

Northern Maine Moments

Child Evangelism Fellowship® of Northern Maine

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CEF® OF MAINE, INC.,
NORTHERN MAINE CHAPTER

Phone:
(207) 551-7679

Email:
northernme@cefofmaine.org

Mailing Address:
PO Box 28
Mars Hill, ME 04758

Physical Address:
237 Hersom Rd
Easton, ME 04740

Children's Ministry
Specialist/Coordinator
Mackenzie Albers

Committee Members

Tom Huston, Chair
Robert Leland, Vice Chair
Ruth Leland
Cindy Huston, Secretary
Rhonda Shaw, Treasurer
Lisa Burt, Assistant Treasurer
Kelly Ayotte
Bruce Wilkins

"That the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments."
Psalm 78:6-7



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A Spiritual Battleground

"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places."

Ephesians 6:12

Satan does not want children to attend *Good News Club*®. He does not want them to hear a clear presentation of the Gospel. And he certainly does not want them to become a child of God by believing in Jesus! However, "He [the Holy Spirit] who is in you is greater than he [Satan] who is in the world" (1 John 4:4b). *Good News Club* is a spiritual battleground, but as we know, God is the Victor! As schools become spiritually darker, I'm glad *Child Evangelism Fellowship*® has *Good News Clubs* in so many of them, spreading the light and hope of God's love.

There are twenty-one elementary schools in Aroostook County, and CEF® of Northern Maine has a *Good News Club* in six of them. Beyond those six, there is a club at a church in Mars Hill and two clubs in schools right outside of Aroostook County - Katahdin (Stacyville) and East Grand (Danforth). Seven of these nine *Good News Clubs* have already started for the school year.

There are two *Good News Clubs* in Houlton, one at each public elementary school, that happen simultaneously. A couple of weeks ago, several volunteers from the team were unable to attend, and I was asked to help by leading and teaching at the Houlton Elementary *Good News Club*. The volunteers left were stretched thin, several handling more than one role, but God gave us the strength to hold two clubs that went more smoothly than expected. That was a great blessing! Greater still, seven children between the two clubs believed in Jesus as their personal Lord and Savior that day! One of those little children went to a Christian after-school program on Monday and told everyone how he learned about God at *Good News Club*! Referring to the salvations at Houlton Elementary, the Bible lesson teacher said, "I have such peace about those 6 young ones' decisions. They each were able to express what they had asked Jesus to do and

why....I have rarely been so assured of each one's sincerity....I truly believe Satan threw all those troubles at us because he knew there would be children there that would accept Jesus." Satan tried to discourage and overwhelm us, but Jesus won the victory!

During the club, I had the privilege of teaching the missionary story. While teaching, I asked the children, "What do you like to do?" I thought they would answer something like, "Ride my bike," "Play video games," or "Draw." Instead, one said they like to "Learn about God" and another, "Go to *Good News Club*!" The children themselves testify of the influence *Good News Club* is having on their lives!

Undoubtedly, *Good News Club* impacts children, families, and schools both worldwide and in your community. Please uplift these teams and children in your prayers, for this is a spiritual battle.

"Praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication" (Ephesians 6:18a).



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A New Calling



I love the ministry of *Child Evangelism Fellowship*. Looking back, God has weaved *CEF* into my life in many important ways. I was first introduced to *CEF* as a camper at Wilderness Day Camp in Smyrna. I first learned to share the Gospel at *Christian Youth in Action*®. My first job was as a summer missionary with *CEF* of Northern Maine.

God calls us to different places and roles at different times. Over the past four years, He has led me to attend New Brunswick Bible Institute, to work as a teacher's aide at Greater Houlton Christian Academy, and to serve for a summer at *Camp Good News*®, all for a season. In the fall of 2022, God called me to serve as full-time staff with *CEF* of Northern Maine. Now, God has placed a new calling on my life.

On August 10, 2024, I married the wonderful man God brought into my life, Connor Albers. With a lot of thought and prayer, Connor and I believe that God is calling me to invest my time in a new ministry - that of our marriage. We believe the home is the most important ministry and want to build a good foundation for our family. November 15 will be my last day as staff with *CEF*. I am so thankful for the ways God has grown me through this position. He has allowed me to have wonderful experiences serving Him alongside faithful volunteers these past two years. I will continue to support the ministry of *CEF* of Northern Maine in the ways that I can, and I hope you will too. Now more than ever, we need prayer, financial support, and volunteers in the chapter. Will you be involved in reaching children in Aroostook County through *CEF*? Please pray with us for the state office and local committee as they search for a local director. If you are able, I urge you to continue your financial support of the ministry to ensure there will be funds available to hire the next staff person.

I want to thank every one of you who has supported me in the missions God has called me to over the years, whether through prayer, financial support, or other encouragement. You have been a great blessing to me, and I have loved getting to meet and serve alongside you these past two years. I count myself privileged to have been a part of *CEF* of Northern Maine, serving, in large part behind the scenes, to help children hear about Jesus. All glory to God for what He has done, is doing, and will continue to do! This is His ministry, and I am confident He will provide for it. After all, Jesus loves the children so much more than we ever could:

"So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish." Matthew 18:14

For His Kingdom,
Mackenzie Albers

Good News Club Teacher Training

This fall, we held two trainings for *Good News Club* teachers, one in New Sweden for the Northern Aroostook teams and one in Houlton for the Southern Aroostook teams. Thirteen club teachers came to learn or be refreshed in how to teach memory verses and songs, give a salvation invitation, manage their classrooms, and organize their *Good News Club*. Attendees got to meet *Good News Club* teachers from other areas and were equipped and encouraged, as we prayed they would be.



Prayer

- Praise God for 9 Good News Clubs in Northern Maine!
- Praise God for the 7 children recently saved at Houlton Good News Clubs!
- More children to be reached with the Gospel in Aroostook County
- Children to believe in Jesus as Savior and be discipled
- God's wisdom, direction, and strength for the committee, state leadership, and workers across the state
- Eager volunteers and strong leaders for Good News Clubs
- Teams that desire to hold Good News Clubs in schools that don't have one yet
- Wisdom for the local committee and state office regarding staff changes
- Local director for *CEF* of Northern Maine

Good News Club Locations

- Katahdin Elementary School
- East Grand Elementary School
- Houlton Elementary School
- Houlton Southside School
- United Baptist Church of Mars Hill
- Caribou Community School
- Washburn District Elementary School
- Fort Kent Elementary School
- Madawaska Elementary School