

The Cleveland Connection

Behind the Scenes at your CEF® Cleveland Connection

August 2023

Connect with us!

We want to hear from you!

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- Cindy Morris
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Abbreviations Key

CEF® – Child Evangelism Fellowship®

GNC™ – Good News Club®

CYIA™ – Christian Youth in Action®



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They Dared! God Blessed!

God gave Greater Cleveland four young summer missionaries who successfully completed the CYIA Training in Mt Vernon, Ohio – two were totally new to the 5-Day Club® ministry. Last year, one of our 5-Day Clubs was in Abby’s back yard. She asked, “What do I need to do so I can help with clubs like this?” This summer, she is serving as an Assistant, engaging with the children, teaching the continued missionary story, and helping with other aspects of the clubs. Just last week she had the opportunity to counsel a child for salvation! Hope, whose pastors recommended she serve, is also a first-year summer missionary. Read, as she shares some of her experiences in the Summer Missionary Spotlight.

This is Ire’s third year. He started as a Junior Helper and now he is one of our Bible Lesson and Memory Verse teachers. Ayonimi is back for her second year and is an Assistant, like Abby. They present the missionary story and introduce the children to the ministry of Janelle, a present day CEF missionary in Belize.

Sarah Lee, a teacher in the Avon Lake Schools, has dedicated her summer to reaching the children of Greater Cleveland and is a key player on the team. An experienced Bible Lesson teacher, she brings great enthusiasm and encouragement to the team.

Four area churches dared to host 5-Day Clubs this year: Providence Baptist, Amazing Grace EPC, North Royalton Baptist, and Christian Assembly. Three clubs met on church property and one took place at a neighborhood playground near the church. Volunteer hosts dared to comb neighborhoods to invite children to come to 5-Day Clubs. Join us in asking God to help them all establish a solid relationship with the children and their families.

Martha Heidinger

Ministry Coordinator



Ohio CYIA Graduates



Summer Missionary Spotlight: Hope Miller

Hope, an enthusiastic learner who definitely loves Jesus and the children she served this summer, shared a few words about her summer experience.

Preparing to Bless the Children!

I learned it was best to prepare (my teaching) before dinner - to just write out what I needed to do for the next day's club. When I tried to prepare the same day, my mind would "get scrambled", but if I prepared the day before, I would not have to worry about anything the day of club.

Interacting with the Children is the Highlight of Each Club!

It was really fun just being with the children. They will hug you and laugh with you and talk with you. They are so curious and will talk about anything and everything. I would try to shift these random conversations to focus on God. Then they would get interested in talking about God and Jesus.

And that is why we train summer missionaries – to talk with kids about Jesus!



Our first 5-Day Club began in the comfort of a church room. Once rain was no longer a threat, we moved to the sunny playground of Toddle Inn Preschool, a day care center for kids of working families.

What a blessing to know they have caregivers who will reinforce what they learned in 5-Day Club.



Imagine 32 kids marching up to 5-Day Club as they chant, "Isaiah 45 verse 5, I am the Lord, and there is no other, besides me there is no God."

By quoting this verse, all 32 earned one mission-dollar that day for our CEF missionary in Belize. It will help Janelle pay to use special software to add sound effects to her radio-Bible stories that are broadcast to all six regions of Belize.

This 5-Day Club at Family First Childcare Center earned a total of \$51.00 for the project.

SAVE THE DATE!

Quick Start Training

An introduction to God's heart for the children and how to effectively present transformative Bible truths through fun, interactive Bible teaching using CEF curriculum and methods.

September 7th Time: 6:00 – 9:00 pm

September 9th Time: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Place: Amazing Grace EPC

Text Martha @ 216-339-8256 for more information or to register



Brunch and a Lesson

Fellowship, an overview of this year's GNC curriculum and a lesson to keep us on "the cutting edge of evangelizing children."

September 23rd Time: 9:00 am – 12:00 noon

Place: TBD

Text Martha @ 216-339-8256 for more information or to register

Light The Way Banquet

Today's children are immersed in a world of increasing isolation, confusion, and uncertainty. God's design is to use His people to bring Light into their dark world, to use His word to light their path. (Psalm 119:105) Come to celebrate what God has done and how He wants to Light the Way for the children of Greater Cleveland into 2024.

Key note speaker: Mike Todd - CEF of Ohio's West Central Chapter Local Director

Date: October 21st, 2023 Time: 5:30 – 7:30 pm

Location: Fellowship City Church, Orange Campus

Please contact Judy King with your name and the number attending at kingrrkj@sbcglobal.net



Prayer and Praise

- Praise God for the eight 5-Day Clubs held this summer. Over 160 children were reached with the Gospel. Four were counselled for salvation, with others coming for assurance of salvation or for answers to questions.
- Thank God for the dedication of our summer team and the 20 volunteers who helped host clubs this summer. Pray for opportunities to follow up on families without church homes.
- Pray as Martha seeks to develop church partnerships for the 2023-24 *Good News Club* year.
- Pray Luke 10:2 for more workers: volunteer *Good News Club* team members, new committee members and a Local Director to develop the work in Greater Cleveland.
- Pray as our committee finalizes details for our October 21st Fund-Gathering Event. Ask God to prepare the hearts of those who come.

