

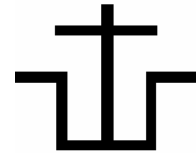
# The E.22:30 Update

Standing in the Gap Alumni Association

Volume 2, Issue 2

## Standing in the Gap's Mission

By Brian Mackie, Campus Pastor



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"So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one." Ezekiel 22:30 (NKJV)

Will you Stand in the Gap with us?

### Alumni Interests:

-Gap alum Marcy Abner has moved back into the mid-Michigan area after a time in seminary and working in Ohio

-Please contact Standing in the Gap with any changes you have made as far as e-mail addresses, future address changes, phone, etc. so we can keep in contact with you!

-Standing in the Gap is still looking for \$10 per month supporters. Thank you to Gap alums Dave and Teresa Dean and Jon Zmikly for being our first monthly supporters! Please contact SITG for more information!

If you have any "Alumni Interests to add, please e-mail: info@standinginthegap.us

Standing in the Gap's mission statement is to be and make disciples of Jesus Christ. I recently preached a message at New Life concerning discipleship that came up in the "Forward in Faith" series (our building campaign). The preaching passage was Luke 14:25-33. It spoke of "hating father and mother..." a great Mother's Day passage (it just so happened to be Mother's Day). It went on to say "even hating your own life, you cannot be my disciple." What does Christ mean by this? It means that Christ comes first above everything. Nothing can take the place of Christ, even father, mother or our own life.

Obviously Christ does not preach "hatred" of people since we are to "love our neighbor as ourself." So this passage does not contradict the other. What this is about is right priorities. Actually it is filled with irony. If we do not "hate" father, mother etc., we will likely end up having conflict, division and hatred for them through our own selfishness. But if we do "hate" them or put our priority first on Christ and not on second place items (like father, mother, family, your own life) then you will be able to re-engage them in a right way and actually love unconditionally your father, mother and your own life. So Christ's statement is hyperbole and meant to not be taken literally, but when our perspective changes, then our priorities can change and then our life can

change to Christ's desire for our lives. In other words, there is a cost to discipleship. Christ goes on to say that if anyone does not take up his cross and follow Him, then one cannot be His disciple.

This summer we begin our summer Gap and I believe the next 12 months have the potential to be among our best that Gap has had. We have a great core group of members and have laid a great foundation all year. Our evangelistic efforts are growing, our commitment levels are intensifying and God is doing great things in our midst. We had a significant healing take place by prayer at our spring retreat and we thank God for that. We said goodbye to a few people leaving Standing in the Gap and are preparing for Jake Davis' departure. He will be leaving at the first of July and traveling to Tulsa to attend Oral Roberts University for his Master's of Divinity. Recent alum Kimberly Hohensee is also planning on attend ORU this upcoming Fall for her Master's in Christian Counseling as well as some evangelism emphasis. Gap alum Chris Hardenburg has just completed his internship with us and will move into the Assistant's role as Jake departs. We have many other alums doing great work and carrying Christ around the state, the country and the world.

Nate Polzin has recently begun our second Standing in the Gap

chapter at Saginaw Valley State University. The Gap college ministry has gone better than he expected at first. Starting in the spring semester he got a number of students to attend including a 10 plus average for the month of April. He is also planting a church off the ministry and is looking for those who would like to help with the efforts. If you would please pray for that ministry, it would be greatly appreciated. Also if you have it on your heart to go to Saginaw and help with the ministry start, he would be happy to have the help. Even if you want to just make a visit and check things out, he would love to see the faces. Feel free to call him at (989)560-3563 or visit the website [www.standinginthegap.us/svsu](http://www.standinginthegap.us/svsu) or link to [www.thechurchindrive.com](http://www.thechurchindrive.com).

Thank you for praying for us and all of your support.

Hope to see you in October for Homecoming Weekend. We will have some great events planned for you. Although we have not yet seen the schedule for the year, it will likely be the second or third weekend in October. Try to join us if you can.

God Bless!

Brian Mackie  
Campus Pastor  
SITG-CMU

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## Standing in the Gap

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### The Assistant's Spot: (by Jake Davis)

'The Last Month': That was the main title of one of the articles in my last supporter newsletter for Standing in the Gap. I have been blessed to have multiple financial supporters over the past months that I have been working for Standing in the Gap so I had tried my best, not always successfully, to send them an update here and there to let them know how the ministry work was going. My final newsletter talked of my last official month working for the ministry of Standing in the Gap. May 2007 is that 'Last Month' and oh how quickly it has come upon me.

It is hard to explain how much this ministry has meant to me but I know you all understand the feeling in some way, shape, or form. Most, if not all, of you who are reading this have been partners with me in ministry while being a part of Standing in the Gap in some way. This is finally my time to step out from this place and do something different. I remember so many of you when you made your final farewell before leaving into the "real world" and how much it was hard to see you make the transition away from the place where I knew you all from. I now feel like I'm doing the same thing but am very excited in the process. I hope to be able to bless the ministry of Standing in the Gap in the future in some way which I'm sure I'll have the chance to do so.

I ask that you consider how you can bless this ministry as well! Please remember Gap in your prayers and be blessed!

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## Spring Retreat 2007

The Spring Retreat of 2007 (March 30-April 1) was a great event. This particular retreat was the first ever to have both chapters attend. There were about fifteen attendees along with a faculty member of Bethany Theological Seminary, Russell Haitch, who led two of the main sessions during the weekend.

The topic of the combined retreat was the Holy Spirit. Brian, Nate, and Russell all had a chance to lead sessions during the Retreat touching on the topic at hand. The retreat was a great time for our ministry to build our core and to learn from the Lord.

This Spring Retreat was just the beginning of many future combined events that we look forward to.



Professor Russell Haitch of Bethany Theological Seminary leading a session



Retreat-goers playing an intense game of 4-Square

## Miscellaneous Messages

Summer Gap is here again! With the Spring semester of 2007 finished up during the first week in May, we have already started Summer Gap for the CMU chapter. Summer Gap officially began on Wednesday, May 16th and will be held, unless changes occur, at the Gap house every Wednesday until the Fall semester begins, at 7:30pm. We have seen various alumni come visit Summer Gap's over the past years and would love to see you there as well! Please feel free to stop in! Check out the Gap website for updates.

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### Be Encouraged!

Deuteronomy 6:4-9...

The Shema: Rather than write out the scripture for this newsletter, I want you to look up the scripture. This part of scripture is the beginning of the famous Jewish prayer called the Shema. See that God is calling us to recognize Him only as God and to submit ourselves to Him in EVERYTHING. Jesus even quotes the Shema when He speaks of one of the two greatest commandments.. "Love the Lord Your God..." . Meditate on this scripture and be changed.

SITG Alumni Association website:

[www.standinginthegap.us/alumni/](http://www.standinginthegap.us/alumni/)

### Supporting Standing in the Gap

If you would like to bless Standing in the Gap with a financial gift, you have two options:

1. Send your gift via mail to:

**Standing in the Gap**  
**412 W. Broomfield**  
**Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858**

2. Give your gift online:

**[www.standinginthegap.us/finance/](http://www.standinginthegap.us/finance/)**

Please make a note of what you would like your gift to go toward:

- General Fund
- Missions
- Retreats
- Future investments
- Support Staff

**Thank you so much for your support!**