

Standing In The Gap

This ministry is for the sole purpose of reaching and touching people's lives with the love of Jesus Christ through acts of kindness. Matthew 6: 3 says, "But when you give to the needy (spiritually, physically, emotionally and financially), do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing." "Not to us, O Lord, not to us but to Your name be the glory, because of Your love and faithfulness." ~Psalm 115:1

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Dear Friends and Co-Laborers in Jesus Christ,

While working alone in the garden this spring, a ting of loneliness came over me. Almost immediately, a bird began to tweet what sounded like "Come here!", "Come here!" In Matthew 11:28 it says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." That afternoon while pondering this, it seemed like the Lord was impressing on me that He has a ting of loneliness when His created ones don't come to Him and converse with Him. Lord, help us remember and understand that this is all about a relationship with you.

So many, including our readers, are suffering from brokenness and pain that is from past hurts, sickness, loss of loved ones, abandonment, lack of trust, crumbling marriages, confusion of mind, etc. Oh, but what hope Isaiah 60:20 brings for tomorrow and Jesus Christ's return! "Your sun will never set again, and your moon will wane no more; the Lord will be your everlasting light, and your days of sorrow will end."

Our most important desire and goal at SITG is to continue to minister Christ's love through our anonymous giving so that those receiving gifts will thank Him. Seeds are being sown for those suffering who don't know Him and encouragement for those who do know Christ. In the last few months, your gifts have blessed one of our bible study women who had serious feet problems and couldn't walk well enough to go to work. You bought her good shoes and inserts from Fleet Feet. The Lord told me to go to the beer store. (My neighbor owns and operates the store.) This is why He told me to go. In the store, was a woman who has lupus, has four kids, and is taking care of her parents. She just had a house fire and she needed a high chair and sheets for her infant son. We must obey no matter how strange it seems! We also helped another mom with four children whose house completely burned down. One of our bible study ladies referred a woman who is taking care of her grandchildren. She needed emergency funds to help with her gas bill or the gas would be turned off and she would lose the children. A powerful couple of God are raising their autistic grandchild. God directed us to encourage them. A married waitress in Florida was taking care of her elderly parents, working two jobs and raising her sister's two teenagers. She needed to see God's love for her. A man lost his job last May, has no unemployment and is filing for Worker's Compensation. Him and his wife needed a touch of Christ's love and hope. One young woman is suffering from her husband leaving her after she had complications and got very ill from her birth control. She couldn't believe someone cared enough about her. A woman needed assistance after her abusive ex-husband died

to take care of some business matters. Some of the supplies for 50 backpacks were purchased for kids at Children's Hospital in Hershey, PA. What a blessing you have been to these kids. Flowers were sent to a precious woman tormented with depression and oppression from her father's abuse as a little girl. We still help with furniture and are using individuals we once helped to get off the streets to load and unload. You bless them with filling up their gas tanks. An elderly widow was moving and was in a desperate situation. She has no family to assist her. You were her hands and feet. Several single women received gift cards to go out to dinner or buy groceries. Another waitress in her fifties was telling us how weary and tired she was. Why not let her know how precious she is to Christ. She got a very large tip and she cried. We were able to encourage an 89-year old and a 93-year old and take them out for lunch. A man moved home to Pittsburgh to honor his parents and take care of them. He fell and hurt himself bad and needed some monetary help with some bills. A young, single, deaf mom with three boys was moved by your kindness to her through a monetary gift. Some of God's precious women don't even have the money to buy undergarments. This is something that means so much to them. We were referred a Veteran and you told him he is not forgotten. Supplies were purchased for an after-school program for children. Two low-income women from bible study needed a few dollars to pay their rent. We bought a weed whacker and lawn mower to help widows, the disabled and others who are struggling to get their yards mowed. Clothing was purchased for an infant baby who came to a family through CYS and arrived with very little clothing.

New York State Report – Julia Jeffords

It is both an honor and a joy to be able to bless people that are hurting, no matter what that need may be! A special thanks to those of you that have trusted us with your financial contributions to be able to assist others here in the Western New York area. There are many people who feel unseen and/or dismissed, often in their greatest hour of need. It has been an honor to be able to help some-such ones in their place of deepest distress. A special thank you to those that are interceding on our behalf also, your labor is not in vain in the Lord! He sees all!

