

The Cleveland Connection

Your CEF® Cleveland Connection

May 2024

Connect with us!

We want to hear from you!

CEF of Ohio, Inc.
Greater Cleveland Chapter
PO Box 30124
Cleveland, Ohio 44130

Website: www.cefonline.com



Martha Heidinger
Ministry Coordinator
martha.heidinger@cefonline.com
Phone: (216) 339 8256

Local Committee:

Cindy Morris
Stephanie Claros
Judy King
Tony Masevice
Michelle McComb

Abbreviations Key

CEF® – Child Evangelism Fellowship®
GNC™ – Good News Club®
CYIA™ – Christian Youth in Action®
5– Day Club®



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Let us Pray!

Prayer has been a vital part of *Child Evangelism Fellowship* from the very start. Our founder, Mr. Overholzer, was known for his intense and consistent prayer for the salvation of the children of the world. He kept asking God to raise up an “army of evangelists” and God continues to answer his prayers by giving workers and volunteers who bring the Gospel to children across the globe.

Prayer is foundational to our work in Greater Cleveland today. Time spent before the throne of our God and Father connects us with His heart and His way to provide direction, laborers, power, and resources for the ministry. It is much more than an emergency switch to hit in a crisis.

As you continue to pray for us and the children of Greater Cleveland, you are impacting young lives now and in their future. Why not invite someone to join you in this great work? When we pray together, we encourage one another to remember, and we grow more consistent in our intercession.

Check out the enclosed brochure about starting a prayer band. Then invite someone to join you. Together you can partner with God in what He wants to accomplish in the lives of the 177,600 children of Greater Cleveland. Will you pray for them? Will you pray for CEF as we seek to challenge, train, and equip believers to bring the Gospel to these children?

Martha Heidinger

Ministry Coordinator



Since 1937

CEF

CHILD EVANGELISM
FELLOWSHIP®

Reaching children worldwide®

2024 Greater Cleveland Banquet Sponsors:

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North Coast Eye Surgery Dr. Ravi Berger

Stephanie Claros – Answered Prayer!

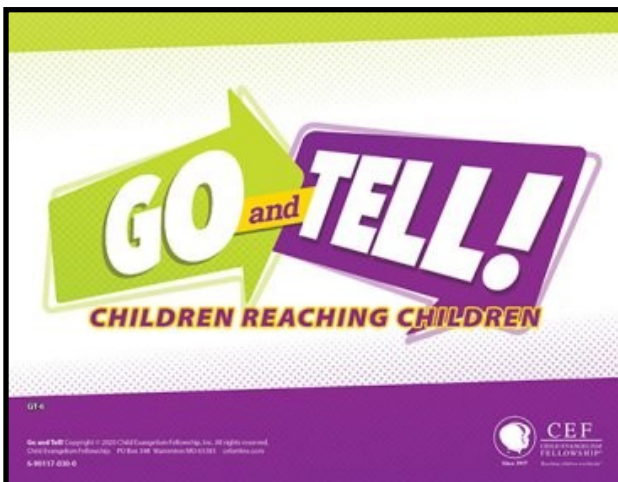
As 2023 was ending, our local committee needed at least one new member. Friends prayed and God brought Stephanie Claros not only to join the committee but also to assume the responsibilities as treasurer.



When I was a young girl, my parents were local directors for *Child Evangelism Fellowship*. I heard the Gospel many times while traveling with them to clubs and events where they taught boys and girls. When I was 5 years old, I remember the Sunday School teacher giving an invitation. “If you want to trust in Christ, raise your hand.” I knew I needed to but didn’t. It was later that day, on the way to the evening service that I prayed to trust in Christ as my personal Savior. From then on, I desired to be a missionary.

I went on many mission trips during my youth, including several trips to the *CEF* International Headquarters in Warrenton, Missouri. After a three-week trip to Spain where I got to know missionary kids my age, I was inspired to learn Spanish. This opened doors for me to have a one year internship in Peru. I even met my husband on an overseas mission trip. We have two children, 8 and 9 years old. For the past two and a half years I have been serving in my local church as the Kids Coordinator for our Children's Department. Now that my own kids are older, I am able to do more. Since January 2024 I have been serving as treasurer of the Greater Cleveland Chapter of *CEF*. Here I can use my past work experience and fulfill my desire to serve the Lord while reaching more boys and girls for the Kingdom.

