

# — CEF® of — EASTERN MAINE

## FALL 2024

### Note from Kathrin

"Give praise to the Lord, proclaim His name; make known among the nations what He has done." Psalm 105:1

From Caribou to Ellsworth to Eastbrook to Machiasport, we have covered a lot of ground this summer in ministry! The Lord has been so good in allowing our efforts to bear much fruit for His Kingdom. We give God all the glory that thirty-four children accepted Jesus as their Savior this summer through the ministries of CEF of Eastern Maine and its partnering churches! This summer, 43 teens were trained in sharing the gospel at ECHO Burst Youth, 14 children attended a 3-Day Club, 86 children attended Downeast Day Camp, and 163 children attended a combined church sponsored Vacation Bible School. All of these children and teens heard the gospel message clearly presented and we were able to witness the Lord moving and working among their hearts! The Lord provided volunteers to staff all of these summer ministries and we praise God for them! In this newsletter you will read testimonies of these summer ministries that we hope will be an encouragement and a blessing to all of you.

In preparation for the new school year, we held our Good News Club Launch on Saturday, September 28th, in Sullivan, bringing together all who are currently involved or interested in Good News Clubs in Eastern Maine. It was a wonderful time of praying together, planning, and preparing for reaching the children this school year through the Good News Club ministry. We praise the Lord for our six Good News Clubs that are starting back up again. Last year, 165 children attended these clubs and 7 children made salvation decisions! We also had 10 party clubs last year, with 109 children attending and 5 children placing their trust in Jesus! Please join us in praying for all the volunteers leading our Good News Clubs, for the Lord to open the doors to ministry in new schools this year, and for all the children who come, that their hearts will be open to receiving the gospel. We are so thankful for all of our volunteers who answered the Lord's calling to serve in our Good News Clubs!

### Note from Gene

"Wow!!" Is the initial answer I give to someone who asks, "How was your summer?" This past summer was a whirlwind of activity- and if I'm not careful I'll lose them when explaining all that took place this summer. In June I had the privilege of working with groups of young men from Washington and Hancock counties, teaching them how to present the Gospel to young children during our Echo Burst sessions. It was a great opportunity to challenge and encourage them to let the Lord use them as godly role models to follow.

I was also involved in two Vacation Bible Schools: one at Eastbrook Baptist Church and the other at Larrabee Baptist Church in Machiasport. In Eastbrook I served as the "Game Time Guy" and got the kids involved in various games throughout the day. At Machiasport I worked primarily in the Gospel Stations presenting the Gospel to the older groups of children. It was my honor to lead one young girl to the Lord and to counsel several children.

One of my roles this summer was also to work at Christian Youth in Action to help train and prepare young people to run an actual party club at the end of the week without my assistance. I was so impressed because the teens really worked hard preparing and working through some personal difficulties to get themselves ready. Each person played a crucial role in the club and did a wonderful job presenting the gospel to five young children.

My final summer adventure was Downeast Day Camp. What can I say about camp? It was really, really hot! My role this summer was a camp counselor to a group of 7-10 year olds. During one of my weeks I had a lot of one-on-one time with a boy who was presenting behavioral challenges. Even though he was not saved, he did hear the Gospel message and really enjoyed the Christ-centered camp experience.



## SUMMER REFLECTIONS

### from the summer missionaries

#### Addie Jaffrey

One of my favorite parts of this summer was being able to counsel at Downeast Day Camp. I became a counselor on short notice due to a last minute change of staffing. I was blessed to be a lead counselor for the 6-7 year-old boys group. I had previously counseled in that position a couple of years ago, but I was still nervous. I am incredibly grateful for my Jr. counselor, who was an immense help. Throughout the week we had 5 boys in our group. These boys were rambunctious, funny, spirited, but so sweet and kind. One of the sweetest things I was able to witness was their team spirit. These boys loved each other and showed their love through their encouragement of each other. Seeing their joy and enthusiasm for camp encouraged me greatly. While none of the boys made any professions of faith, to my knowledge, they learned so much about the character of God and how Jesus loves them. A few of the boys received their first big kid Bible, and their sheer joy was so amazing! God was so good and did many wonderful things this summer!

#### Rose Gurney

Over this summer I was blessed to have many opportunities to share the gospel but there was one girl that I was able to lead to Christ that was very special. She was very open and honest with me. She said she wasn't sure she could believe and have faith. After our conversation, she was a happy, bubbly girl when before she seemed timid and stressed. Seeing God change even a young child was so endearing. I could see how she was at peace with God in her heart. Sometimes we aren't able to see that difference we make in one's life quite as forward as that. Remember your actions do matter no matter how small you think they are.

