

A Word From The West

January 2019
Child Evangelism Fellowship®
of Maine, Inc.
Western Maine Chapter
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In Livermore Falls:

Me – In Charge of A Good News Club?

Good New Club has always had a big impact in my life. I attended Good New Club from the age of nine through middle school and high school, even when I was the only student in the class. I also had the opportunity to be a helper in the elementary school club beginning when I was thirteen until I left for college. I would not be where I am today spiritually without the teaching I got from Good News Club and other CEF ministries.

So, when I was asked to be in charge of a Good News Club as part of my internship work for this year, I was excited. I quickly discovered there was a lot of preparation and planning that had to happen before I could even think about teaching. I wasn't sure what to do first, but after talking to Jeanette and, with help from my new team mate, Barb Frost, I was ready to get started.

First, I needed to prayerfully decide where and when I wanted to have this club; then, I had to put together invitations and go door to door handing them out to the kids in the neighborhood. Next, I needed to gather my supplies and figure out what lesson plan to start with and how I wanted my club

to flow. Finally, I had to start thinking about the teaching and preparing for it.



All this behind the scenes prep and planning was new to me, and a little out of my comfort zone. But I knew God wanted me to do this club, so I allowed Him to stretch me. Through this experience, God has taught me a lot about leadership, which I am not very strong in. Through my study for each club, God is teaching me how to effectively teach my students and how I can be an encouragement and friend to them. Because of the experience, I feel equipped to start a Good News Club wherever I am living in the future.

Report from
Elizabeth Hedgpeth,
NBBI Intern



In Augusta:

“Good News Club just isn't my thing”. In my years connected with CEF, I have probably made that statement (or something similar) countless times. I have always been happy to volunteer at Camp Good News, host 4 Day Clubs at my home, act as Supervisor for CYIA, and even help out in the Western Maine Office. But, Good News Club...always a hard “No”...until August 2018.

To quickly sum up the events leading to that moment, 2018 was a year of stepping out in faith and saying “yes” to God, even if I was unsure, or scared, of what might happen. I had encouraged our Church to forgo the usual (and costly) themed

VBS packages and, instead, we hosted three 4 Day Clubs during CYIA. As a direct result, we had seen 4 children accept Christ, signed a few children up for our Sunday Morning Bus pickup, and welcomed a new family into our congregation. While celebrating what God was doing in our Children's Ministries, I mentioned to my Pastor that "someone" should look into starting a Good News Club. As it turned out, God made it clear that the "someone" was me.

Soon after that conversation, I approached Ms. Jeanette with an idea. What if we used our Church bus to pick up students from the 4 Elementary Schools in Augusta and brought the kids to our Church for an extended GNC program? We would provide an afterschool snack, outside play time and organized group games before jumping into the regular Good News Club schedule. Parents could pick up their children at 5:30, when they got out of work. In my mind, there were so many reasons that this would not work...no one to drive the bus, school resistance to our bus schedule, lack of volunteers, etc.

However, I knew that, if it was God's will, he would work everything out.



So, stepping forward in faith, I announced our plans to begin a Good News Club to the congregation, and then watched God's Hand at work. Someone offered to be the weekly bus driver, our Ladies Prayer group volunteered to provide weekly snacks, and two people volunteered to be regular helpers. When I approached the 4 school Principals, they were all positive, and even excited, about this new activity for their students and the bus route fell into place. Members of the Church

donated the funds (and the muscle) to build a new playground area, and my dad and I spent a day together building a brand new gaga pit!

We began Club on October 17th with 9 children, and have seen our numbers rise to 16 regular attenders! We have had 9 decisions for Christ, and 5 of my Clubbers have begun attending Church weekly! Each week has been a challenge, and a blessing, for me. It is incredible to watch the growing understanding and faith in so many of these kids. Their questions and discussion make it clear that they are thinking about, and applying, the truths that they are hearing in Club. As I look back over the last few months, I am amazed at what God has done in the lives of these children, and I am thankful that my "hard no" became a "yes"!



Report from
Kim Martin,
Augusta GNC Leader

It's even coming to Western Maine! We are moving, though slowly, into the 21st century. Gifts to this ministry can now be given via the World Wide Web!!! Visit cefofmaine.org, go to the Donate option at the top of the page, and select "Western Maine". You can choose to setup recurring donations, or simply give a one-time gift. Go check it out!



Kids Can Know God Conference

Yes, they can! They can come to know God and begin constructing their lives according to God's Word.



Our Kids Can Know God Conference is Saturday, March 23 at the First Baptist Church of Mexico. Doors open at 8:00 AM for Registration, Refreshments and opportunity to check out resources.

More details to come soon!



When: Friday 6:30-8:30 PM
April 26, 2018

Where: Camp Good News Dining Hall
431 Campground Road
Livermore Falls, Maine



Day of Prayer

Save the Date!!
Saturday, April 13th