



CEF

CHILD EVANGELISM
FELLOWSHIP®

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Reaching children worldwide™

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From the desk of

Dear Friends & Supporters,

This Easter week our pastor asked us to reflect on the time when we first accepted Jesus as our personal Savior. For me, it was 53 years ago. I was 19 years old and a freshman attending college. This decision to dedicate my life and follow Him totally changed the direction of my life. I am in the 80 percentiles of those who make that decision while in their teens. For this reason, I am an enthusiastic supporter of *Child Evangelism Fellowship*®.

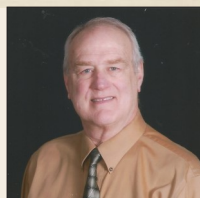
Children all over the world are making the same decision to secure their eternal destination of heaven. There is no more important decision a person can make during their lifetime. The period between 4 and 18 years is the time in life when a person is more accepting of the gift that Jesus offers us. He made the amazing sacrifice of allowing Himself to be tortured and killed for our sake. As we celebrate His victory over death, we also celebrate our children receiving Him into their lives and accepting His forgiveness of their sins.

As our teens are being trained this summer in our *Christian Youth In Action*® (CYIA™), they need our prayers. They will be going out this summer to back yards, parks and churches to spread the incredible message of the salvation offered to all of us. You are their support team that offers, your prayers, your time and money so that they can reach the next generation for Christ. We can't thank you enough for making a difference for our world.

In His Service,

Greg Buche

State Director of Child Evangelism Fellowship



Discipleship, Leadership, & Training

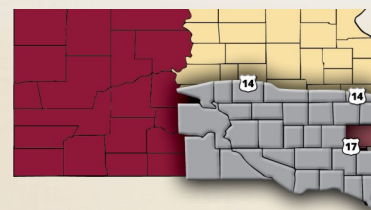
By Glenda Palmquist, Ministry Coordinator

Each year planning for *Christian Youth in Action*® starts almost as soon as summer ends (at least it seems like it does). Training encompasses so many details I have an eleven tabbed Excel worksheet to keep it all straight. This is to ensure the main thing of the training is done correctly. That is teaching the teens how to share the gospel in multiple methods, training for leading clubs and team members, and discipling the teens in the Word of God. I was just figuring out how much time I spend on CYIA™ and summer ministries and I came up with about 40 percent of my time. A question on the application is "Why do you want to attend CYIA?" Most of the answers give the reason: to help children find Jesus, to share Jesus with the children, to grow in their relationship with God, to learn more about Jesus, and to make good friends to go through life with. Also, another teen shared how CYIA changed them and they wouldn't be the same person if they had not attended.

As you can see all the planning, teaching, and discipling is worth it! The cost for the training is \$350.00; some teens cannot pay the full amount. Would you consider giving towards the scholarship fund for CYIA? We are looking for about \$3,000 to cover the cost. If so, please check CYIA on the insert with your gift. Thank you.

The Candlelight

Reaching the children of the Lewis and Clark Area



Marion Good News Club Making an Impact By Kennon Hofer

A brand-new *Good News Club*® at Marion Elementary School in Marion started back in February. The club is taught by a team of volunteers from Bethesda Church of Marion. Pastor Steve Moerman shares his testimony on how the *Good News Club* is making an impact on the lives of the children in Marion.

“Bethesda Church is so thankful that we have been able to partner with CEF® over the past year and a half. For smaller churches like ours it is not always easy to do local outreach. CEF allowed us to start small and add events as we went. Last summer we were able to sponsor a *5-Day Club*® at a couple of our members’ home. It was great having CEF to partner with as they provided both the materials and teachers for the children. As sponsors we were able to help with a place, snacks, and even a bouncy house for break time. It was fun interacting with the kids as they were learning more about Jesus. Then, this spring we were able to have a *Good News Club* at Marion School. We finished those with an Easter event. It was great watching the children learn memory verses and hear Bible stories. While we have started small, it is our hope that Bethesda can continue partnering with CEF as we share the gospel with children within our community. We have also added an offering for our area CEF to our yearly offering schedule.”

-Pastor Steve Moerman



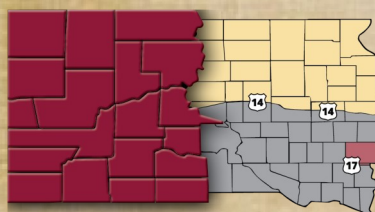
*Good News Club in Bridgewater/
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Black Hills Bulletin

Reaching the children of the Black Hills Area

Planning for Next School Year By Janet Keegan

As our Good News Clubs end for the school year, we are already looking forward to the next school year. A meeting with the elementary administrator for the Douglas School District in Box Elder has been set to plan for a *Good News Club*® at one of their schools next fall!

