



P.O. Box 851  
Carlisle PA 17013-0851  
717-385-7932  
www.carlisetruckstopministry.org  
email: ctsm851@gmail.com

*Sharing Christ with Truckers and Travelers Since 1985*

March 2023

Dear Ministry Supporters:

As we approach another spring season, let us not forget that our great God is the One who created the heavens and the earth and all that is within them. Ever since God created all things and pronounced them “good”, He has continually sustained them for His glory and praise. Perhaps Maltbie D. Babcock said it best when he wrote [This is My Father's World](#):

This is my Father's world,  
And to my listening ears  
All nature sings, and round me rings  
The music of the spheres.  
This is my Father's world:  
I rest me in the thought  
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas  
His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world:  
O let me ne'er forget  
That though the wrong seems oft so strong,  
God is the Ruler yet.  
This is my Father's world:  
Why should my heart be sad?  
The Lord is King: let the heavens ring!  
God reigns; let earth be glad!

Along with all of nature, we add our praise and thankfulness to our good God for His beautiful creation and His sustaining rule over it. “The Lord is King: let the heavens ring! God reigns; let earth be glad!”

We have much to be thankful for over the last year. Approximately 200 attended our 2022 fall banquet for an evening of food, fellowship and a concert by Brothers in Grace. This was our first banquet since fall of 2019 (due to COVID), and despite not having a silent auction, we raised over \$13,000.00 for the Ministry.

The Lord has continued to bless us financially through you, our supporters. We thank you all for your generous donations. More of you are giving on a regular monthly or quarterly basis which helps in the budgetary process. Several individuals are receiving the tax benefit of giving “Qualified Charitable Donations” through their IRAs and retirement funds. (If you would like more information about this benefit, please contact us or your financial advisor.) As a result of your financial support, we have been able to include in our budget some donations to other non-profit organizations that support us with materials and services, e.g. the Gideons, Our Daily Bread, Carlisle Cares.

Our cookie collection and distribution event in November and December of 2022 was a great success. ABF Freight in Carlisle generously donated a trailer for our use during that time. We were able to provide approximately 13,000 bags of cookies to truckers, travelers, truck stop employees and others. Just to let you know how appreciated the cookies are, a Carlisle trucker

made a donation and sent a note saying, "Always thankful for the love behind the hands that bake the Christmas cookies as well as the ministry that you provide to travelers. You are a blessing and an asset to our area." Thanks for all your support in that annual endeavor.

We bestowed the title of 'Board Member Emeritus' to three Board members who retired in the last year, each having faithfully served the Board for at least 10 years. We certainly miss their wisdom and insights. We installed two new Board members (Dave Lepley and 'Chip' Purkins), both of whom are very familiar with the Ministry. Our By-Laws allow us to have one more Board member, so if you might be interested, please reach out to us.

Chaplains Dave and Mike remain busy providing spiritual counseling, transportation and emergency assistance to many individuals. Chaplain Dave's health is good and his cancer is inactive. The ultimate goal of the Ministry has always been to share the gospel of Jesus with sinners and to lead them to the eternal life we have in Christ. However, the chaplains have also had a couple of opportunities to actually save physical lives through counseling and responding to life threatening situations. Requests to have them speak at churches and other venues have continued to increase. We praise God for their health and safety, and are pleased that you want to meet our chaplains on a more personal level and learn more about the Ministry. If you would like to have them speak at a function, please let us know. They really do enjoy their time with you!

As a Board, we have been discussing the possibility of expanding the Ministry in various ways to the multitude of warehouses in the greater Carlisle area that serve the trucking industry. Our thoughts have centered around the possibility of a regular schedule of stops at warehouses to provide "a listening ear" and counsel. Please pray that the Lord would open some new opportunities for ministry. This would, in all likelihood, necessitate the hiring of another part time chaplain. If you, or someone you know might be interested, please contact us.

We are deeply saddened by the passing of Barbara Lehigh on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Barb was the wife of Dan Lehigh, who passed away in May of 2016 after serving as our chaplain for over eleven years. Barb was a dedicated supporter of the Ministry, serving as coordinator for numerous Fall Banquets. We miss them both, but we know they are now rejoicing together and praising Jesus face to face.

Lastly, please look at the enclosed 2023 Spring Fundraising Dinner Concert information and mark your calendars to attend on Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. It's been a while since we had a banquet in the Carlisle area and we would sure like to see you all again. Please note the ticket purchase deadline of April 24, 2023. If you have any questions, please let us know.

May the great and good God we serve continue to richly bless you and the Ministry.

For the Board of Directors,



David D. Bell, Secretary/Treasurer