Cindy, Wendell &

others who do great job

Brian Kozumplik

Celebrating Easter with *Hope*



Every spring, we have a wonderful reminder of the promises of Christ. This Easter, we'll be celebrating those promises with our residents during an Easter Celebration Service.

Residents will also enjoy a special holiday meal with all the trimmings, thanks to the generosity of friends like you!

Please pray that men, women and children are not only filled physically, but also nourished spiritually, as they learn about the new life found in Jesus Christ!

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Clothing Neighbors with Compassion

This year, we got creative — Mobile Clothing Giveaways! Instead of in-person, close-contact clothing distribution, we are moving it outdoors! Local churches or agencies partner with us to get much-needed clothing into the hands of families by hosting a mobile distribution.

We drop off rolling racks with season-appropriate clothing on the day of the event and then pick up the racks and leftover clothing at the end of the day.

Thank you to the many neighbors who donate new and gently-used clothing for people in need. Special thanks also to the individuals, churches and organizations helping us distribute clothing in a safe, dignified manner!



If your church or group is interested in hosting a Mobile Clothing Giveaway, please contact Cindy at cjohns@carriagetown.org or (810) 233-8787 ext. 6205. We would love to partner with you!

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

