



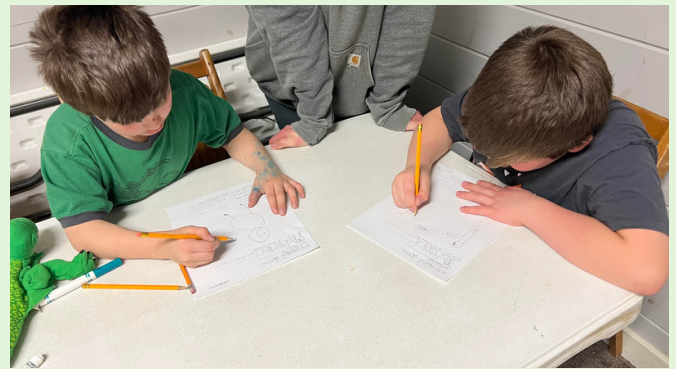
"And whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me."



April 2023

Club Ministry @ The Neighborhood House

We just wrapped up our 2022-2023 school year clubs! Over the last few months of club we focused on teaching the elementary and middle school children about being fearfully and wonderfully made by a God who loves and knows them (Psalm 139). These may seem like basic truths to many of us but for many of these children this truth is not familiar to them. Their reactions to this important truth, about being valuable to God and being loved and created by Him for a purpose, have been very telling of the contrary message they are receiving from the world around them.



Along with Psalm 139, we incorporated teaching about respect and kindness, for themselves and for others. Throughout each club meeting there have been many spontaneous teaching moments as we sit around the table for a meal, participate in game time, or even on the van rides to and from club. These moments have allowed opportunity for the children to think about their actions, or words, and whether they were an example of kindness and respect. One week on the van ride home two of the children were not being kind to each other. Another child spoke up and asked them if they remembered the memory verse from club. He then began reciting Ephesians 4:32. Seeds of truth from God's Word being planted and applied!



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Committee Members: Chris & Marcia O'Jala, Brian & Wanda Cooper, Alex & Grace Spearin, Pauline Butler, and Nancy Sampson
Staff Members: Gracie Mitchell and Jennifer Frost

Club Ministry continued...

MORE FROM ELEMENTARY CLUB...



It was exciting to have 12-18 kids attend each week. There were new faces, as well as some returning ones whom we hadn't seen for awhile. Every club we had the privilege of sharing Christ's love with them. One special highlight each week, for the children and volunteers, was the missionary story of Jacob Deshazer. It was a joy to see the children so attentive to this amazing story about love, forgiveness and kindness. We are blessed to have the opportunity to be a part of the lives of this great group of kids each week!

MORE FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL...

Thankfully, relationships with our middle school youth are developing and growing! Several of our staff and volunteers have shared stories of their testimonies with them as a way to help others open up and encourage discussion. Our groups have been smaller, but the small group atmosphere has been a blessing. We are able to better invest in each one as we get to know them! Many of these youth will begin high school in the Fall which creates a need to have a middle school and a high school club. Please join us in praying for volunteers who are burdened for these teens so that we can effectively continue to reach them.



CASTING OUR CARES ON HIM...

Our Middle School group needed (and still needs!) lots of prayer. Specifically, we've been praying for guidance for a teen boy who struggles at our club, wondering how to reach him. Shortly after a time of group prayer seeking wisdom for an upcoming club we experienced an answer to our prayer when only a few kids attended club that week. Through this the Lord was able to show us just what this boy needed. A calm space, with caring adults, and fewer peers. He was a different kid that night as he participated and enjoyed the time! Please pray for us to be able to recruit additional volunteers for the middle school program in order to minister to the youth who would thrive in a smaller group setting.

CALLING ALL "PRAYER WARRIORS"...

