

the MESSSENGER

Serving, Reaching, Teaching — *Together*

NOVEMBER 2017

5 days
before Christmas,
Alvene
needed shelter

You gave her rest
and so much more!



A Note from Dr. Dallas Gatlin

CARRIAGE TOWN MINISTRIES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Walking in their cold shoes

Dear Friend,

Every holiday season, I'm reminded of a young man who came to Carriage Town Ministries in his early twenties. His mom was an addict. His dad was never around. I'm glad God led him here one Thanksgiving for some guidance and a genuine expression of care.

After leaving Carriage Town, this young man stayed in touch. But life wasn't perfect, and he fell on hard times. One Christmas season, he reappeared at our doors.

Come to find out he walked from Detroit to Flint in the middle of a Michigan winter to be with people he knew would make him feel safe.

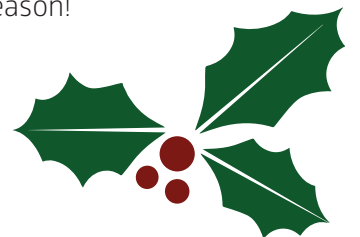
I share this story for a couple of reasons. First, your support saves lives, both physically and spiritually. You provide safe shelter, nourishing food and Christ-centered direction. Second, you make sure all of our guests feel at home. Of course, men and women aren't meant to stay here forever. But when they are here, and as they get back on their feet, it's home. And your generosity makes it that way.

Providing that warm, family-like atmosphere is what Carriage Town is all about. With your compassion and partnership, we're creating the kind of space that is more than just a place to go. It's following Jesus' heart of hospitality where neighbors feel safe, encouraged and loved, at the holidays and throughout the year.

As we open our doors to guests this holiday season, please know how thankful we are for friends like you. Your gifts allow us to warmly welcome men and women into a clean, supportive environment that inspires neighbors to learn and grow. It even gives people the type of hope that makes a cold walk from Detroit to Flint worth the trip.

Blessings to you and your loved ones this holiday season!

Dr. Dallas Gatlin
Executive Director



“Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.”

—Hebrews 13:2

“I came for a bed, but I got way more than that.”

Alvene was looking forward to celebrating Christmas at home last year.

But on December 20, electrical problems led to dangerous sparking. Alvene had no other choice but to leave immediately.

Growing up in the Flint community, Alvene knew about

Carriage Town, but never imagined she would need to call. She also never imagined the level of care she would receive when she arrived.

“They welcomed me from day one,” Alvene shares. “I was looking for a place to sleep, but I didn’t realize all the things that would come with it.”

In addition to receiving a comfortable place to rest while she searched for safe housing, Alvene’s time in our Family Center led to tremendous personal growth.

“When I created my Personal Success Plan, they told me I would have to work hard and attend certain classes. I didn’t have a problem with that,” Alvene says. “Everything I’ve learned, from chapel services to computer courses, has only enhanced me and built me up spiritually.”

With such a positive spirit and faith in life, Alvene has also served as a role model and mentor for younger women in

our program. She gives advice with a sincere heart to help and absorbs whatever she can to deepen her walk with God.

In March, Alvene checked off goal number one on her Personal Success Plan list: finding an apartment. But that hasn’t kept her from continuing her spiritual and personal development!

“I’m grateful to Carriage Town, because they helped me get more than a bed. They gave me direction, a foundation and put me back on the right track!”

This season, Alvene is excited to celebrate the holidays in her new apartment. She has a renewed spirit of thankfulness and is filled with joy. “The help over at Carriage Town plays a big role in the smile I have,” Alvene shares. “It changed my life. And is still changing it.”



Thank you for Making ^{the} Season Bright at Carriage Town Ministries



The holidays are all about food, family and faith! You help neighbors in need enjoy all three as you provide nourishing meals, caring community and gospel messages throughout the season.