As one who wasn't available to others much (due to issues of my own), it has been most rewarding to now be able to reach out to others in their hour of need. After being a part of SITG for about five years, I have begun, over the past year, to appreciate even more the value of pouring into the lives of God's precious creation.

A dear sister in the Lord said of Standing In The Gap: "I love how quietly bold SITG serves people in need." As most of you know, we here at SITG try to give anonymously. However, that isn't always possible. In the following case, this mother and her two daughters, due to the circumstances of their story, were ones that had to know that SITG was helping them. Mom stated to us after receiving from SITG over a period of time that "Standing In The Gap is a group of caring, understanding souls who come into hurting lives to love them wherever they're at." To this day, SITG is seeing the fruit of your labor with this mother and her girls. Within the past month, there has been breakthrough in their situation and renewed hope for further restoration of much that was lost from their lives. This is only one case! Trust me, you have blessed many!

Dress-A-Girl-Around-the-World-Update – Judy Kendall

On February 11th, fifteen young girls from the Peter's Township High School basketball team participated in the dressmaking event at my house. Standing In The Gap provided the fabric for the 45 dresses that got underway that day. On May 7th, five young ladies and their two leaders from a ministry associated with St. Louise de Marillac Church called "Sew I may Serve", also participated in a dressmaking event, and again, the fabric for the 16 dresses started that day was provided by SITG. It was truly a beautiful experience to witness both groups of young girls giving their time and talents with such eagerness to learn how to make these dresses which would go to young girls in third-world countries. In April, 35 dresses were given to a pastor associated with a missionary group going to Swaziland in Africa, and in May, 70 dresses were given to The Bible Chapel Church who will soon be going on their annual trip to Kenya. Several completed dresses are still in stock and another project day will be scheduled soon. We hate to turn down any missionary group willing to hand deliver these dresses to God's beautiful young girls in need of them. May God bless all who continue to help keep this project going either financially or volunteering their time and labor in making the dresses.

What joy it is to come along with others to accomplish His work. In May, we spent a lot of time in the Beltzhoover area of Pittsburgh working with one of our bible study ladies who has been working on a community garden for a few years that once used to be a place where much drug and alcohol use took place. She herself has been delivered in this area. She has a vision to take back the ground that has been ravaged over the years. Out of this garden came the 1st Diversity Day on May 4th. We at SITG were part of the community to get the job done. You assisted with the "behind the scenes" costs with the luncheon, decorations, serving and loving others. We are planning on having bible studies in the garden this summer and to get other gardens started. A big "thank you" goes to Pittsburgh Garden in Bethel Park that donated so many of the beautiful flowers and supplies for this project. Isaiah 58:12 – "Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings."

Thank you to the Berean Church in Bridgeville, PA. They contact us every year in the spring when they restock their food pantry. We take the extra food supplies and distribute them to the neighborhoods we know can use the food. This year we were able to make 20 bags of groceries and deliver them to the people on the streets of Beltzhoover. What a wonderful way to tell others of Jesus' love for them!

If you are a buyer or seller on eBay, we have great news! Standing In The Gap has been approved as a non-profit charity on PayPal Giving Fund. What does this mean? If you sell on eBay, you may donate a portion of your earnings to SITG. Automatically, eBay will discount 10% of eBay selling fees because you are giving to charity. If you purchase items from sellers who are doing this, SITG will receive what the sellers donate to SITG! Current sellers are Joannamk93, MrsSmith1017, camrhein56 and everywhere to shop. If you know someone who sells, please let them know so they too can be a part of SITG! If you have any questions, you can email Joanna Smith at Joannamk93@aol.com.

Thank you for your faithfulness in giving to this ministry. May the grace of our Lord be poured on you abundantly today, along with the faith and love that are in our Redeemer, Jesus Christ.

Because Jesus cares, gives and lives,



From all of us

Pennsylvania Representatives: Laura Batchelder, Maureen Boeltz, Jill Casaldi, Dawn Hurley, Judy Kendall, Ruth Mueller and Marsha Nylund

New York State Representatives: Anna Amrhein, Julia Jeffords, Joanna Smith, Gladys Schmidt

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