It is likely that very few of our club attenders have anyone praying specifically for them, by name. How wonderful it would be to have someone committed to praying for them on a regular basis! Each child needs someone who is willing to go to battle for them through prayer. The response to this need has been wonderful. We have been able to connect half of our club children with prayer warriors! There is still a need though! Contact us if you want to be a committed prayer partner for a child. We will seek the Lord in prayer to know which specific child you will be praying for.



Praise Worthy Moments

THE GOOD NEWS BRINGS GOOD NEWS...

Our most exciting news to share with you is a salvation story! In February, a nine-year-old girl, who has been coming to club regularly, answered the invitation to learn more about Jesus and His love for her following a Bible lesson. She received Jesus as her Savior. Praise God! This child had a "prayer warrior" praying for her - prayer is so powerful! The following week at dinner time she announced, "Jesus is still in my heart!" Pray for her continued growth!



A NEED MET IN AN AMAZING WAY...

In our last newsletter we let you know of a need we had for a minivan. Shortly after the newsletter was mailed we received a donation of a mini van! The van is currently in Florida but should arrive at the Neighborhood House in May. We are excited about the opportunities we will have to transport children to events and camp, as well as, having the potential to add on additional transportation routes for the onsite club ministry. The van also allows us to provide staff with a vehicle when attending meetings and visiting churches on behalf of the ministry.



MINISTRY SUPPORT UPDATE...

At this time the NHH ministry is blessed to have both Gracie and Jenn on staff part-time. Jenn and Leroy have been busy visiting churches sharing about our ministry and are enjoying serving as a part of the NHH family. We have been encouraged with the response of prayer, special gifts and pledges of monthly support that have been given to the ministry. At this time Jenn's pledged support level has reached 20%! We will continue to trust Him for the needed support, knowing that He cares for us!



Scan to Donate Today

Child Evangelism Fellowship® of Maine Neighborhood House

174 Congress St., Belfast, ME 04915

I would like to participate in what the Lord is doing at the Neighborhood House:



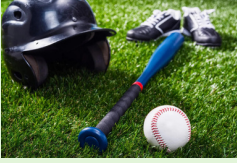
General Fund: One Time \$ _____ Monthly \$ _____ Quarterly \$ _____

Frost Family: One Time \$ _____ Monthly \$ _____ Quarterly \$ _____

Camp Scholarship Fund: \$ _____

Child Evangelism Fellowship® will make every effort to honor the contribution designation of the donor, yet contributions must be under the direction and control of CEF®. CEF has the discretion to determine how to best use contributions to carry out its functions and purposes. Such control of the funds by CEF is required to ensure the donor's contributions satisfy requirements for tax-deductibility.

Summer Ministry Outreach and Projects



T-BALL

In May we hold T-ball at the NHH. This community outreach has been received very well by the families we serve. It provides an avenue for parents to see the NHH firsthand and allows us to continue to build relationships with the children and their families. The kids are sure to "have a ball"!

Summer Camp SCHOLARSHIPS

With the help of scholarships gifted to the ministry, ten children went to summer camp last year. For many of them it was their first time at a camp of any kind and it proved to be a wonderful experience for them. This summer we desire to provide scholarships to youth in our middle school program. Imagine the life changing opportunity the gift your scholarship could provide!

Check out the Neighborhood House



<https://tinyurl.com/nhhamazon>

WORK DAY!

May 20th, 8a - 3p



Join us at the NHH for a day of sprucing up the grounds! There will be yard work, painting, landscaping, general maintenance, and a variety of other projects. Many hands make for great accomplishments! Donuts & lunch provided!



SUMMER OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY



Would your church host a VBS or Teen VBS at the Neighborhood House and help us reach more children in Belfast this summer? Contact us today to start planning!

Prayer Requests:

- Salvation and growth for children
- Wisdom for planning ministry opportunities
- More volunteers to partner in the work
- Additional monthly ministry support
- Scholarships for Summer Camp
- Churches to partner with for VBS/Teen VBS



We are so thankful for the prayer and financial support you have blessed the ministry with!