Following God's Lead

August/Sept 2023



MARCK Messenger

After the painful loss of his dad to cancer a year and a half ago, TJ Hahn and his family chose to move from their Illinois home and church where he is serving as full time pastor to the local Clearfork area where his mom and some extended family reside. TJ will be serving as Pastor at Woodville Grace Brethren and will also be working with our local CEF Chapter as a part time ministry coordinator, focusing on church partnerships.

Considering his character, education from Moody, pastoral and youth ministry experience, and passion for evangelism, we believe God has prepared him greatly to be working with CEF.

"I love kids and love building the kingdom of God through evangelism. Children are the most fertile soil in our country because they are all searching for identity, meaning, love, and purpose. The Gospel gives them their hearts' desire while also saving them from their sin," reflects TJ in his response to why he would want to work with CEF.

TJ vividly recalls as a 1st grader making a decision to follow Christ. As a teenager, God was already placing in his heart a desire to be in ministry. TJ stated, "Life has been a journey of finding my identity and all in all in Christ. TJ and his wife Heidi have four children. He enjoys time with family, playing basketball, being outdoors and in particular constructing his own fish pond:)



Discipleship through Mail

We are thankful for the faithfulness of our Mailbox Club Coordinator, Ann Hulver. These lessons are filled out by a child and mailed in to be graded. Ann receives lessons for Mailbox club from people ages 4 through adult, grades them, comments on them and sends another Bible lesson out to be completed. Eventually, they can earn a McDonald's gift card, a certificate of completion and move onto the next series after finishing a series of 7-10 lessons. At this time, around 40 people are participating in our five county area.

"Why bother?" one might ask. In addition to receiving rewards, the benefits are many!

1. Gaining a habit of studying God's Word.

2. Growing to love God's Word more and more.

3. Getting to know Jesus as Savior and Lord. (Recently 4 girls have received Jesus as their Savior through the Mailbox Club!)

4. Giving friends the opportunity to

know Jesus by sharing the postal mail information! (Many clubbers have been inviting their friends to join!)



DID YOU KNOW? Mailbox Club is a big

way we follow up decisions to follow Christ at the 6 county fairs we share the Gospel through face painting during the summer/ fall.

"Snail mail" stories from Ann:

* One girl wrote, "I love the Bible stories. I have two friends that would like to get free Bible stories! Thank you. God loves you." * A grandma (from Pennsylvania) wrote that her granddaughter asked Jesus into her heart! (when she completed the Bible lesson).

* A young girl, when asked when she invited Jesus to be her Savior, said, "Just now!" * Another child said she knew that she needed Jesus as her own Savior after her Grandpa survived a stroke.

Thanks for praying for Mailbox Club!!

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"How many of you can speak a language other than English?" was the question of the morning at the Carter 5 Day Club in Mount Vernon this summer. Out of a total of 22 kids, <u>10</u> raised their hands! The breakdown? Spanish (4), Portuguese (1), and Kurdish (5 Carter missionary grandkids!). God even provided our Club an interpreter – Barb Martinez! Barbara loves the Lord, and happily sat behind two of our Hispanic club members, ready to explain any parts of the lesson they couldn't quite comprehend.



Sam Santos, a very mature 13-year-old, and recent graduate of CYIA represented our Portuguese speaker - although one would never know that English might

not be his heart language. Sam delivered our "Word Up" introductions, led in prayer, assisted with songs and helped with counseling too! Whew!! His love, sincerity and ability to communicate served as a wonderful role model for the older boys

Back Yard Stories . . .

and girls in our club! We were <u>so</u> impressed with Sam's preparation, ability, and capability! We loved having him on our team!!

Each day one of our little Hispanic girls (7), told Barbara, "I just want to stay forever!" We were so happy to be able to hand our Hispanic friends the Jesus My Savior and Friend CD. It features 3 songs in Spanish! You should have seen their smiles!

We thank God for all the spiritual discussions and friendships made.

Dave and Lois Carter, Mount Vernon

At **Beth Wells'** 5-Day Club in Mansfield, the volunteers were anticipating around a dozen children to come, and they had

21 children attend! Later in the week, an 8 year old boy approached a leader and asked for a Bible. When given the Bible, the boy asked if the memory verse they just learned would be in there? The volunteer then looked up the verse with him:)

His family came to Mansfield Alliance Church on the following Sunday for the first time. He and his sister were singing the songs all week long and then were able to sing "Jesus is the Good News" in front with a group with all of the children who knew the songs. At another club, it was a blessing to see a 6 year old boy come back for a second year in a row. He showed marked improvement in being able to engage in the lesson by listening and answering questions. A 3rd grade girl had the Wordless Book explained to her, and when asked if she was ready to pray to receive Jesus as savior, she said yes! She prayed and had a big smile on her face at the end. She and her family had been coming to Mansfield Alliance church for a few months, so this was encouraging!

