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Greater Columbus Chronicle

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

December 2023

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For Such a Time as This!

This was the theme of our banquet in April 2018 just about two years before COVID hit. In 2020 we were in the middle of teaching the lesson series on Esther in the Good News Club when everything shut down and the doors to the schools were closed. I felt back then that God had been preparing us and the Good News Club children for such a time as this. You may recall in the book of Esther that the Jewish people were in danger and Esther's uncle Mordecai asked her, "And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" (Esther 4:14). Thankfully, Esther was prepared and had the courage to help rescue her people.

Now the world is in turmoil again and we are teaching the lesson series on the life of Esther. We have no way of knowing what the future holds but we do know God is sovereign and He will do what is best for His children.

We still have open doors at the schools at this time but that could change overnight. We currently have seven Good News Clubs active in the eight counties we serve. Franklin County alone has 294 Elementary schools, but sadly, there is only one active Club in Franklin County. Children are hungry for the Gospel!

A little girl in the Southwest Licking School district was asked what she knew about Jesus. With tears in her eyes, she looked up at the teacher and said, "I don't know much about Jesus."

With so many children unreached will you help reach them? Could you and your church start a Good News Club in a school near you? Will you remember the children this Christmas by giving a special gift for them this year with your year-end giving?

If you would like more information on how we can help your church reach the children in your community, please contact me, Laura Gardner, at 614-266-7287, or Laura@cefcolumnbus.org.

Please continue to pray for the children and for more workers to come along side us in this great harvest!



Southwood Elementary
School Good News Club

Children Sharing the Gospel by Linda Glenn, GNC Leader

Our Good News Clubs in the Southwest Licking School District recently finished the fall series of lessons with 158 participants at four schools. We sent out an email reminding families that our last meeting of the Fall was approaching. A parent of a second grader wrote back a touching note expressing her appreciation for the Good News Club being in her child's school. She shared that when she met with her son's teacher for a conference, his teacher told her that Jacob had been bringing his Bible (a gift from GNC) to school and teaching the other children about Jesus. The team members' hearts leaped with joy when hearing this report! Praise God for blessing the ministry of Child Evangelism Fellowship!

Bountiful Banquet Blessings!!!



Bob Burney

We praise the Lord for a successful fundraising banquet held at the Obetz Community Center on September 23, 2023. Radio host Bob Burney delivered an encouraging message as our guest speaker, Linda Glenn gave a testimony on the four Good News Clubs she coordinates in the Pataskala area, and Laura Gardner provided an update on the various ministries in our Chapter. The 94 attendees were blessed with a delicious meal prepared by Debbie Copeland's catering team. This fundraising event raised nearly \$7,800 to help reach more Central Ohio children with the Gospel.



Laura Gardner (in yellow), her husband Ron (in blue), and other guests.

Thank you to all who attended the banquet, and a big thanks to our table hosts who invited your guests. We greatly appreciate all who support us with your prayers and finances. We are already preparing for our 2024 banquet!

For those of you considering any special year-end gifts to your favorite ministries, we'd like to remind you that your gifts to the Greater Columbus Chapter help our outreach to all the children here in Central Ohio. Donations are eligible for tax deduction and you will receive a donor receipt. 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/. If you would like to designate any part of your donation to help support our Ministry Coordinator Laura Gardner, please indicate that on your payment.

MERRY CHRISTMAS to you and your family from the Greater Columbus Chapter!!!

Thank You to Our 2023 Fundraising Banquet Sponsors

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