



## THE EVERYDAY CHALLENGE - EMBRACE THE MESSAGE

***"...I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead. I press on toward the goal..."***  
***Philippians 3:13,14***

The first quarter of 2017 is past! REALLY? How are you doing with the resolutions you made at the

beginning of this year to...? (fill in the blank).

At Teen/Life Challenge several new students were processed into Life Challenge, and three more students have received the "Blessing Out". Congratulations to Beau Baughman, Tim Lester, and Aaron Williamson on completing the program!

Our MAPS RVers' Banquet was a celebration of those who volunteered to help build THE LIGHTHOUSE, and our Annual Trinity Valley Sectional Service featured a special emphasis on FUTURE HOPE. WOW - Time and schedules require momentum! You're such an important factor in our progress.

*Continued on Pg 2*

## **EMBRACE THE MESSAGE** Continued from Pg 1

At TeenLife Challenge we teach our residents not to get caught up in what they didn't achieve but resolve to set goals that will impact them for eternity (not because it is the beginning of a new year). They are encouraged to see that goals can help them live a balanced life spiritually, relationally, intellectually, financially and physically.

The team at Teen / Life Challenge of North Texas is more than gracious with giving additional chances. We understand and practice the scriptural admonition that our debts / bad choices will be forgiven AS we forgive others.

### **IN THEIR WORDS...**

Here are some students who are grateful for the repeated chances their loved ones have offered them.

Going home for the break was a huge blessing and I give all the glory to the Lord. I was able to spend lots of quality time with loved ones - especially my daughter.

I was able to pray with my family and help my daughter understand why we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. Having the assurance of who I am in

Christ - it was my privilege to show people, who live close to my family, about the HOPE that is found only in Him!  
- Isaac

I have to admit - I was a little fearful about the break. BUT, it turned out to be a great time in Denver with my Mom and brother. Before coming to Teen and Life Challenge my family didn't want anything - I mean NOT A THING - to do with me. The reconciliation was definitely God's



provision. He gave me another opportunity to show what He can do in one's life and in their family when we don't keep looking back but accept forgiveness. I definitely saw this modeled in my family.

I am finally enjoying my life. I love living a sober life because of the changes the

Lord has brought into my life through the ministry of Teen Life Challenge!  
- Carter

Before returning for another time here at Teen/Life Challenge my life was spiraling out of control. Since returning in August things have definitely been getting better. I have accepted that being close to the Lord is important to my life - without Him I can do nothing.

My goal is to live a productive life for the rest of my life! I've learned that being relationally (accountable to others) and staying in the Word are the goals I must not just set - but habitually maintain for my life to be totally committed to my Lord and Savior. My family and I are thanking the Lord for second chances!  
- Matt

### **IN MEMORY OF...**

These MEMORIAL GIFTS received by Teen/Life Challenge  
**In Memory of Lance Moore**  
Given by Barbara Moore  
Given by Radiant Life Church  
(Grand Prairie)

Thanks for Praying & supporting Life Challenge as we labor in love. Your consistent investments make encouragement possible for our students to learn HOPE in Our Lord.  
- Paul and Linda Ecker

## **SAVE THE DATE TEEN CHALLENGE GRADUATION CELEBRATION BANQUETS - 2017!**

July 14, Crossroads - Duncanville • July 21, Family Cathedral of Praise - Mesquite • July 28, Freedom Life Church - Carrollton



The TLC Men's Choir deep in concentration during rehearsal... except the guy all the way to the right.



(The back of) TLC Men's Choir Director



The Blizzard of '17 hits The Lighthouse



TLC attends the Rockwall Section Men's Summit



Badges of Honor - MAPS RVers wear their colors.



Couldn't have done it without them... MAPS RVers Banquet



## SPECIAL NOTE:

*If you have an 'EXTRA' \$575,000 to ASSIST our Lighthouse Residence Indebtedness - I will sing a solo (after the crowds have left) during the 2017 District Council. Thanks for Praying & your Past Generosity.*

*- Paul and Linda Ecker*

## THANK YOU!

...**To the Pastors & Churches** where TLC ministered during February. We appreciate your hospitality and look forward to the next opportunity. Thanks for telling others...

...**the Blessings of Volunteers** who help with office details... they faithfully come every week!

## WHO WE ARE...

The Lighthouse in Desoto, Texas is a 501(c)3 non-profit Teen/Life Challenge, faith-based ministry, supported by area churches, businesses and individuals. Currently we have many partnering churches and individuals that support us through prayer, donations and volunteers. We appreciate and need all the support we receive as we work to liquidate our LIGHTHOUSE indebtedness!

## HOW 2 HELP?

We have a continuing need of **Oven Cleaner, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Laundry Detergent** and **SAM'S Gift Cards** to purchase "convenience foods" for lunch on class days.

## A NEW WAY TO BLESS TLC!

**APPROVED / SIGNED BY CONGRESS... ANOTHER CREATIVE WAY TO BLESS TLC (and save you taxes!)** If you are 70 1/2 or older, you may request the trustee of your IRAs to annually transfer up to \$100,000.00 tax free of your Required Mandatory Distributions (RMD) to Teen/Life Challenge, an "approved" 501(c)3 organization. The funds must be transferred directly by the IRA trustee (bank or investment company) to Teen/Life Challenge in order for it to be tax free to the donor. We suggest you talk with your accountant / financial adviser who will be able to walk you through the process.

## SHOP AMAZON SMILE

AmazonSmile is a simple, automatic way to support TeenLife Challenge. Go to the "While You Shop" page (link found under the "Support TLC" button on teenlifechallenge.com) and use the "AmazonSmile / TeenLife Challenge of Dallas Inc." special link. Select TeenLife Challenge of Dallas, Inc. as your charitable organization. Amazon will now donate 0.5% of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to TLC!

## DONATE WITH PAYPAL!

- Through the Teen/Life Challenge web site - Go to [www.TeenLifeChallenge.org](http://www.TeenLifeChallenge.org)
- Find the Donate Tab and Follow Instructions provided there!
- You will be able to donate through Paypal... Mastercard, Visa, American Express, Discover, or your bank are available.
- You may also leave a note such as Building Fund or use as desired

## NEED HELP?

1. Call 214.824.6181 to discuss your situation. Ask for Paul. If I'm "active", I'll get back to you later. My objective is to give others the opportunity to receive Christ.
2. If you live within 1 hour, you will be requested to come in for an interview in Dallas or Desoto.
3. If you live over an hour from these locations, you can order the application packet - \$25 - complete and mail in.
4. If the choir is scheduled in your area, you will be invited to attend the service and an interview can be scheduled after the service.

## NOW SCHEDULING CHOIRS FOR 2017

We are a North Texas District "Home Missions" ministry. Call Shelby by 972.533.0541 to schedule a choir and speaker. YES... we are anticipating Wednesday evenings and/or other special activities. We will size the choir and our part to your schedule.

THANKS!

Shop with your KROGER NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR card or ALBERTONS COMMUNITY PARTNER card, and a portion of your purchase price can go to support TLC. Don't have a card? Call us today! Thank you Kroger & Albertsons!

