

GEORGE & SARAH STRUB

Big Sandy, Texas

BACKGROUND *How do you serve in GCI?* We serve at New Beginnings Christian Fellowship in Big Sandy, Texas in many ways. George serves as an elder in our congregation, preaching regularly. In addition, we work together in music and youth ministry, and Sarah serves as the church Treasurer. One of our major ministry projects is coordinating an annual trip to S.E.P. Rockies. We usually take about 15 campers and staff.

How did you connect with GCI? We have both been in GCI (and Worldwide Church of God) since infancy. George was only a few months old when his parents requested to be visited by ministers in our denomination. Sarah's family attended the church in Big Sandy, and it was there that she was born into the church.

GET TO KNOW:

SARAH

- + Sarah is an introvert who is energized by spending time alone. A perfect day would be spent reading and walking the dog.
- + Her favorite scripture is John 10:10, "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." Jesus is helping Sarah learn day by day what a full, joyous life is all about.
- + For young people just starting their journey in ministry, she would like to say, "Be faithful in the small things. Obey what God wants you to do today, and more responsibility will be given to you in the future."





Who has invested in you to support you in your ministry? Our denomination has invested a lot in our spiritual lives. As teenagers, both of us got to attend S.E.P. camps. George even got to travel to S.E.P. Scotland as a camper and later served on staff. We also had the privilege of attending Ambassador University. We are so grateful to the many church members who made this experience possible.

As we entered adulthood, we had a history of being involved in youth ministry and being equipped to give back.

What are some of your reasons for choosing to participate with GCI in ministry? We feel that we have been called by God to serve in youth ministry. George has had a desire to serve in the ministry since he was a teen. He assumed that this meant being a church pastor, but he has found that ministry can include many more ways to serve. Sarah has a deep desire for their two children to know God and has taught youth classes since the children were babies.

How did your ministry develop? Our Sunday church attendance is about 50, but our Wednesday Night Gathering (WNG) is attended by 60 – 80 people! The Wednesday service began over 20 years ago as a time to enjoy contemporary Christian music. It was led by people who loved to worship God, had musical talent, and it appealed to our church youth. Eventually we incorporated a Bible lesson in the meeting. We also had members who loved hospitality and were willing to cook a meal before the service. Another key to how this ministry developed was the fact that we eventually purchased a church building right in the middle of town. Today, most of the people who attend our WNG are youth in junior high and high school. Our congregation has recognized that serving our town's youth is our most important outreach. Our church members all contribute to the ministry in one way or another. We have a number of committed teachers, cooks, and playground attendants. We have members praying for each individual young person. And our church budget is focused on this ministry. We ask that people pray for our ministry to the youth. It is exciting to be part of a ministry centered around youth, but it is also challenging.

GEORGE

- + What George is most thankful for, Besides Jesus, is his family.
- + George is an extrovert who is energized by spending time with people.
- + Five things he can't live without: coffee, coffee, coffee, coffee & coffee!
- + He enjoys adventure climbing and zip lining.
- + He tries to bike the 6-mile journey to and from work most days.
- + His favorite scripture is Galatians 6:10, "As we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, especially to those who are of the household of faith."



GRACE COMMUNION
INTERNATIONAL