Every year, your support helps children and families enjoy the spirit of the season surrounded by love and generosity. Here are a few ways:



Thanksgiving Dinner **November 23**

In addition to providing over 130 residents and guests with a traditional Thanksgiving meal, you help neighbors enjoy a special chapel service focused on thankfulness. Special thanks to the local churches who supply delicious pies and desserts for our Thanksgiving meal!



Christmas Toy Giveaway **December 14-15**

Thanks to your generosity, Carriage Town partners with other churches, ambassadors and partners to make Christmas morning possible for over 100 local families in need. Thank you for showing children God's spirit of giving!



Community **Christmas Dinner** **December 22**

Held on the Friday before Christmas Day, this annual meal is accompanied with a special Christmas service, traditional and sacred Christmas music and the sharing of generous gifts and talents by local churches and friends.



It's a joy to share with men, women and children the true meaning of the season. Celebrating Jesus' birth with gratitude in our heart is a highlight of the year at Carriage Town!



Among the greatest gifts you provide guests in our Personal Success Plan program is self-worth. Thank you for giving them skills and resources to grow in their strengths and discover how to utilize new abilities!



Memorial & In Honor Of Gifts

Gifts received July 7, 2017 – September 15, 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

Virginia Bolerjack

Stephen Bolerjack
Barbara Ruggiero

Pat Campbell

Mr. & Mrs. Theodore
Rodgers

Ed Carter

Greg & Nicki Streff

Timothy Chambers

Edina Chambers

Freda Farone

Eileen Branoff

Lela Gates

Joan Lemon

Fouad J Harb

Jumana Barden

Mary Lou Hardenburg

Auker Homes
Mr. & Mrs. Don Bailey
Keith & Anne Baldwin
Dr. & Mrs. Robert Burek
Jill Campbell
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Crane
Genesee District Dental
Society
Richard Jobbagy
Ms. Diane Miller
Mary Nordin

Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Schram
Mr. & Mrs. Gregory
Touchette

Kathy Haskins

Greg & Nicki Streff

Dennis Hiltz

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Allen, Jr

Carolyn Hoadley

Clifford Phillips

Bea Konsza

Mr. & Mrs. Bill Erlenbeck

Peter LaForest

Mike & Cheryl Childers
Jerry & Nancy Olds
Mr. & Mrs. George Snyder

Deb LaGuire

Philip Laquire

Grant Love

Mr. & Mrs. Brent Baxter
Doyle & Corrie Blaisdell
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Bollinger
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Busuttill
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Conden
Dowdall Elementary School
Rodney & Carol Driggett
Mr. & Mrs. Kelly Fisher
Martin Frelich
Sandi Horner
Mr. & Mrs. David Houser
James & Pamela Krecke

Mr. & Mrs. William Mellow
The Mlynek Family
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Neal, Jr
Robert & Mary Nordin
Mr. & Mrs. John Oren
Mr. & Mrs. William Penzer
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Rawlings
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Rolfes
Mr. & Mrs. William Siple
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Turner
Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Yassick

Anthony (Tony) McDonald

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Allen, Jr

Father Gary McInnes

Nancy Amrich
Robert & Mary Aris
Ella Baldrige
James & Judith Ballinger
Donna Berryman
Kenneth Blue
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Buehler
Richard & Judith Cramer
John Doerr
Geraldine Donnelly
Kathleen Garbulinski
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Gregory
Mary Rose Kennedy
Timothy & Laura Kerwin
Lee & Pamela Kowalske
Dianne Lewis
Paul & Desiree Londrigan
Tracy McArthur

Laverne McCombs
Diane Miller
Christine Morgan
James & Sally Pomeroy
Kimberly Ramirez
Floyd & Frances Rowland
Mr. & Mrs. Wray Russ
Dr. Byron & Roberta
Schoolfield
Amelia Stimpson
Tomlinson Design and
Advertising
Michael & Anita Vizena
Violet Winter
William & Marilyn Witucki
Stacey Younger-Gagos

