



Carlisle Truck Stop Ministry, Inc.

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Sharing Christ with Truckers and Travelers Since 1985

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Dear Ministry Supporters:

Greetings in the blessed name of Jesus, our Savior and Lord! "Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him, bless His name. For the Lord is good; His lovingkindness is everlasting and His faithfulness to all generations." (Psalm 100:4-5) Our God continues to be good, loving and faithful to His ministry here at Carlisle Truck Stop Ministry.

It's always a blessing to hear from our Chaplains:

Chaplain Dave writes: One of my greatest desires as I walk with Jesus each day is to try to emulate ten character traits that Jesus possessed - and He *never* compromised any of these:

- Compassion - Whenever people were around him, Jesus understood what their real needs were and sought to address them. (Matthew 9:36)
- Servant-hood - Despite having the authority to get anything He wanted, He did the exact opposite by lowering himself and serving others. (Mark 10:45)
- Love - If anyone doubts His love, all they have to do is look upon the cross and see the agony that He bore because He loves each of us. (John 15:13)
- Forgiveness - Even, while bleeding and experiencing extreme pain, Jesus had His heart set on forgiveness. (Luke 23:34)
- Commitment - Wherever Jesus was, or whoever He was with, He was fully in the moment and fully committed to the Father. (2 Timothy 2:15)
- Prayer - No matter how busy His ministry got, He found time to be alone and pray. (Acts 6:4)
- Gentleness - He knew when 'turning up the heat' was necessary and only did so strategically. (Matthew 11:29)
- Patience - Jesus kept His composure and responded appropriately to every individual. (Ephesians 4:2)
- Self-Control - His greatest desire was to obey His Father and to accomplish what He set out to do. (Luke 4:2)
- Humility - He wanted to seek and save the lost and offer forgiveness for sinful people. (Mark 10:45)

As we walk with Jesus each day, may we remember His words to us through the Apostle Paul: "Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma." Ephesians 5:1-2

Chaplain Craig writes: I've been thinking about the account in Scripture when Jesus called the fishermen, Peter and Andrew, to be His disciples and told them that He would make them "fishers of men." After His resurrection, Jesus encountered the disciples casting their nets, but not catching anything. It wasn't until Jesus told them where to cast, that they caught more fish than they could handle. This has helped me understand the importance of 'fishing for men' and the importance of doing it where, when and how God directs. In December 2018, we were casting a 'net' of cookies. Many individuals were touched by the love that was shown them through the simple gift of a bag of cookies. We've also cast the 'net' of 2019 stick-on calendars.

One afternoon I saw a driver standing by our display stand at the Petro truckstop. I attempted to engage him in conversation by simply asking him how he was doing. He looked at me and gave me a rude shrug. I offered

him a stick-on calendar, but he said, "Why do I need a calendar when I have a smart phone." I politely agreed and simply said that many drivers put them on their dash just in case they need a quick reminder. He loosened up a bit and I asked him some spiritual questions. I asked him if he has ever been through something that caused him to realize that there is a God. He told me the story of how God had saved his life when he was younger. Apparently, he was run over by a car but wasn't hurt. That story opened the door for him to share about his past and how he had been a successful carpenter for 25 years and then nearly lost everything overnight. His business, his family, and his kids were broken up, and he didn't know where to turn. As he talked of his past, he began to cry. I told him that God was with him and was healing those areas of his past. As he cried, I encouraged him to just let it out and let God bring in a new freshness. It was a very challenging and spirit-led encounter, but nevertheless, God had directed me to cast His 'net' over this man at just the right time and place. Thanks again for your prayerful support.

And now the news...

We want to thank all those who made our Cookie Collection and Distribution Event a great success this past year. We collected and distributed a new record of 15,115 bags. That's a lot of cookies! Drivers and travelers (and their families) have expressed their sincere thanks through numerous phone calls, emails and in person.

Our Spring Dinner Concert will be held at Plainfield First Church of God on Saturday, May 4, 2019. We're excited to have *The Gabriels* present our concert, so you won't want to miss it. See the enclosed flier for all the details.

Want to leave a legacy of sharing the gospel? Giving to Carlisle Truck Stop Ministry, Inc. through your will or trust is a God-honoring way to continue touching lives for Christ beyond your lifetime. Establishing a bequest offers a simple and flexible way to ensure your assets are distributed exactly as you wish. And if your estate is subject to taxes, a bequest counts as a charitable deduction that minimizes what is owed and maximizes what is passed to loved ones. If you are interested in how a bequest to Carlisle Truck Stop Ministry, Inc. can benefit you, your family and the Ministry, contact Board Member Dave Bell at 717-776-7191 (davidbell10541@yahoo.com) or consult with your attorney, tax consultant or financial adviser.

Want to support the Ministry in style? We have a limited number of real nice "I Support Carlisle Truck Stop Ministry" ball caps available for purchase at \$20.00 each. All profits will go to the Ministry. These will be available at the Dinner Concerts, but if you just can't wait, call Chaplain Dave or Craig at 717-385- 7932 to get yours now.



We trust that as we approach spring, you will be reminded of the new life we have through Jesus, our resurrected Lord and Savior. We look forward to seeing you all at the Spring Dinner Concert. Don't forget to mark your calendars and purchase your tickets! The deadline is Friday, April 26th.

For the Board of Directors,



David D. Bell, Sec./Treas.