#### Hannah Maker

Every summer that I work with CEF of Eastern Maine God always teaches me something new. This year I really just felt truly grateful. Every day I was in awe that God allowed me to be part of His plan for CEF of Eastern Maine. I was truly humbled by the fact that God chose to use me. God doesn't need me to fulfill His plan, He is powerful enough on His own, but He does use me because He loves me. I get to spend my summers actively reaching the people of Downeast Maine. That in itself is enough, but God doesn't stop there. He lets me see some of the results of His work, which is truly amazing. I am so thankful that I get to serve a Holy and loving God.

#### Rachael Haste

God used many people this past summer to spread the gospel and serve the children and teens in our area. Often as I felt unprepared and weak, the Lord taught me to trust Him and rely on His strength and power. God provided and blessed day camp in many ways beyond what we expected. He gave us 86 campers, just enough volunteers to staff both weeks, more people who are willing to teach, and five children who accepted Christ, as well as many good conversations during counsel time. Throughout all of the summer, I was reminded of how great God is despite my weaknesses. God used day camp, trainings, and vacation Bible schools to bring children to know Him and to plant and grow many seeds in children's hearts. Praise God!



# SUMMER REFLECTIONS

## Eastbrook 3-Day Club

Just want to thank our dear Lord for all He does to help the Eastbrook Baptist Church to make a difference in the lives of children. Since covid our children's ministry has been inactive. Thanks to the Lord and the work He does through Child Evangelism Fellowship we were able to host a 3 day club. We had a great team of workers for Jesus. We had some children receive Christ as their personal Savior. This short time of ministry made a big difference for the Lord's sake. From this we have decided to have another club and are praying to get a Good News Club happening in Eastbrook.

-Judy Nevells

## Downeast Day Camp



## Good News Club Launch



## Machiasport VBS

The Gospel Station was put into the combined VBS (5 main churches come together to put this VBS on) held at Larrabee Baptist Church about 3 years ago. CEF had been doing Wordless Book training for our VBS staff for awhile and because of that it was decided to make a personal presentation of the gospel the core of VBS. In a small group setting, each child would be given a short, clear gospel presentation at least twice during the week with an opportunity to personally respond and be counseled. This year because our older groups seemed well grounded in the gospel message, we were also able to expand and allow them to ask questions they have or share challenges they face because of their faith. CEF of Eastern Maine provided Summer Missionaries and Staff that helped man this station and many children responded to the gospel and many also gained assurance and answers they so desperately need in this hostile world. I now think of the gospel station as the heart beat of VBS - sharing clearly and simply the gospel and giving kids an opportunity to more deeply understand the firm foundations of their Faith in Jesus Christ. Thank you CEF of Eastern Maine for making the strong heart beat of VBS possible.

-Paula Maker



## Praises

- 75 teens and adults received Wordless Book training this summer!
- 4 Eastern Maine teens attended Christian Youth In Action
- 14 children attended Eastbrook Baptist 3-Day Club and 3 children received Christ as their Savior!
- 86 campers attended Downeast Day Camp and 5 children received Christ as their Savior!
- 163 children attended the combined church VBS and 26 children accepted Christ as their Savior!
- The Lord provided volunteers to fully staff all of these summer ministries!
- Our 4 summer missionaries and the gifts God has given them to be used for ministry
- Six Good News Clubs starting back up for the new school year!

## Prayer Needs

- Good News Clubs starting up in this new school year—pray for the volunteers leading the clubs and for all the children who come.
- Pray for the Lord to open the doors to new Good News Clubs and to call people to serve in these clubs.
- Pray for the children who made salvation decisions this summer and last year through the Good News Club ministry, that they will grow in their relationship with Jesus.
- Pray for the teens who received training this summer, that they will grow in their relationship with Jesus and use their skills to serve Him.
- Please pray for our monthly financial needs to be met.

We are asking the Lord to increase our regular monthly financial partners. Would you prayerfully consider giving to help us have the resources to do the work of CEF of Eastern Maine?

If you would like to support the work of CEF of Eastern Maine, please fill out the enclosed response card or donate online at  
<https://www.cefofmaine.org/chapters/cef-of-eastern-maine/>

Thank you for being a part of this ministry by supporting us through your prayers, your service, and your financial gifts. We could not do this work without all of you!

### **Calendar reminder:**

CEF of Eastern Maine monthly prayer lunch on the second Tuesday of each month at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Ellsworth. For more details and information, contact Nancy Whitney at [nancyw1208@gmail.com](mailto:nancyw1208@gmail.com)

### **CEF of Eastern Maine Committee Members:**

Carol Libby – Chairperson  
Paula Maker – Vice  
Chairperson  
Nancy Whitney – Secretary  
Laurel Bartolomeo – Treasurer

Contact Us!

Email us at: [easternmaine@cefofmaine.org](mailto:easternmaine@cefofmaine.org)  
Call or text us at: (207) 460-1866