

The Cleveland Connection

Your CEF® Cleveland Connection

March 2024

Connect with us!

We want to hear from you!

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Local Committee:

- Cindy Morris
- Stephanie Claros
- Judy King
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Abbreviations Key

CEF® – Child Evangelism Fellowship®

GNC™ – Good News Club®

CYIA™ – Christian Youth in Action®



[www.instagram.com/
cefgreatercleveland/](https://www.instagram.com/cefgreatercleveland/)



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Facing Giants – Climbing Mountains



A flat tire on the way to church! What can I do? Who can help? The next day, after two new tires were installed, one of the new ones went flat again! I was on my way to help at a *Good News Club*. I am so glad I hadn't left the parking lot before the signal flashed, and I realized that I needed to **STOP!**

This acronym reminds us to **Stop, Think, Obey, and Pray**. For me this meant to **stop** feeding the feelings of panic and embrace this opportunity to grow closer to God. Then, choose to **think** on Philippians 4:5-6, and **obey** by placing my plans in His hands and thanking Him for what I did not understand.

God's answer? On Sunday God sent a church member to help put on the spare tire and we got to church in time for most of the service. On Monday, I called the shop, help was sent, and the repair was made. Within 30 minutes of the call, I was on my way to the *GNC*.

I must confess that **I am not computer savvy**. New programs for ministry reports and servers to store documents that must be preserved feel like a steep mountain climb without the security of ropes or a guide. I am in the process of facing these giants and finding guides who are more than willing to help. Pray for courage and for the needed help when I "mess up". The greatest fear of a perfectionist is to "mess up" and then have others discover just how imperfect one is. I believe that this is the mountain God's asking me to climb and technology is simply His chosen tool.

Martha D. Heidinger

Ministry Coordinator



Memorial Gifts – Bring Blessing

Lisa had posted her mother's wishes on her Facebook Page for memorial gifts to be sent to CEF.

*"I would like to honor my mother, Madelon J Curtis, by donating this memorial gift to CEF in Greater Cleveland. Mom was promoted to glory on November 29, 2023. I miss her so much. I have a high regard for CEF because I, too, believe in the cause of declaring the Gospel to all people groups and to making disciples. God bless the work of ministry that you have committed to. Your gifts are a blessing to so many. If He is lifted up, He will draw all men (and children) unto Himself."
Best regards, Lisa C*

CEF of Greater Cleveland Faces its Giants

The child population of Greater Cleveland tops 177,600 children* (elementary school age). This is our target group. They are desperate for the hope and life that only Jesus can give through the Gospel. Last year we reached almost .2% of them (329) through our main ministries.

Yet, God says that it is NOT His will that even ONE of these little ones perish. (Matt.18:14) He is at work in Greater Cleveland. Doors are open, but the laborers are few. To reach even .5% of these children in 2024 we need to double the number of 5-Day Clubs this summer and develop three new church partnerships to reach more un-churched kids through holiday party clubs and new Good News Clubs. Workers are few.

Our Local Committee is facing the giant of limited workers and funds. We are trusting God together for a second Ministry Coordinator who could start work this summer on a part-time basis. **Join us in this adventure!** Ask God for the person of His choice and for the additional financial and prayer partners needed to hire this person. Then we can really rejoice together over the ways He used us to honor His name among the children reached.

*<https://www.healthyneo.org/?module=demographicdata&controller=index&action=index&id=2112§ionId=>

Jesus Gives Life and Hope!

March 9th, we held an Easter Party Club Training. We look to schedule some new Easter Party Clubs. Pray for the needed workers and for a clear presentation of the Gospel in each club. Ask the Father to draw children to the Lord Jesus and to connect their families to a Bible-teaching church.

Clearview Community Church has committed to having an Easter Party Club on Palm Sunday and will invite the families to their Easter service.

This year's lesson includes the narrative of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead and then His own death and resurrection, to show that Jesus is the only One who can give us LIFE today and HOPE for tomorrow. Kids today have no hope and lack meaningful relationships. Jesus gives spiritual life now (a friendship with God) and the real hope of a future with God (after our life here on earth).



Go and Tell!

A Gospel Training for Teens and Tweens

April 6th from 1:00 – 5:00 PM

This four-hour interactive and fun training is designed to help kids have more confidence in sharing their faith in Jesus with friends and younger kids. They will be challenged to list the names of three friends or family members who need Jesus. Then they will be challenged to tell those people.

Providence Life Development Center
24111 Rockwell Dr. – Euclid OH 44117

Registration deadline: March 29th

(text or email Martha with names and ages of those attending)



CYIA Summer Missionary Training

June 9th – 15th, 2024



As summer approaches, we're on the lookout for summer missionaries to train at Ohio's CYIA. This missionary "boot camp" equips **12-year-olds, teens, and adults** to share the Gospel with neighborhood kids. All learn how to lead a child to Christ! This outreach provides good connection with new families for churches to embrace and serve.

Pre-Training in the Cleveland area is a required preparation for the CYIA week.

June 1 (9:00 AM – 3:00 PM), June 4 & 6 (9:00 AM – 12:30 PM)

Contact Martha for a training brochure, pre-application, and answers to questions you have.

Pray for...

Chardon Hills GNC: two more team members needed for a good re-start in April. (32 children expected)

God's person and the finances needed for the part-time Ministry Coordinator position.

Go & Tell Training - Ask God to empower them to tell others about Jesus. Ask Him to challenge some to become summer missionaries.

Martha needs wisdom as she seeks to develop church partnerships with three new area churches.

May God give teens, who connect well with kids, the courage to explore if He would want them to serve as summer missionaries in 2024

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.

Ask God to raise up financial partners: Ten monthly supporters at \$50 and ten at \$25 would enable us to grow our ministry staff.

Vision for a Local Director: Ask God to make clear His person, His way, and His timing.

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