

# The Cleveland Connection

Behind the Scenes at your CEF® Cleveland Connection

May 2023

**Connect with us!**

**We want to hear from you!**

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- Cindy Morris
- Suzanne Aldrich
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**Abbreviations Key**

CEF® – Child Evangelism Fellowship®

GNC™ – Good News Club®

CYIA™ – Christian Youth in Action®



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## Dare to Serve!

**H**ave you ever taken a dare to step out of your comfort zone and accomplish something totally beyond your expectations? In Luke 9:23 *Jesus said, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."* (ESV) What does this mean for you this summer? Jim Elliott, martyred missionary, put it this way:

*He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep, to gain what he cannot lose.*

**Can God use you** to reach unchurched children this summer? Of course, He can! **Does God want to use you** with other summer missionaries to lead 5-Day Clubs and evangelize the children of Greater Cleveland? That's for you to ask Him. Are you ready to serve if He answers, yes?

**Let CEF train and equip you to reach the children of Greater Cleveland through a 5-Day Club® ministry.**

The Christian Youth in Action® Training, June 11<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>, at Mt. Vernon Nazarene University is preceded by our Greater Cleveland Chapter pre-training June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup>.

Don't let the "youth" in *Christian Youth in Action* deter you. Adults take advantage of this intense training, too, and go on to effective summer ministry among unchurched children.

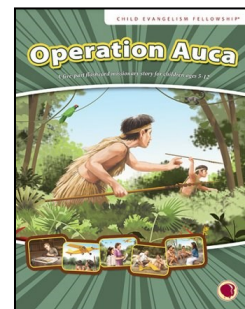
**Teachers are needed.** So far three committed youth have expressed serious interest in reaching children this summer. Pray for Ire, Ayonimi and Hope as they prepare for a summer of service.

Do you see children out playing in your neighborhood? Why not greet them and get better acquainted with their families? **Hosts and host families are needed** to welcome their neighborhood kids for an outdoor 5-Day Club.

**Dare to ask God for a burden to pray for them**, and for their salvation.

**Dare to ask** what He wants you to do about it. Does God want you to host a 5-Day Club for the children in your neighborhood? Is He asking you to help teach in a club?

**Dare to contact Martha for details!** Call (216) 339-8256



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# CEF– Serving the Church

**Our Mission Statement:** CEF is a Bible-centered, worldwide organization composed of born-again believers whose purpose is to evangelize boys and girls with the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, to disciple them in the Word of God and to establish them in a local church for Christian living.

**O**ur Mission Statement defines who we are. Church Partnership describes how we seek to serve the local church. What then is the path to church partnership?

**The starting point is prayer.** God is the One who opens doors for partnership and brings like-minded believers together to proclaim the Gospel to the children who need to hear and believe.

**Step two involves pastoral visits** to discern the needs of the church and their vision for outreach to children who have yet to hear the Gospel Message. As each pastor learns more about CEF, they see how we might come alongside them to encourage and strengthen their children's workers.

**The next step includes action points,** to meet the more pressing and felt needs of a church's Children's Ministries. This then affords **opportunity to reinforce their vision for outreach** and offer ministry opportunities and training for concerted ministry to unchurched children.

**Two churches in Euclid have recently started on this path to partnership.**

**New Life Christian Church International (New Life)** was looking for a Children's Church curriculum and Gospel training for their people. In March, Martha presented the various aspects of the *CEF Good News Club* curriculum to their teachers, pastors, and deacons. This curriculum fit their need. Then Martha met with Hope, a teen with a passion for children and a desire to serve as a summer missionary.



In April, twenty-seven volunteers came to the Wordless Book training at New Life to learn to explain the Gospel to children. They want to use this training to share the Gospel at Euclid's *200<sup>th</sup> Street Stroll*, the Saturday after Memorial Day.

Pastor Malone is working towards equipping the people of **Providence Baptist Church** to expand their outreach to unchurched children.

Eula Tucker and Sharon Tufts are Providence members who know CEF well and will serve as Martha's liaisons to plan and coordinate meetings, trainings, and Lord willing, summer 5-Day Clubs. Ask God to raise up volunteers to serve as summer missionaries and host families for this concerted outreach to bring the Gospel to even more children.



## Prayer and Praise

- **Praise God for four active after-school Good News Clubs**, reaching 100 children with the Gospel.
- **Praise God that 12 children** trusted in Jesus last month. Pray that they grow in their new-found faith.
- **Praise God for the start of two new Church Partnerships** in Euclid and for 34 volunteers trained in sharing the Wordless Book in April.
- **Pray** that friends trained at Providence Baptist and New Life Christian Church International will use what they learned to evangelize even more children this summer.
- **Pray for teens and adults** to apply for our Christian Youth in Action training in June. Ire, Ayonimi and Hope want to be summer missionaries. Ask God to guide us and to raise up even more summer missionaries so we could double the number of children reached this summer.

