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Greater Columbus Chronicle

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

April 2023

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Praising God in Pataskala! by Linda Glenn, GNC Coordinator

Volunteers from Pataskala First Presbyterian Church have been holding Good News Clubs (GNC) for elementary school children since spring 2006. During our initial meeting with the Superintendent, he denied our request to have information/registration forms mass distributed (based upon some unfortunate experiences he had with another ministry in a previous district). Our basic way to reach out to children was by "word of mouth."



Since many years have passed, and many superintendents later, bolstered by the training we received last July from Laura, Sandy and Ray, we decided to attempt to have that policy changed. Praise God, our prayers were heard, and God blessed us so we could reach many children with the Word of God.

He also blessed us with the gift of a partner church, Outville Presbyterian, to establish three teams so we could hold GNC in each of the three elementary schools (grades K-3) in the Southwest Licking School District.

During our six weekly meetings in the Fall of 2022 and Spring of 2023, we met with over 125 first through third graders. Our district has families from many different cultures, so we considered that some of our children were unaware of the "One True God." During our first weeks in the fall, we heard comments like "What's the Bible?", "What's a church?", and "I don't know much about Jesus."



This spring we were using the CEF curriculum, "God: The One Who Knows My Heart." Beyond the lessons included in that series, we emphasized "A (Admit), B (Believe), and C (Choose)." We wanted the children to understand that we are all sinners. We can believe, and trust completely, that God sent His Son to take our punishment when He died on the cross and rose again. Everyone must decide if they will choose to accept this free gift of salvation that God is offering. During the lessons, they listened and learned. Thankfully, we had plenty people trained using the GNC method to counsel children. We counseled with 36 children for assurance of their salvation and 29 children who accepted Jesus as their Savior. What a joy it was to be used by God to share His love and salvation plan with these children!!!

Ministry Coordinator Updates by Laura Gardner

It is hard to believe that it has been five months since I accepted God's call to be on staff as the Ministry Coordinator for the Greater Columbus Chapter of CEF. I am grateful for all who have joined my support team with prayer and financial giving. I am now at 70% of my goal! I just need around \$460 a month to reach full support. Would you pray about being one of 9 people to give \$50 a month or perhaps one of the 19 to give \$25 a month? Of course, special gifts are always appreciated.

If you would like to support my position or the chapter, checks can be mailed to **CEF of Ohio – Greater Columbus Chapter, PO Box 1173, Columbus, OH 43216**. Debit/credit card donations can be made through PayPal by visiting the link on our website at cefcolumbus.org/donate/. Please indicate if the donation is for the Ministry Coordinator Fund or the general fund.

I am currently focusing ministry expansion on the Southside of Franklin County and in Fairfield County. Praise God, we started a new GNC at Southwood Elementary School in Columbus. Our first day we had 17 children in attendance. We also started a GNC at Liberty Union-Thurston Elementary School in Fairfield County with eight children enrolled. Please pray for the children who are attending these clubs. Pray for more churches to adopt a school. If your church would like to know how they can reach more children for Christ, please contact me at 614-272-8217 or laura@cefcolumbus.org. I would love to show you how CEF can support you in sharing the Gospel with the children in your community. With your help we will be closer to our big goal of having a Good News Club in every public school in the Greater Columbus area.

Save the Date - Saturday, September 23 - Fund Gathering Banquet

All of our amazing supporters are invited to our banquet at the Obetz Community Center, 1650 Obetz Avenue, Obetz, OH 43207, on Saturday, September 23, 2023, at 6:30pm. Radio host Bob Burney, who spoke at our previous banquet, has graciously agreed to be our guest speaker. We are looking for individuals and businesses to sponsor the banquet at the following levels with the corresponding benefits:

\$100+ (Bronze Donor) – A sign with your name will be placed on your table(s). You will be listed in the banquet program, on signs entering the banquet hall, and on a slideshow presentation.

\$250+ (Silver Donor) – All the above, plus you can promote your business with brochures & business cards on a table in the banquet hall.

\$500+ (Gold Donor) – All the above, plus you will be listed in our next newsletter after the banquet.

\$1,000+ (Platinum Donor) – All the above, plus you will be listed in our next three newsletters.

We are also looking for table hosts that can be inviting people to fill an 8-person table. All those interested in being a sponsor or table host can contact Laura Gardner at 614-272-8217 or laura@cefcolumbus.org.



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