# **A Word From The West**

#### June 2023

Child Evangelism Fellowship® of Maine, Inc. Western Maine Chapter

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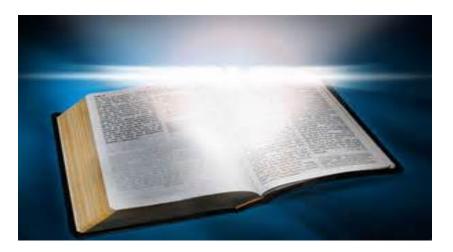
**CEF Committee Members** Gary Bestwick Rvan Decker Dan and Linda Kimble Rhonda Kinney Bob and Cheryl Morin Judy Smith

> Staff Jeanette Linsey



#### **NECONFORT** For Your Convenience:

Z The envelope enclosed is not a request; it is for the convenience of those who wish to partner with us financially. For those who want to give online, the link below makes it easy & secure! https://secure.etransfer.com/EFT/BlockCode/donation1 .cfm?d2org=CEFWesternMaine&d2tool=donate



I read this morning, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble". (Psalm 46:1) The Psalmist knows God to be his refuge but he is greatly distressed with many natural disasters and threats from nations at war.

Then the Lord speaks, "BE STILL and KNOW THAT I AM GOD!"

We need this word today. We are living at a time of rebellion against God to the extent that insanity results. Insanity and corruption at the highest levels are seeking to rule our lives.

Faithful voices cry out against murder of the defenseless. This is Biblical and we should stand behind such efforts.

But where are the voices crying out for the souls of those not under threat of immediate death? Our children with eternal souls are created in the image of God for His glory and purpose. Yet they are every day instructed in all things false, corrupt and sinful, with no knowledge of God and His righteousness whatsoever. Eternal death is their destiny. Where is the out cry?

It is good for me to hear the Lord saying, "Be still...know that I am STILL God..." He quiets me and enables a certain sanity. He'll do it for you too.

In the quietness I am able to say, "Here am I, whatever You want Lord." So, my plan is to be at all our fairs and VBS's and Club programs as usual. Want to join me? Come on...

# Opportunities! Come join me...



Outside Clubs



Traditionally outside clubs have been for 5 days, Monday to Friday in your backyard -

#### 5 Day Club®.

But you can make club suit your situation in number of days and location. The point is to give boys and girls opportunity to know Jesus.



I would love to have your help in various events. Perhaps you would like to do your own teaching in a club? CEF is all about volunteers fitting into our ministries.

We need to get together. I will be available in the office June 28-30 and July 12-14.

\*There are some basic training requirements. \*Background checks are done for all CEF workers.

#### At The Fair

Introduce kids to our Creator who became our Savior. \*Tell the story in the Chapel.

- \*Greet kids and their parents.
- \*Hand out treats.
- \*Paint faces/hands in Gospel colors.

There are good opportunities to share with teens and adults as well.

#### Here's our 2023 schedule

June 21-24	Monmouth Fair
July 6-9	Ossipee Fair, Hiram
Aug. 27-Sept 4	Windsor Fair
Sept 8-10	Litchfield Fair
Sept 17-23	Farmington Fair
Oct 1-8	Fryeburg Fair



We will be helping some Western Maine churches with Vacation Bible School. Both Clubs and VBS's have "Jesus My Savior and Friend" Bible lessons, an exciting mission story, plus music, games and more.

# **Blessings over Recent Weeks**

A special thank you to those who pray for us—especially when we have various events planned. We would like you to know that we were blessed by the Lord at these recent gatherings.



## Spring Prayer Day

Prayer Day was a refreshing time of fellowship with folks from North Windsor Baptist Church and others from all directions, north, south, east and west.

David sang in Psalm 16, "...in Thy presence is fullness of joy..." Our wonderful Lord gave us such a good day we came away wanting more Prayer Days on the calendar than once in the fall and once in the spring.

#### PRAISE FOR JOY IN GOD'S PRESENCE!

### Kids Can Know God

KCKG conference gave us new Gospel tools and a renewed grasp on God's <u>One Story</u> of Jesus from Genesis to Revelation. State Director Mike Field brought us Wisdom and Warnings about the dangers children are in today. Everyone wanted to stay for a second day of conference to engage more fully with the spiritual battle of our day.

> PRAISE FOR STRONG INSTRUCTION AND PRACTICAL TOOLS!



### **CEF Spring Fellowship Banquet**

Eighty friends joined us for a great meal and fellowship at the Camp Good News dining hall. State Director Mike Field shared the heart of our Savior for boys and girls and taught us a song, "Jesus Sitting By the Road". You need to know that song!

CEF Representative John Romano spoke of Israel's history when everyone did "that which was right in his own eyes". It was a corrupt time like our own. Yet God had a woman who prayed named Hannah and her young son Samuel who served God from childhood. They became God's means of restoration and revival in Israel. Who may God be raising up now? "Samuel" may be sitting in your Good News Club!

PRAISE FOR ENCOURAGEMENT TO KEEP ON KEEPING ON!



Christian Youth In Action® has been a primary program in CEF of Maine since it began more than 50 years ago.

CYIA offers training in how to teach the Gospel and Bible lessons; how to teach Bible truth through memory verses and songs, how to counsel children for salvation and Christian growth.

Through some unusual circumstances CYIA is cancelled for this year. But a new type of training is being added—ECHO.

WE PLAN TO RESUME CYIA TRAINING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN 2024



Many of the CEF staff have recognized the need to give more adequate training to those who volunteer in our camping programs.

So in the time slot normally kept for CYIA, we have a new program called ECHO. Time will be spent on how to be clear in sharing the Gospel. Then the teens will be given great instruction to prepare them as volunteers at Camp Good News, Blueberry Mountain Camp and our many Day Camps across Maine.

NEXT YEAR WE EXPECT TO HAVE BOTH CYIA and ECHO WITH 100 + TEENS.

Is this vision... or nothing but a pipe dream? For some time I, with the Western Maine Committee, have been asking the Lord for a new office

location. Vision? Pipe dream?

There are a number of reasons we believe it may be helpful in advancing our outreach to children. We would be happy to explain our reasons to those who may wonder.

We are interested in a place accessible to children. A place for volunteers to be trained. A larger place for office and storage. A place with space for our Chapel and Covered Wagon.

We are not impatient to accomplish this but invite your interest and prayers concerning this.

Now this is not a pipe dream. This is a BURDEN on my HEART. You've heard or read my rant on this matter before. But the burden continues and I share it again.

CEF was founded as primarily a BIBLE TEACHING EVAN-GELISM not a ONE-TIME-EVENT EVANGELISM. We do not despise the one-time-event. We do it all the time at the fairs.

But where are the open doors to children in neighborhoods for regular teaching of God's Word in Good News Club? My own tradition is to be on the quiet-side in my Christian expression, but I almost came out of my seat with a loud AMEN when a pastor friend prayed for 100 homes to be open to the children in our 3 county area. I'm wide-eyed watching for answers to this prayer.