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Greater Columbus Chronicle

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

July 2020

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- Fairfield • Perry
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God Knew

The sudden end to our Good News Clubs this year was difficult and challenging. I became very concerned for our children who live in homes where often the caregivers were not loving and kind. I began to pray for God's protection for these little ones. I called all of the homes speaking with the parents and let them know I was praying for them and if they needed help to please call me. Many were very happy for my call and some shared with me how difficult this time was for them as they had to school their children at home.

I wanted to keep in touch with the children so I sent each one a letter with coloring pages to remind them of the lessons we just learn about. As I looked back at the lessons we had been teaching the past weeks, it was clear to me God had been preparing the children for such a time as this. God knew what lessons the children would need to hear. In the letter I reminded them how God took care of Esther and His people. Even when Esther did not know what was going to happen, she trusted God and they can trust God because He is Sovereign. That means He is in control of everything.

Our last Bible lesson in Good News Club was when the Disciples were in a boat and a great storm came up. They were afraid of the storm. The Disciples did not need to be afraid because Jesus was in the boat with them. With just His words, "Peace be still", Jesus stopped the storm.

I told them, like Esther, you may not understand why this bad thing is happening, but remember, like the Disciples, Jesus is with you and He will take care of you.

Two Hispanic boys in my Club had each been working to earn a special Bible. I was able to drop them off and the children were so happy to see me and to get the new Bibles. The teenage girl who comes to Club with her brothers and younger sister told me they were studying the Bible together as a family. God knew how important these Bibles were to this family.

As I prepare for the summer Missionary work, I am excited to see what God has planned for the children in 5-Day Clubs. Please be in prayer for the five teens who will serve with me this summer. We do not know what lies ahead, but God knows.

Laura Gardner, Ministry Coordinator

Providing Peace in the Pandemic



Since the coronavirus pandemic cut short the Good News Clubs by a few weeks, the Good News Club team in Delaware, OH, wanted to get the materials to the kids, help their families, and let them know they are loved. We made copies of all of the materials for the last two Clubs, we bought a small list of shelf stable items for the families (cereal, boxed milk, fruit cups, green beans, mac 'n' cheese, and single

**2019 Worldwide
CEF Ministry Statistics**

Teachers Trained
2018 - 392,992
2019 - 429,083
(36,091 or 9% increase)

Good News Clubs
2018 - 98,618
2019 - 109,828
(11,210 or 11% increase)

Children Reached
2018 - 25,478,771
2019 - 25,182,420
(296K or 1% decrease)

Professions of Faith
2018 - 10,480,210
2019 - 9,285,456
(1.2M or 11% decrease)

serving snacks), and a toy specifically for that child. We delivered them on the first day the Club was canceled. We love these kids and want them to know we are here for them and their families. We hope that the love of Christ might be glimpsed by these folks and that those who do not yet know Christ might be drawn to Him.

Judy Riley, Club Coordinator

Fundwaiting Banquet?!?

Wait a minute? Isn't that supposed to be fundRAISING banquet? Glad you asked! In fact it is. We had a lovely banquet planned for this past April, but the pandemic put a plug on that. We will probably have to wait until next year to hold a banquet that everyone would feel comfortable coming to. Therefore, if you have some leftover \$1,200 stimulus funds or just want to support teaching the Bible to children, please consider a gift to our Greater Columbus Chapter. In the immediate future, the funds will be used for our 5-Day Club ministries going on this summer to local children. Lord willing, we will start planning soon for the start of Good News Clubs in schools if they allow us back during the pandemic. We are also building a fund for a local director for our chapter once the Lord directs one our way.

Checks can be mailed to **CEF of Ohio – Greater Columbus Chapter, PO Box 1173, Columbus, OH 43216**. Debit or credit card donations can be made through PayPal by visiting the link on our webpage at cefcolumnbus.com/donate/. Thank you for your continued prayer and financial support of CEF!

Praise God for:

- The opportunity to have 5-Day Clubs amidst the pandemic, even with the additional safety precautions.
- The willingness of Laura and our five teens to staff those 5-Day Clubs.
- Healthcare workers and government leaders to lead us through this health crisis.

Please Pray for:

- The children attending 5-Day Clubs to have an open heart to the Gospel and Biblical messages.
- Safety for all staff and children attending 5-Day Clubs this summer.
- A Director for our Chapter and extra funds to support that position.



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

