



# Around Maine



**CEF**  
CHILD EVANGELISM  
FELLOWSHIP®  
*Reaching children worldwide™*

Dear Friends of *Child Evangelism Fellowship*® of Maine,

“A child of five, if properly instructed, can, as truly believe,  
and be regenerated, as an adult.” (Come ye Children)

- Charles Spurgeon (1843-1892)

This quote highlights a century that saw tremendous growth in the Sunday School movement begun in 1780 by **Robert Raikes** (1736-1811). It also saw the Lord at work with orphaned children through the ministry of one George Mueller (1805-1898). In the 20th century, Spurgeon’s quote was used by the Lord in the life of *CEF*®’s founder J. I. Overholtzer (1877-1955). Along with the study of Scripture, the above quote led “Mr. O.” to launch the ministry of *Child Evangelism Fellowship* during the Great Depression in 1937 at 61 years of age. Our God delights to do the impossible and the improbable.

I share this history as background to our *CEF* ministry here in Maine which began in 1946, just 9 years after it was founded in Chicago. Since then, the Lord has used this ministry to partner with local churches in taking the Gospel of Christ to the boys and girls from Maine; from Madawaska down to Kittery,. Throughout this history there have been 7 State Directors. Each State Director was used by the Lord to take the ministry forward during times of change. We find ourselves facing the challenge of change once again.

One of those changes is that we are praying for a new State Director. We so appreciate all that Michael Field brought to this position and we wish him well in his current pursuits. I have been appointed as Interim Director during this time of seeking the Lord for a full-time State Director. Please join with us in prayer that the Lord will raise up laborers for the harvest field of children (Matthew 9:37-38).

As you might imagine, during this time of change there can be a sense of uncertainty. Let me assure you that the ministry is moving forward, as you will see in this letter. If the ministry of *CEF* of Maine has been a blessing to you, would you pray and consider investing in this ministry at this time? And would you pray with the State Board that the Lord would provide a fulltime State Director and the finances to bring them on?

For the Sake of the Gospel,

J. Trent Boyd MS Ed.  
Interim State Director

**Trent Boyd - CEF of Maine experience:**

**1991 - 1997:** CGN® Volunteer  
**1998 - 2003:** Area Director Southern Maine  
**2005 - 2011:** State Board Member  
**2013 - 2019:** State Board Member  
**2019 - Present:** State Board Chair  
**2024:** Interim State Director



# Good News Club Report



Each year CEF<sup>®</sup> missionaries and volunteers lead around 80,000 *Good News Club*<sup>®</sup> programs around the globe. Many children learn about Jesus for the first time, come to believe in Him as Savior, and continue to grow to know Him better through the regular Bible teaching these clubs provide.

Here in Maine, throughout this school year, 46 *Good News Club*<sup>®</sup> programs have been conducted on a weekly basis. 29 have been in schools and 17 in homes, churches or community buildings. 828 children have attended with 30 receiving Christ as Savior. Read this testimony from a Good News Club that has been taking place in Southern Maine!

“The West Buxton Baptist Good News Club meets every Friday from 3:30-5:00 at our church. We had previously met at the local elementary school, but Covid changed that. While we’re no longer in the public school, God has continued to bless and grow our club,. This year, we have three adult leaders and three Jr. helpers. Twenty-six children are currently enrolled in our club, with an average weekly attendance around 20. Over half of our clubbers are “Littles”, meaning they’re in kindergarten and first grade, so there’s lots of noise and movement during club. Never a dull moment! Despite this, we have seen God at work in these young lives. One little boy who has attended GNC for four years and used to be a huge distraction with his behavior and interruptions, now sits through the Bible lessons quietly. He even earned the Quiet Seat prize recently! We don’t know if he is saved, but this year he has started asking questions about God and what the Bible says about certain topics. Pray that God will work in this little guy’s heart and that he will come to know Christ if he doesn’t already know Him. If he does, then pray that he will grow in his faith.”

*“One little boy who has attended GNC for four years and used to be a huge distraction with his behavior and interruptions, now sits through the Bible lesson quietly.”*

## Christmas Party Club Report



In addition to the weekly *Good News Club*<sup>®</sup> programs, reports have been coming in from “Around Maine” concerning one time Christmas Party Clubs also!

### CENTRAL

“We had 10 Christmas Party Clubs with over 200 children attending those clubs. Children were able to hear the Christmas Story and the hope of the Gospel.”

### NORTHERN

“141 of the 8.8 million children reached around the world through Christmas Party Clubs this past Christmas were in Northern Maine! Praise God for all He did around the world through this amazing ministry! Please pray for the children who heard the Gospel at these events. Please also pray that the teams who taught one-time Christmas Party Clubs will desire to begin an ongoing ministry by starting a new *Good News Club*<sup>®</sup>!”

### EASTERN

“We held 9 Christmas Party Clubs across our area that reached 133 children. We also participated in a Penny Sale at a local church, which was a time for children to get Christmas presents for their families. Before they did their ‘shopping’, they had their faces painted and heard the Gospel. 130 children were reached that day. 6 children put their trust in Jesus during this season! We thank the Lord for sending volunteers into these schools and churches to proclaim the Gospel to these precious children in Eastern Maine!”



# Day Camps

## Camp Jireh - Hermon

As we are planning, we stop and ask God to guide and direct the ministry. Pray for children and families to come and hear the Gospel. Staffing note: We are in need of staff for Weeks 3 and 4, for games crew, Bible teachers and missions teachers!

Capacity: 80 campers per week.

