

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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June, 2019

Dear Friends and Servants of our LORD Jesus Christ,

Several years ago, I was in a Dunkin Donuts watching my 3-year old niece from New York who I didn't get to see very often. As she looked around at the people, she asked me who they were. I asked her if she wanted to know their names and meet them. She said, "yes!". Suddenly, she looked at me and said, "I don't even know you!". It reminded me of the verse in Matthew 7:23 where Jesus says plainly, "depart from me, I never knew you...". Our heart at SITG is that He will know you and you will know him and everyone he brings our way to love will know him.

Joanna Smith (New York) "Love thy neighbor as you love thyself." is a verse that keeps resounding over and over to me these past few years. Pastor Pat had given a message a few years back that if your neighbor suddenly died, would they have known that we were Christians and that Christ died for them and loved them? Well, I prayed a prayer that day that I would be able to love my neighbors. Please know that soon after praying that prayer, our neighbors across the street began to suffer great loss through sudden death, loss of jobs, injury at work place, abandonment and death of dreams. They are hopeless without Jesus, but we believe with faith, that they will soon come to know the Lord as their Savior! My husband, Bryan and I, have come alongside them and have been showing them acts of kindness and conversing with them that the only one who can heal their souls is Jesus Christ, and he can take away their addictions through finding God and having their hearts healed. There are also four children that are suffering now, too, in all of this. They have been hungry at times and through SITG, we have been able to bless them with food and gas for their vehicles. All of us in New York would like to say thank you, dear ones, for showing the love of Christ through compassion by your donations to SITG as we minister to the broken, harassed, helpless and those without a Shepherd. (Matthew 9:36)

Jill Casaldi – My daughter, Julia, was able to do her National Honor Society project through SITG. I was unable to attend, but Ruth Mueller and her pap, Bill Pickard, went with her. She gave to our friend, Mary's, low-income, elderly apartment building and provided a gift bag with a word search, tissues, notecards, a special scripture verse for each person and some candy. Julia had other youth group girls help her make the bags special for each resident. Julia was amazed at how each of the residents were excited over the small gift bag. One woman couldn't believe that a teenager would put a scripture verse in each gift bag and couldn't wait to copy it to give to her friends. Julia was blessed by seeing all the responses of the residents and how happy they

were to have a young person go door to door. Many of them invited her in to talk and just were happy to see a new face. Simple acts of kindness can go a long way in touching hearts.

Vicky Koda & Eva Montebianco – Missionaries for the Philippines – We would like to thank everyone for their timeless efforts and generosity in participating towards the production of dresses for little girls and school supplies and other basic needs, that were shipped, delivered and distributed to Sayao Elementary School and day care centers in Mogpog, Marinduque and the slum areas in Tandang Sora, Quezon City - both are cities in the Philippines. The dresses/other supplies came in a timely manner last November, since November is considered as “The National Children’s Month” throughout the Philippines. You have blessed these children with beautiful clothing that some of them can only dream of owning once in their lifetime. (In the last week, through Judy and her crew, 105 dresses have been provided and SITG has also supplied 300 reading glasses for this year’s November month.). Thank you for your kind compassion and generosity towards these children as we continue to move forward with the sewing ministry in providing them with clothing and everyday basic needs. God bless you.

A partial list of those you have blessed. You helped a woman who almost died from pancreatitis. She couldn’t work and needed some help with her phone bill. Another woman’s son had major surgery and she had to care for her son and couldn’t work for a few months. You helped them. A homeless man ended up in the hospital with a 1200 diabetes count. He had no insurance. A gift for a woman with invasive ductal carcinoma. A gift for a powerful, Christian woman who had a fire in her home. Assistance for a single mom whose 15-year old son has a PTS disorder and is being bullied at school. Encouragement for a man who tried to commit suicide. Cost to move furniture and help with food for a single mom with five children. Assistance for a homeless, 60-year old woman looking for a place to live. Money to help a mom whose daughter is on house arrest and needed some clothes. A partial rent payment and food for a single woman who lost her job, has a disabled daughter and came down with blood clots in her legs. Grocery gift card for a family whose dad has lung cancer and is out of work. Assistance with a bridal shower for one of our precious ladies who lived with her man for 32 years and wanted to “do it right” before God and got married on May 18th! A woman who has a chronically, sick husband, works hard, and just can’t keep up on all the bills, was blessed. A woman who has lupus, her daughter was murdered and can’t work, was in trouble with her water bill. Guess who helped?

Thank you for helping us stand in the gap for so many. God sees and knows. How wonderful it is to know that Jesus Christ knows us!

Because Jesus cares, gives and lives,



PA - Laura, Maureen, Jill, Judy, Ruth, Marsha
NY - Anna, Julia, Joanna, Gladys

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