

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 Servants of the LORD Jesus Christ,

Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, "This is the way; walk in it." (Isaiah 30:21) This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. Don't let Satan blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine. I was singing this childhood chorus on the way to church when my phone rang. It was my son calling to let me know that he and his wife were ready to travel four hours back to their home and their son's car seat was in my van! Right away, my flesh began to rise up, and that is when I heard that still small voice say to me, "Are you willing to be adaptable for me? Am I really number one in your life?" Turning around caused me to be late for church so thought I would go to a friend's church closer to home. I pulled out of my street and there was my neighbor in her yard whose only daughter just moved out of town, and she had just put down her dog last week. Again, I heard, "Are you willing to be adaptable for me?" So, I pulled over and asked her if she wanted to go out for coffee. She said, "Yes." She was then able to pour her hurting heart out. Does Jesus love her or what?!

Last week, a new woman came to bible study on Thursday who recently left an abusive relationship. She has three children, was living with some friends, and was getting keys to a new apartment the next day. She had nothing. That morning someone had dropped off brand-new coffee makers, toasters, crockpots, etc.; a day before someone called with a queen-size bed. Friday someone contacted us and wondered if anyone needed a couch and other household items. There is another couch in the storage unit, (thank you South Hills Movers for donating the unit all these years), along with end tables, lamps, dishes, etc. Does Jesus love her or what?! A woman who works with New York Representative, Anna Amrhein, received a Walmart gift card. She is a recovering addict, just got out of an abusive relationship and has a daughter doing the transgender thing becoming a man. This is enough to make one's heart sad. She told Anna that she was praying for money and God heard her prayer through SITG. Does Jesus love her or what?! You were instrumental in helping to move two, low-income widows that desperately needed help. We moved one from Wexford to Bridgeville and one from Carnegie to Bridgeville. They had no family available, little money for a u-haul, etc. We put our bible study group on the jobs. Does Jesus love these women or what?! These stories are evidence that God is in control. He is especially interested in the brokenhearted and hurting individuals.

Anonymous giving whenever possible since our last newsletter – help for a school aide battling breast cancer; groceries and help for a man who is divorced, working hard at his own business and had a broken down vehicle; some meals for a widow who is struggling with the effects of diabetes; gift card for a social worker who needed help in getting winter clothes for two single women and their children; groceries for a family in McKees Rocks whose one-year old son died suddenly. The family is devastated. Gift to a widow who lost her husband a few years ago, is working at a grocery store and has two sons who are in college; an elderly, low-income woman close to 80 needed encouragement at Christmas to buy a gift for her children; emergency help for a utility bill for a woman working hard but just couldn't handle the bill this month; a cafeteria worker living in chronic pain has a husband who is blind and a daughter who is special ed - you loved on her and her family. Some restaurant gift cards were given to a woman with cancer and going through treatments; one woman's roommate moved out unexpectedly and she needed everything. You blessed her with a Target card. Sometimes fuel is put into the cars of those coming from the city who bring women to bible study; twin beds were purchased for boys who are being raised by one of our bible study women who has had them since they were babies because their mom is an addict; you bought winter coats for these boys too. A woman from Beltzhoover needed some assistance to get her car fixed; Diane, our contact at Pressley Street, was blessed with a van with seats so that she can bring women to bible study and help when others need it for their groceries and moving items to new apartments! SITG also helped with two more u-hauls for those who can't afford them to get them from A to B. Additional women suffering from cancer are being helped with medical bills or other expenses. They are overwhelmed, and it lifts them up. A young man's mom slipped on the ice, hit her head and died. His company didn't give him any bereavement time off so he lost a lot of income. You told him how much Jesus loves him. An older woman moved back to Pittsburgh to be with her son who is sick. She had been sleeping on a couch for months. You bought her a bed. A man getting out of prison needed some clothing. Guess who got them for him? You! We met a woman in the Giant Eagle parking lot whose husband had left her with three teenagers, (one is handicapped). The Lord spoke and said, "Go buy her a grocery gift card right now." When she received it, she cried so hard. His kindness draws us to repentance. Our friends, the list goes on.

Help us, LORD, to follow in your footsteps and be lovers of people. That means everyone that He puts in front of us – whether they are easy to love or not! Thank you for your faithfulness.

Because Jesus cares, gives and lives,



Love from Ruth for all of us

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

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

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