April kicks off the beginning of “fair” season with the Youth and Family Services Kids Fair in Rapid City. This year it was held on Saturday, April 11 and Sunday, April 12. Two volunteers and the local director made Gospel bracelets with 176 children plus some teenagers and adults. People from many communities visited the booth and learned about CEF® for the first time. Best of all, three children indicated that they received Jesus! This fair will be followed by the Healthy Kids Day at the Liberty Center in Box Elder on April 18.

We are also looking forward to taking students to *Christian Youth in Action*® and sharing the Gospel at 5-Day Clubs this summer!



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Prairie Winds

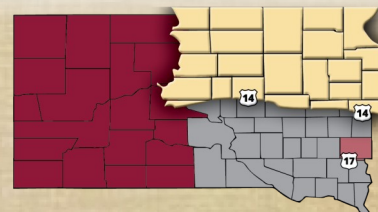
Reaching the children of the Great Plains Area

Preparing for Summer *By Sakura Eggena*

Good News Clubs are wrapping up, and summer preparations have begun! Spring is the perfect time for cleaning and organizing, so we've been tidying up the office and getting everything ready for the busy months ahead. One of my favorite tasks is preparing our *5-Day Club*® kits for the summer. This year, I've decided to introduce "first-day-of-club" bags—a little bag with goodies, tracts, memory verses, and flyers for camp and the Mailbox Club. As I pack these bags I think of all the children who will attend a *5-Day Club* this summer and pray that God will move in their lives. Please pray with me for all the children who will hear the Gospel this summer and the *5-Day Clubs* all across the Great Plains Chapter. We praise God for the five clubs that have already been scheduled



"First Day-of-Club" Bag



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Sioux Falls Area

Reaching the children of the Sioux Falls Area

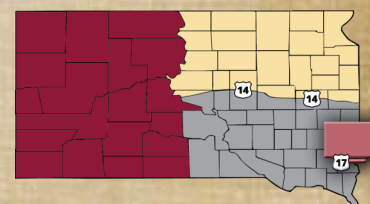
Come and See! *By Renae Reu*

Come and See! is a recurring theme we are hearing throughout the Sioux Falls Area Chapter this season! At our March 28 Heart of a Servant Celebration Brunch, Stuart Curry, CEF of South Dakota State Board Chairman, shared his personal testimony and emphasized the power of a simple invitation. Just two weeks later, that message came to life in our Good News Clubs as children heard the missionary story of John Cook who first learned about Jesus because a friend invited him to church. During the lesson, a leader asked, "Who told you about Jesus?" One girl sweetly pointed to her friend and said, "Him. I didn't know about God or Jesus until I came here to *Good News Club*® with him." Just like that—a friend invited—and a life and eternity was changed.

The U.S. Surgeon General warns that loneliness among young people has increased significantly, identifying social connection as a key protective factor for mental health. In today's digital age—with some of the highest rates of sadness and hopelessness reported by the CDC—relationships matter.

Many missionaries spend years building relational trust before sharing the Gospel. We have those established relationships right in front of us and we're seeing children invite friends to our clubs to receive the Good News of Jesus! Let's keep the momentum going as we enter the summer months! Look around at the relationships God has already placed in your life. Who will you invite to hear the Good News of Jesus?

1 Thessalonians 2:8 reminds us: "We were delighted to share... not only the Gospel... but our lives as well."



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Good News Club Update



This is the first year for the *Good News Club* sponsored by First Baptist Church in Eureka. This club is held at a home, not at school. They have three teachers, and 10 children attend.

Prayers:

- For the teenagers to attend *CYIA* training for the summer
- For finalizing *CYIA* training
- For *CYIA* teens to stand strong in the calling God has for them as they train to share His Word and love this summer with children throughout the state
- For additional hosts for 5-Day Clubs this summer

Praises:

- For the three children who received Jesus at the Kids Fair
- For new Good News Clubs in Marion and Mt. Vernon
- To God for bringing new teens to serve this summer
- Over 190 children mentored through 11 clubs in the Sioux Falls Area this school year!
12 Reported first time professions of faith and 54 first-time Bibles given to children

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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