Contact Kathryn Boyington, Camp Jireh Director: [kathryn@cefofmaine.org](mailto:kathryn@cefofmaine.org).

### CAMP JIREH SUMMER SCHEDULE 2024

Junior Week	July 15-18 (ages 4-5)	Adventure Week 1	July 22-25 (ages 6-12)
Teen Extreme	August 5-8 (ages 10-13)	Adventure Week 2	July 29-August 1 (ages 6-12)

### DOWNEAST DAY CAMP SUMMER SCHEDULE 2024

Week 1	July 15-18 (ages 6-12)
Week 2	July 22-25 (ages 6-12)

## Downeast Day Camp - Ellsworth

Please pray for volunteers to staff the two weeks and for God's guidance and provision for all the camp needs. Please also pray for the hearts of the children who will attend camp, that they will be open to receiving the Gospel and that lives will be changed for His glory.

Capacity: 60 campers per week.

Contact Kathrin Hastey, Eastern Maine Director: [kathrin.em@cefofmaine.org](mailto:kathrin.em@cefofmaine.org)



**Our camping ministries this summer will give many hours and opportunities to introduce children to Jesus and guide them in their walk with Jesus.**

**"You shall teach them diligently, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way and when you rise up and when you lie down".**  
Deuteronomy 6:7

# Overnight Camps

### CAMP GOOD NEWS® SCHEDULE 2024

ECHO Youth	June 21-28
Week One	June 30-July 5 (Ages 8-13)
Week Two	July 7-12 (Ages 8-13)
Week Three	July 14-19 (Ages 8-13)
Teen Week	July 21-26 (Ages 14-17)
Week Five	July 28 - Aug 2 (Ages 8-13)
Week Six	August 4-9 (Ages 8-13)
Week Seven	August 11-16 (Ages 8-13)

## Camp Good News®, East Livermore

Our aim is to incorporate God's Word, friendships, various games and skill activities into an exciting camp experience. We want to present a place where campers have fun, stay safe and can learn about the Lord Jesus.

Capacity: 102 campers per week.

Contact Jeremy Brown, Camp Good News Director: [jeremy@cefofmaine.org](mailto:jeremy@cefofmaine.org)



## Blueberry Mountain Bible Camp, Weld

The focus of our programs is to explore God's creation on the top of the mountain. Fun, adventure and spiritual growth are here at Blueberry!

### BLUEBERRY MOUNTAIN SUMMER SCHEDULE 2024

Adventure Camp	July 7-12 (Ages 14-17)	Junior Camp 1	August 4-9 (Ages 8-12)
Discovery Camp	July 21-26 (Ages 10-14)	Junior Camp 2	August 11-16 (Ages 8-12)

Capacity: 35 campers per week.  
Contact Eliza Bean,  
Blueberry Mountain Bible Camp  
Director: [eliza@cefofmaine.org](mailto:eliza@cefofmaine.org)





# Training Youth to Echo the Gospel

## June 21-28, 2024



The "Echo Youth Ministry Training" will offer three tracks:

- Christian Youth In Action Training School - CYIA™
- Camp Ministry Training - CMT
- Lifeguard Training

## ECHO YOUTH TRAINING 2024

### The CYIA™ Track

is for young people desiring to develop their skills in evangelizing children and teaching the truths of God's Word in an exciting way to children. Classes will include: Teaching the Bible Lesson, God's View of Children, Counseling for Salvation, Sharing the Gospel Through the Wordless Book and Helping Children Memorize Scripture.

**Cost: \$300.** Ages 14 and up.

### The CMT Track

is for young people interested in serving at a camp this summer. They will develop practical skills to use in camp ministry. Some of the classes that will be offered are: Intro to Camp Life, Leading Games Effectively, Assisting in Cabin Devotions, Counseling for Life and Sharing the Gospel Through the Wordless Book.

**Cost: \$300.** Ages 14 and up.

### The Lifeguard Track

is for students interested in using water safety in ministry. Participants will attend all chapels before branching off to work on water safety, first aid and CPR skills.

**Cost: \$325.**

Ages 15 and up.

## Winter Retreat Report

### Camp Good News®

"Our winter retreats are officially over. We had 177 campers this winter between Jr. Blitzes and our Teen Blitz, with 1 Salvation and 88 volunteers. Root Cellar returned for a quick 24-hour retreat with their teenage helpers. Over 50 children attended the Western & Southern Maine Winter Fun Day for the *Good News Club*® programs in those areas. There was one thing in common between the winter Blitzes, Winter Fun Day and Root Cellar; The Word of God was preached. Every child, teen, young person, heard the Word of God. Children heard that they are loved by their Creator. Teens heard that Jesus is there for them in their time of need. Our *Good News Club*® continues to share the Word of God with the local children in our community. Many children come to this *GNC*™ from the two trailer parks just down the road from us. It has been a true blessing to work with these children and teens every week."

### Blueberry Mountain Bible Camp

"We had an amazing winter on the mountain with our 3 Arctic Blast Retreats. We had over 100 campers, 50 volunteers and a wonderful salvation at our last retreat! Even though the weather kept us on our toes, we were able to sled, play, and hear messages from God's Word. We were so thankful to those who volunteered and helped us fill valuable positions - from our head cooks to the cabin leaders, the Lord provided for every need. We also enjoyed hosting 5 weekend retreats for local youth groups. We value this time as it allows us to help youth leaders really invest in their teens lives while not having to worry about the small details of running a retreat. The Lord has given us these resources and we are blessed to help others reach even more youth for Christ!"