Meg Jackson, Mansfield



Picture from a 5-Day Club in Mansfield. Rick and Sue Peterson did an excellent job on a Pirate Skit at the beginning of the club each day.

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August 2023 Praise and Prayer

1. Praise God for three **5-Day Clubs**® taking place this week. Pray for kids to come, get saved and grow in Christ.

2. Lord, give strength to **Shirley Davidson** as she heads up Coins 4 Kids which is our fall fundraising project with about 30 plus churches.

3. Praise the Lord for the new **Ministry Coordinator TJ Hahn** who begins part time on staff in September.

4. Pray for God's direction for a potential new committee member.5. Lord Jesus continue to restore our families, turn fathers' hearts to their children and the hearts of the children to their fathers. (Mal. 4:6)

6. Pray for **Bob Maxey** as he assists Dale Baer by visiting pastors and thanking them for partnering with CEF in the Good News Clubs.

7. **Richland County Fair** has the first day of face painting today. Pray for fruitful ministry and pray for strength for the workers.

Pray for **BOLDNESS** for the ministry of CEF, its staff and volunteers, to honor Christ even in dangerous situations. (Philippians 1:20)
 Please fill the children with a hunger for your Word, so they will be wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. (2 Tim. 3:15)

10. Ask God for wisdom as the Local Committee meets this evening.

Praise the Lord for a grant application given to In His Steps Foundation again this year to help CEF reach more children with the Gospel.
 Praise God for the 4 students taking the Teaching Children

EffectivelyTM (TCETM) Level 1 course which starts August 15.

13. "And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive..." (Mt. 21:22)

14. Pray for the 5-Day Club at First Baptist in Shelby this week.

15. Help our leadership to experience your presence, a calm and quieted soul in the decisions they make. (Psalm 130)

16. Thank God for our Treasurer, Mark Boyd.

17. Thank God for committee members Sue Packard and Mary Elkins

who are on the prayer sub committee.

 Thank God for committee members, Barb Long & Kaye Hahn.
 Pray for Kyle Latchaw & Kathy Horner as they prepare for the CEF of Ohio Good News Club® Curriculum Workshop (Aug. 21-23) at Beulah Beach.

20. Praise God for the churches partnering with CEF to reach kids.21. Pray for spiritual and physical protection over all staff, CYIA members, volunteers and especially the children (Ephesians 6:12).22. Pray for the TCE students as they study and prepare to be evaluated on their ability to demonstrate the Wordless Book.

23. Praise God for the **Fueled By Prayer** ministry and for Jimmie Borders who is willing to give \$2 million to non-profit organizations who take time to pray!

24. Pray for sound Christ-like minds (2 Tim. 1:7) for all CEF staff and volunteers reaching children with the Gospel wherever we go.25. Pray for more effective methods to recruit summer missionaries for next year.

26. Pray for <u>Laurie Meggitt</u>, the volunteer coordinator for the MCF.27. "Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day" (Psalm 96:2).

28. Lord bless the CEF work at the **Morrow County Fair (MCF)** this coming week in Mt. Gilead (Aug. 29-Sept. 4).

29. Pray for **BOLDNESS** for our fair workers as they share the Gospel with the Wordless Book & lead children to Christ.30. Pray for many children and parents to get excited about the Mailbox Club and grow in Christ (2 Peter 3:18).

31. Give thanks to the LORD for He is good; for His lovingkindess is everlasting. (Psalm 136:1)

September 2023 Praise and Prayer

 Pray for CEF local committee member, Gail Graham, that God will comfort her in the loss of her husband, Dick, earlier this year.
 Pray for the TCE students as they do their homework and prepare for their Wordless Book practicums.

3. Pray for the Good News Club® Curriculum Workshop on Sept. 9

(9-12 Noon) and Sept. 11 (6-9 PM). Location: TBA

4. Labor Day: Pray for workers to help this last day of the fair.

5. Pray that the students will do a great job on their Wordless Book practicums this evening at the TCE Level 1 class.

6. Praise God that He forgives all our iniquity, and heals all our diseases and He redeems our life from the pit (Psalm 103:3-4).