Go and Tell!

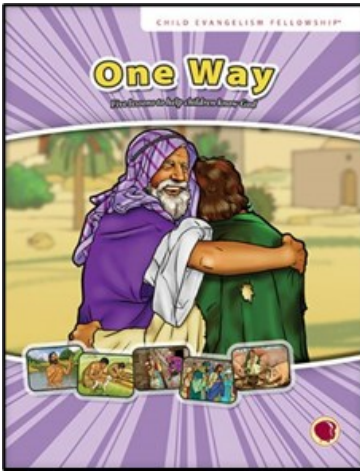


Eleven active teens and tweens from three different churches attended the April 6th **Go and Tell!** event at Providence Baptist Church in Euclid. What a joy to work with Eula Tucker and Sharon Tufts from Providence in encouraging and training these young people to share the Gospel with their friends!

One mother, excited about what they were learning, asked, “What’s next?” Their children’s church leader will give her daughter and a friend the opportunity to share what they learned with the other children. Serving as helpers in children’s church will help prepare them for being junior helpers on a summer missionary team in 2025.

Ask God to open more opportunities like **Go and Tell!** so young teens can be challenged and equipped to grow in their faith through sharing the Gospel with friends. Such events can help us identify the next generation of summer missionaries. May our believing youth grow in their passion to serve the One who gave them new life.

One Way! At 5-Day Clubs!



Summer is an awesome time to bring the Gospel to children. In Greater Cleveland, *5-Day Clubs* are our main outreach to kids who are home for the summer. A *5-Day Club* is a fun packed, 90-minute-long Bible club that meets five days in a row for school aged kids.

Two returning summer missionaries plan to join us. Ayonimi and Abby have a passion for the children and make a great team. Middle school teacher, Sarah Lee, will be investing her seventh summer to help train our missionaries and to teach alongside them in *5-Day Clubs*. Eula Tucker will also share in training our Cleveland missionaries before they go on to *CYIA*.

Pre-training will be held June 1st, 4th, and 6th at Providence Baptist Church's Country House. If you are interested in joining us to learn more about *5-Day Clubs* or simply want to brush up on sharing the Gospel using the Wordless Book, contact Martha.

Do pray for our summer missionaries as they prepare for a summer of service. After the pre-training they will have a full week of intense training at **CEF of Ohio's Christian Youth in Action** to be held on the campus of **Mt. Vernon Nazarene University, June 9-15**.

From Cleveland to Israel

5-Day Club kids will hear a clear Gospel message each day through Bible lessons and memory verse teaching. The continued missionary story about Amy Carmichael will set the stage for introducing a dedicated *CEF* Missionary in Israel, National Director Fadi Ramadan. Cleveland kids will learn about life in Israel and how they can make a difference in the lives of kids in Israel through their prayers and offerings.

You can help these Cleveland kids give even more through our *Verse-Sponsorship*. As you give, kids will be challenged to learn each memory verse to earn mission dollars for the Israel project. A club of 25 could earn up to \$100.00 when each child successfully quotes the verse for each previous day.

To designate your verse-sponsorship gift, check the "special gift" box on the enclosed response form and write *Israel*. You will then have a part in bringing the Gospel to Israeli children as well as in encouraging Greater Cleveland kids to memorize God's Word.

Pray for...

Summer Ministries:

Wisdom is needed in **scheduling 5-Day Clubs** according to the availability of host families, children, and summer missionaries.

Pray for the salvation of many children this summer.

Both teens and adults serving this summer - May our spiritual lives be vibrant, and may we be well prepared for each club, relying on God's wisdom and power to transform the lives of the kids we teach.

Workers needed:

as Martha seeks to develop church partnerships with four new area churches, ask God to raise up volunteer teachers and host families for *5-Day Clubs*, Party Clubs, and after-school Good News Clubs.

Luke 10:2 - three new committee members and a local director to develop the *CEF* ministries in Greater Cleveland

God's person and the finances needed for the part-time ministry coordinator position

financial partners needed:

ten monthly supporters at \$50 and ten at \$25 would enable us to grow our ministry staff

