



CEF

CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP®

Since 1937

Reaching children worldwide™

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Dakota Harvest

From the desk of

Dear Friends & Supporters,

The winter weather that we have been experiencing has been incredible, as was the Winter Quest Retreat we just held. Not only was the weather great but so was the weekend. We had over 50 teens attend and we had a great time sharing our vision for the future. We had fabulous fun, fellowship and worshipping our Lord and Savior. I would like to share a story about a young lady who attended the event. Her name is Hanna. She attends my church. This year our church had a Trunk or Treat for our fall event. My church decided that they wanted to do more than just dress up as Biblical characters, pass out candy and brochures while serving hot dogs and hot chocolate. They wanted to make a spiritual impact on our community. My pastor approached me and asked if CEF® could help them accomplish this.

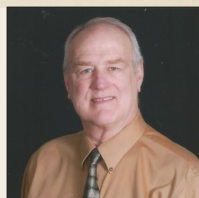
I enthusiastically said yes. We would paint faces using the colors of the Wordless Book to share the gospel with the children. However, to my dismay the event came at a time when we could not find a CYIA™ teen with free time to help paint faces. When I informed the pastor, he said we had two teenage girls in the church that would be willing to accomplish this task if they could get training. Hanna was one of those girls. We did an hour and a half training video and set them up to paint faces. We had 1,000 people come through our trunk or treat. The two girls painted many faces. Hanna prayed with 20 children to accept Jesus as their personal Savior. She was thrilled, as was my church. As a result, Hanna decided to join us at Winter Quest.

This is a testimony of how our training and outreach events are changing our world. Your prayers and support are a significant part in helping us fulfill the great commission. Thank you for all you do.

Yours in Christ,

Greg Buche

State Director of Child Evangelism Fellowship



92 Days

By Glenda Palmquist, Ministry Coordinator

Almost immediately after Winter Quest was finished, the teens began counting down the days until *Christian Youth in Action*®. By the time you receive this letter, it will be about 90 days before our training. The three months in-between will be spent preparing lessons and schedules, recruiting teens and praying for hearts to be changed, lessons learned and lives prepared to go throughout the state to share the good news of Jesus.

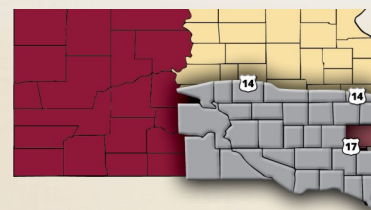
The excitement the teens have for training is a joy to see. This joy is not only because of spending a week with their friends but also growing in their relationship with Christ. I have seen firsthand in many teens' lives this dynamic change. My prayer for this training is first they grow in Christ, secondly, they are prepared and thirdly they find good friends that will last a lifetime. We studied Daniel 1 in devotions at Winter Quest about the need to not compromise and having good friends to come alongside you to help you grow and stay firm in Christ. These are my prayers as they prepare during this time between Winter Quest and *Christian Youth in Action* and beyond.



Teens sharing about training at Winter Quest

The Candlelight

Reaching the children of the Lewis and Clark Area



Reasons for CEF as a Solid Ministry *By Kennon Hofer*

This coming November, I will have been on staff with CEF® ministry for 25 years. The years have really gone by while serving with CEF. You may wonder why I have stayed for 25 years? I have a list of reasons why I have stayed.

First, CEF has solid Bible foundation and Bible teachings to children. CEF never compromises on Bible teachings and solid principals when teaching the children. Second, CEF provides solid ministry structures for children. Solid structure like the Good News Clubs and 5-Day Clubs help the children learn Bible stories, missionary stories, Bible memory verses, Christian songs and gives an opportunity for children to receive Christ. Third, CEF has great training programs for adults and teenagers to reach children through evangelism and discipleship. Fourth, CEF creates a network of Christians working together to reach the children for Christ. This network of Christians consists of supporters, prayer partners, committee members, staff, teachers, and helpers. Fifth, I have been greatly encouraged over the years with encouraging words and financial support by wonderful people. Sixth, I have a great staff who are wonderful to work with and supportive.

It is a blessing to know how God is using the ministry of CEF to reach the children for Christ!



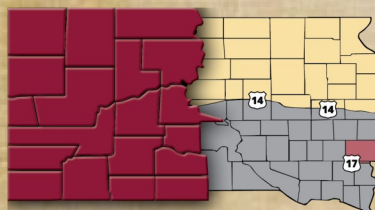
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Reaching the children of the Black Hills Area

A Flurry of Activity *By Janet Keegan*

The first two months of the year have been a flurry of activity. Five of our six Good News Clubs restarted for the semester. There were two church presentations. There were also meetings with an Ellsworth Air Force Base Chaplain, a Douglas School District administrator and multiple potential new volunteers and partners. Not to mention a training session for new volunteers in Hot Springs!