Paul Petro

Mr. & Mrs. David Bills
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Black
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Condon
Mr. & Mrs. Rodney Driggett
Gail & Tim Hamaker
Mr. & Mrs. Mary Love
Andy Mackie
Ken & Cheryl Pelletier
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Petro
David Petro
Virginia Rhyne
The 'Romeo's
Gary & Jan Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Cary Twardowski
Richard Vosburgh

Dolares Rogers

Mr. & Mrs. Ted Rogers

Henry Schulze

Barb Schulze

Donald Stewart

His Family

Gene & Pauline Tipton

Joanne Tipton

Irene Trubiro

Alice Potter
Jack & Ann Skrceny
Eric & Bonnie Smith
Michele Trubiro
Win & Carol Walker

Mrs. R. Joan Wartella

Crossroads District U. M.
Methodist

HONOR

Karla Maughn

Brian Kozumplik

Mark & Anne Brownigg

Stephen Hoffman

Steve Simms

Mr. & Mrs. John Reynolds

Memorial Garden Pathway

MEMORIAL

Homer Bassett

Pat Bassett

Edward Carter

Greg & Nicki Streff

Timothy Kevin Chamber

Edina Chambers

Patrick Davis

Marilyn Nichols

Jimmy Davis

Marilyn Nichols

Hazel Fuller

Frederic Sevenser

Daisy Hudson

Patricia Murphy

Delena Hudson

Patricia Murphy

Joseph Hudson

Patricia Murphy

Kevin C. Kolton

Michele Chockley

Algie & Bessie Murphy and their 11 children

Marilyn Nichols

Buster Murphy

Denise Lococo

Gene Murphy

Denise Lococo

Kay Murphy

Denise Lococo

Michael Murphy

Denise Lococo

Robert & Alta Murphy

Patricia Murphy

Ralph & Ethel Murray

Doug & Brenda Wozniak

Bob Nichols

Dave Nichols



Chris Nichols

Dave Nichols

Dave Nichols

Dave Nichols

Diane & Hillard Shackford

Denny Nichols

Meagan Nichols

Elaine Nichols

Dave Nichols

B. Leone Schulze

Barb & Mark Schulze

Henry Schulze

Kurt & Anne Schulze

Kerry Schulze

Lisa Thompson

Evelyn Sevenser

Marilyn Nichols

Otto Sevenser

Frederic Sevenser

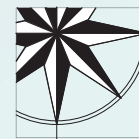
Dennis Snyder

Meagan Nichols

Stan & Marion Wozniak

Doug & Brenda Wozniak

Wise Stewardship of Your Generous Donations



★★★★

CHARITY NAVIGATOR

Four Star Charity

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!



Thank you for helping to change the lives of hundreds of men and women in the Flint area. Because of your support, they have moved from **homelessness** to **hopefulness**.

Give Back While Getting Great Furniture



We all love shopping at local, family-owned stores in the Flint area. And this year, we have an opportunity to get some great deals while giving back to local causes!

From Friday, November 24 through Monday, November 27, Skaff Furniture Carpet One will offer their Save and Share promotion with 5% of the proceeds given to a local charity.

Carriage Town Ministries is excited to be among this year's charity partners. But we need your help to get chosen at the final recipient!

Customers select which organization to direct donations from the Skaff Save and Share event.

Please stop by the Skaff Save and Share Event, get some great furniture and select Carriage Town 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.

We hope you walk away feeling good that your furniture purchase goes toward a great cause!



*Your gifts made
Twice the impact!*

In August, a group of dedicated Mission friends offered a \$30,000 Matching Challenge to Carriage Town Ministries. Thanks to your generous giving, we're thrilled to announce that we exceeded that challenge!

Thanks to you,
we exceeded our
\$30,000
Matching Challenge!

Nearly \$35,000 was raised to give meals, shelter, recovery care, encouraging support, life skills and spiritual guidance to restore hope to our neighbors in need. Thank you for caring!

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