7. Lift up your hands and bless the Lord! (Psalm 134)

Pray for Dale Baer and Patty Arvidson as they make final preparations for the Good News Club (GNC®) Workshop tomorrow
 The <u>GNC Workshop</u> is today (9—12 Noon). The Party Club is called "The Ice Cream Message". GNCs start with "The Wordless <u>Book Visualized</u>" which are lessons to encourage & evangelize kids.
 Pray for God's blessing on the Carnival in Perrysville where CEF will be doing face painting today and sharing the Gospel.
 Pray for God's blessing on the GNC Training tonight (6—9 PM). It will be identical to the Sept. 9 training. Location: TBA
 In this ever changing world we can praise God that "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" (Heb. 13:8).
 Pray for the strength of the Lord Jesus for each person involved in serving. Phil. 4:13 states; "I can do all things through Christ..."
 Pray for wisdom for the CEF local committee meeting tonight.

15. Praise the Lord for the faithfulness of Christian businesses who generously support CEF financially.

16. Pray for Kyle Latchaw as he leads the CEF of Ohio Board and

Local Committee Enrichment Training today (10 AM—4 PM)
17. Pray for God to bless the Ashland County Fair starting today.
18. Pray "earnestly" for laborers to be raised up; youth that will have a heart to follow the Lord throughout all of life. Pray Luke 10:2
19. Pray again for the TCE students as they finish their Wordless Book practicums tonight.

20. Thank God for our Mailbox Club Coordinator, Ann Hulver,

who is doing a fantastic job mailing out Bible lessons to the children.

21. Pray for many children to be saved this week at the Ashland Fair!

22. Pray for God's blessing on the follow up for this fair as well.

23. Praise God for his faithfulness (Lamentations 3:22-23) in helping us to reach children this summer through 5-Day Clubs and fairs.

24. Thank God for the PLANS God has for us. He has "plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope" (Jer 29:11).25. Praise God for Sue Baer who is doing a great job as our CEF of MARCK Office Manager.

26. Pray God will help us to start after school **Good News Clubs**® in the public schools this fall and in January.

27. Pray for the Lord's direction and help to start new **Good News Clubs**® with more church partnerships.

28. "May God be gracious to us and bless us, and make His face to shine upon us, that your way may be known on earth, your saving power among all nations." (Psalm 67:1-2)

29. Praise Jesus who shed His blood on the cross for our sins.

30. **Praise God for His sovereignty.** He is always in control (Prov. 16:1-4).



God at work at the fairs!



Workers at the Crawford Co. Fair

The Lord has really blessed the summer fair ministry this year. We purposefully prayed for God to provide a fair coordinator for each fair. This person was asked to find volunteers to just register the children hopefully with church partnerships. We had three church partnerships (Crestline Church of the Nazarene, Bucyrus First Alliance Church and Wayside Chapel) for Crawford County Fair, thanks be to God and to diligent Gerry Sherman, the coordinator. We had a number of new Crawford County residents to help with welcoming children and family and they registered them before they got their faces painted. There were 77 first time salvation decisions and 48 assurances of salvation with many kids signed up for the Mailbox Club.

At the Knox County Fair it was a little warmer, but we still had lots of faithful hard working volunteers and many salvation decisions. Velma Kunze has been involved to some degree with CEF of MARCK over the years at the Morrow County Fair when she used to live in that area. She has since moved farther away but came to the CEF Banquet this spring and expressed interest in helping at all the fairs this year. Since she lives in Guernsey county, two hours away, Dale & Sue asked if she would prayerfully consider working all of the fairs if they were to host her at their home during the weeks of the fairs? She called Dale back a week later and said, "Yes!" One day at the Knox County Fair, a set of 14 year old twins came to the tent to get their faces painted. Velma had the privilege of painting both of their faces with matching butterflies! They both were saved and the one girl, Nevaeh, won the prize drawing at the end of the day! She was so excited when she came back to claim her prize. God is definitely at work in the fair ministry!



Dale & Sue Baer & Velma

CEF® of MARCK

Staff and Local Committee

Local Director: Dale Baer

Missionary Fieldworker: Patty Arvidson

Office Manager: Sue Baer

Chairman: Shirley Davidson

Treasurer: Mark Boyd

Secretary: Gail Graham

Assistant Secretary: Sue Packard

Fundraising: Shirley Davidson

Member: Kaye Hahn

Member: Barb Long

Member: Bob Maxey

Ashland County Rep: Mary Elkins

Morrow County Rep.: Laurie Meggitt

Mailbox Club Coordinator: Ann Hulver

CEF Office 535 Beer Road Ontario, OH 44906 **Office Hours** (can make appt. also!) Through August M-W-F 10 a.m.- 2 p. m. September hours M-W-F 9 a.m-2 p.m. Office phone: 419-756-7799 Dale Baer, Local Director Email: dale.baer@cefofohio.net WWW.CEFMARCK.ORG





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2023 Fair Schedules

Richland County Fair

August 6-12

Morrow County Fair

August 29-Sept. 4

Ashland County Fair

Sept. 17-23

Loudonville Free Street Fair

Oct. 3-7