Seven youth from our area attended Winter Quest. Three of them expressed interest in attending *Christian Youth in Action*®! We will continue recruiting more youth for CYIA™ throughout the spring.

As we look forward to the Youth and Family Services Kids' Fair and other spring events, we will have training in March for those who would like to share the Gospel with children through bracelet making and face painting. We are also starting to recruit *5-Day Club*® hosts for the summer. If you would like to participate, please let Janet know.



*"Who says training
can't be fun?"*

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Prairie Winds

Reaching the children of the Great Plains Area

Watching Teens Grow By Sakura Eggena

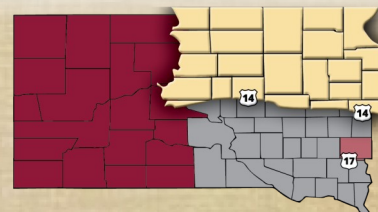
It has been such a joy to watch these teens grow, not only in the ministry, but in their faith. Throughout the fall we've gathered monthly for Bible study, walking together through the book of Ephesians. It has been especially encouraging to see returning students and brand-new teens learning side-by-side. They don't just listen; they discuss, ask thoughtful questions, and help one another apply God's Word to real situations in their lives.

Recently CEF® held their Winter Quest Retreat where teens from across the state came together for the weekend. Twenty-six teens came from the Great Plains Chapter and some of the students even helped lead worship. It was beautiful to see how God is using each of them in unique ways. They were welcoming and kind to the new students, creating an atmosphere where everyone felt they belonged. It truly was a wonderful weekend.

Please join us in praising God for the teens who attended Winter Quest. We would also appreciate your prayers as many of them consider dedicating part of their summer to missions through CYIA™. And pray for our staff as we begin scheduling 5-Day Clubs for this coming summer.



Teens leading worship at Winter Quest



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Louise Schwab
Jason Alberts

Sioux Falls Area

Reaching the children of the Sioux Falls Area

God is Moving! By Amanda Barton

As we step into March, we're celebrating the powerful ways God is moving in Good News Clubs across the Sioux Falls Area!

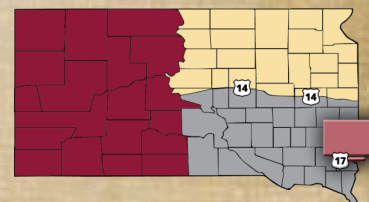
As 1 Corinthians 3:6 reminds us, "I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow." We are grateful to witness that growth firsthand.

Each week, 125+ students are hearing the Gospel in Good News Clubs, led by 32 dedicated volunteers who are faithfully showing up and pouring into young lives. This past month alone, five Bibles were placed in students' hands and three children made first-time professions of faith—with many more engaging in meaningful spiritual conversations.

One sweet girl shared at *Good News Club*® that when her parents were in a bad mood, she quietly prayed for them. And you know what? She said their attitudes changed quickly. She didn't just pray. She noticed and she recognized God's clear answer.

In another club a student found out the club leader is a pastor and was so excited that she asked her grandfather to start bringing her to our church. And he did! This is another example of how CEF® helps connect kids with local churches. The RCM model—Reach, Connect, Minister—makes our impact go far beyond club time. Leaders are connecting with families, praying through crises, visiting hospitals, and walking alongside kids in real life.

Thank you for being part of this mission—reaching children, connecting with families, and ministering with purpose across the Sioux Falls Area! We'd love to have you celebrate with us at our Heart of a Servant Celebration Brunch on March 28 (go to cefsd.org/locations/sioux-falls for details).



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Treasurer-Diane Schlaak
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Matthew Reick

Winter Quest Retreat



Theme: Relentless. Speaker: Caiden Capaldo
He spoke of Israel's Relentless Failure, Relentless Repentance, Relentless Obedience, and Our Relentless Hope in Jesus. The teens were challenged to run to Jesus and be relentless in their commitment to Him. The teens enjoyed CEF's Got Talent, with golden buzzers and confetti as they performed in a Lip Sync'd contest. On Sunday, the teens were challenged to attend *Christian Youth in Action*® and teach children this summer.

Prayers:

- For the teens as they make decisions about summer missions
- For the scheduling of Good News Clubs
- To fill open Sioux Falls Area Coordinator position
- For the teachers and helpers of the Good News Clubs

Praises:

- For 51 teens who attended the Winter Quest Retreat
- For God's work in the lives of the teens
- For successful completion of a 6-week *Good News Club* at Laura B. Anderson Elementary in Sioux Falls
- For new volunteers

Contact us at **605-352-8311** • www.cefsd.org •  CEF of SD

Text **PRAY** to 77948 to receive weekly prayer request from CEF of South Dakota

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