

STANDING IN THE GAP

NEWSLETTER JUNE 2023

To be and make disciples of Jesus Christ

FOLLOWING THE TRUE GUIDE, EVEN ON BREAK



Summer always seems to be the time we think we will have time to catch up on past due projects, but as the weather warms we find ourselves swamped with open houses, family commitments, and various long weekends which bring things to take part in. Even through endless to do lists and obligations, if we are striving to walk in right relationship with God first and foremost, everything else will fall into place.

“But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”

-Matthew 6:33

-Natalie Norris; Standing in the Gap Communications Manager

Summer Gap: A Time to Strengthen and equip

By Natalie Norris

Gap had always had a special place in my heart, from the first day I attended when Owen, who was the campus pastor at the time, made a cardboard replica of a breastplate to ministry night at retreat. God has always shown up when He is sought faithfully and invited into the space. What I didn't expect was for one of the most powerful and the most intense growth to happen over the summer. Summer for college students is a stereotypically relaxing time, filled with internships and working to help ease financial burdens for the next year. Ministry can sometimes be pushed to the back burner. At SVSU, that is not the case.



Summer gap is a smaller group, usually 6-10, but the time spent together is phenomenal. Each week, those who attend are welcome to bring topics that are on their heart to talk about and learn more about what God has to say. We have tackled issues of feeling out of control, cleansing hearts, how to approach lawsuits, and more. The smaller setting allows for more intimate and vulnerable conversations, which can lead to deeper relationships with God and each other, as it provides accountability. Those who come are striving with a passion for God's will for their life, and it is evident. I want to praise God for how He is working and has worked in the past through Summer Gap, and prayers for continued strength and allowing His presence to be with us as we continue.



Student Testimony

By Emily Weiss

I have been a Christian that has been living for Jesus for a little over a year now. I would like to paint a picture for you what my life looked like before I met Jesus.

I grew up receiving awards for my grades and people always telling me how I was such a good kid. Your typical quiet kid that grew up going to church and looks like their life is together. But let me tell you, I felt anything but filled and accomplished.

Compliments, awards, achievements for my grades felt meaningless. I had no hope and no one to turn to. So, when I came to college, I began exploring New Age practices; Still my heart felt empty. My entire first year of college felt meaningless.

I took a college class exploring how Christianity was formed and began to question everything I had learned about new age practices.

The more I learned in this class, the more I questioned if Christianity really existed. So, I continued to do my own research on everything and anything to find out the truth. The truth is that Jesus Christ is real and he has changed my life forever, in every way. My life finally felt alive when I was baptized in August of 2022. I was determined to find a Christian community when I started school. So, I found Standing in the Gap, the place I encountered Jesus in so many ways.

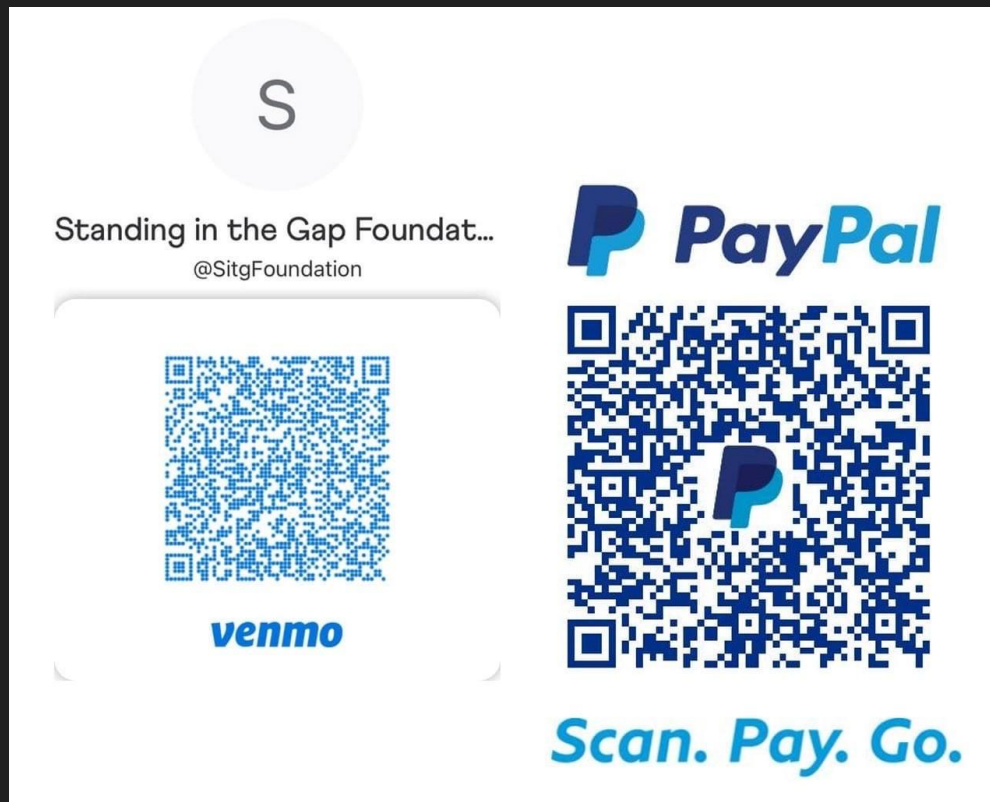


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