



2021 CYIA Spring Retreat

Greater Columbus Chronicle

Newsletter of the CEF of Ohio, Inc. - Greater Columbus Chapter

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Serving the following counties:

- DelawareMadisonFairfieldPerry
- Franklin Pickaway
- Licking Union

<u>Staff</u>

Laura Gardner, Ministry Coordinator

Local Committee

Ray Harper Sandy Harper Harvey Howdyshell Janice Howdyshell Lisa Hickle Jason McCale Joel Pickering Betsy Starkey Jim Forrest

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We held our Christian Youth in Action[™] Spring Retreat March 26-27 at Inspiration Hills Campground in Burbank, Ohio. Twenty teens from all over Ohio came together for a fun and relaxing time in the Lord. At the retreat, the teens were introduced to our summer ministry with 5-DAY CLUBS[®]. Our theme for 5-DAY CLUBS[®] this year is **Discovering Jesus**. Please pray that many will have the desire to be part of the outreach this summer. If you know a young person who is interested in serving God this summer in missions, please contact me for more information at 614-272-8217 or email me at laurabeth4062@outlook.com.

Laura Gardner, Ministry Coordinator

Ministry Spotlights from our GNC Leaders

SURPRISED IN PATASKALA - Ten-year-old Brigid told her Good News Club teacher, Linda Glenn, she wouldn't be able to attend the last Club meeting because her family was going on vacation. But Brigid enjoyed attending the Club so much, she surprised them by joining in on Zoom on her phone while traveling in the car. Linda has been teaching the children to be strong in the faith and in temptation and difficult times; and that, like Daniel, God blesses our faithfulness to Him.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM CIRCLEVILLE - Angie Copeland's church had an Easter Egg Hunt that 700 people came to. The Gospel is always shared. There were beeping eggs for the hearing impaired and help for children in wheel chairs. This team reaches out in creative & loving ways to reach a variety of groups.

She trained her church's Children's Ministry workers to share the Wordless Book and also how to counsel a child in coming to the Savior. They appreciated learning how to confidently share the Gospel and Bible lessons. This has such multiplying impact.

As a side note, we love to help train church workers for Good News Clubs or children's ministries in general. If you would like us to come to your church for training, contact Laura Gardner at 614-272-8217 or laurabeth4062@outlook.com.

THANKFUL IN JUNCTION CITY - Jane Morgan, GNC teacher for over 40 years, though unable to have Club meetings in the school this year, kept teaching at her church on Wednesday evenings and sending material home to the children. She encouraged them that as our mighty God was with Esther in tough times, we also can trust Him to be with us and turn wrongs to right.

She also shared a tearful story from a pastor's wife. Though she had attended a variety of churches while growing up, no one had explained what being "saved" meant. She was so thankful when she finally heard and so burdened for others to hear that she challenges all Christians to please share the way of salvation to anyone we meet.

Jane is still recovering on the inside from a heart valve replacement. Though she doesn't have all her strength back, she is glad to have no restrictions and thanked us for praying!

Pray for our Communities by Ray Harper, Committee Chairman

Of the eight counties we serve as the Greater Columbus Chapter, we have 251,851 students from ages 5-14. What an opportunity, but one thing we know is as a small group we can never reach these children without the help of fellow Christians. As the Lord said, "The harvest truly is great but the laborers are few" (Luke 10:2) and "It is not the will of your Father that one of these little ones should perish" (Matthew 18:14). Jesus also urged, "Let the little children come to me" (Matthew 19:14). Let's remember the "how to" is most important, teaching God's Word "diligently unto thy children" (Deuteronomy 6:4-9).

My uncle, Floyd Moon, who was second in command of the Ohio State Patrol years ago, once said to me, "Crime starts in childhood with kids doing little things that soon add up to bigger things like stealing apples, then advancing to cars and on and on it goes". The Scripture speaks to this in Proverbs 22:6, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it".

It's important to note at this point that a high percentage of older people do not know their Bibles or attend church or care less and are not training their children in the Word of God or the love of Jesus Christ. Pray for the working of the Holy Spirit in our communities and in the hearts of the people. We need faithful workers to fill the void.

We need a big conversion to take place in our land...young and old alike. Pray!!! We would love to talk with you more directly if you sense the Lord is challenging you to be an active ambassador to share His message. We can train your children's ministry leaders and others to share the message confidently. We believe the Lord is calling all Christians to share as much as possible in these times!

Prayer Requests – For the Lord to open the door to ministry opportunities this summer at fairs & 5-Day Clubs • More teen CYIA workers for those ministries • A Local Director • Good News Club students to continue their relationship with God after Clubs wind down



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