



# MARCK Messenger

Child Evangelism Fellowship® of  
Morrow-Ashland-Richland-Crawford-Knox Counties

October/November 2023

## Making Life Count: Sharing from Shirley



Shirley Davidson

We have been privileged to have Shirley Davidson serve as chairman on the local committee of CEF® of MARCK after having already served countless hours with fundraising and other roles on our local committee for 17 years. Shirley has formerly served as Director of Children's Ministry for Ashland Grace Brethren and Berean Baptist for a total of 13 years, along with serving as the Berean Moppets

Director. She volunteered with various roles at Mansfield Christian School for five years. Shirley presently is a client advocate and parenting class teacher at Richland Pregnancy Services. The following is a window into her life and encounter with the Lord and with Child Evangelism Fellowship.

I am passionate about Jesus Christ and Child Evangelism Fellowship. Because I have learned how valua-

ble a story is to help others see the result of CEF, I share my story. As a little girl living in a middle-class neighborhood in the 1950s, I had the privilege of having a mother who was a fairly new Christian starved for the Word of God and desiring that her two daughters know the Jesus she had found. Dad was a factory worker who envisioned having his own business and was occupied with getting ahead in life. (story cont'd on page 2)

## Joyful Countenance at County Fairs

Participating all day in public fair ministry, (sharing the Gospel through face painting), is rewarding but exhausting work. It takes many people to make it happen and only a handful of people are able and/or comfortable with face painting and sharing the Gospel through the Wordless Book. Velma Kunze (pictured to the right) is one of Local Director Dale Baer's invaluable volunteers this summer. Since Velma lives outside our five county area, the Baers have had the

privilege of hosting her at their home while she has served at the fairs and she has also stayed with a relative who lives in the area. Velma is a gifted story teller and does "clowning" as a ministry. She also paints very well and puts a smile on children's faces as they leave her painting station. One day when serving at Knox County fair, Velma painted the faces of two 14 year old twin sisters. They lived in separate (story continued on page 2)



## Trainings Increase Opportunities



TJ Hahn in TCE Class, sharing the Wordless Book

It's that time of year that CEF of MARCK offers a 30 hour course called Teaching Children Effectively™ (TCE™), to help Good News Club teachers and others to incorporate the sharing of the Gospel with clarity while teaching Bible lessons. Five students are participating this fall.

In preparation for the in-class Wordless Book practicum, T.J. Hahn shared it at home with his active nephews and was surprised how they paid attention the whole time while explaining each page in detail. They even wanted to

hear it again later! TJ is our new Ministry Coordinator for CEF of MARCK and is pictured to the left while doing his practicum in class. Another TCE student, Candace Caris, was able to share the Wordless Book with an 8 year old girl named Paisley. Candace prayed for God to prepare her heart and give her the words to speak to help her remember all the steps of the Wordless Book. The Lord definitely answered! The little girl accepted Jesus as her Lord and Savior and became a child of God! All the glory to God!

# New Board Member: Inspiring and Energizing

**We are excited** to welcome **Jon Dech** as our newest committee member to serve on our finance sub-committee. Jon is a financial advisor who strives to help individuals align their resources with their values. Before this, he was the finance and human resources director at a large church, where he helped the organization through financial crises, leadership transitions, and building renovations—ultimately helping the organization achieve a debt-free status, strong financial reserves, and healthy operational systems. Jon previously worked for Youth for

Christ and Campus Crusade for Christ. For 10 years, he directed a non-profit association of churches. This organization provided a healthy outlet for young adults to worship, serve, and grow in knowledge of the Lord. Outside of work, Jon treasures time with his wife, Emily, and their children, Eli and Emma. Nature and outdoor activities like soccer, cycling, hiking, and gardening rejuvenate him. He's also an accomplished musician and public speaker, who ultimately hopes his life is known for commitment to faith, family, community, and fun.



Jon Dech and family

## Making Life Count (Continued from Page 1)

My sister, mother, grandmother, and I regularly attended church on Sundays where I heard the Bible stories, but it was at a neighborhood Good News Club® that I first heard how those stories related to my life. It was at this GNC® that I realized I was a sinner in need of a Savior. I heard the gospel clearly and repeti-

tively through the Wordless Book—a book of colors that tell the salvation story:

**DARK** page represented the darkness of sin,

**RED** represented the blood of Jesus that could make it possible for those sins to

be forgiven through Him,

**CLEAN PAGE** represented a clean heart that had believed the truth of God's Word and received Jesus,

**GOLD** represented heaven where the streets are made of gold and the place of my eternal home with Jesus, and

**GREEN** represented growing in Jesus through Bible reading, prayer, and fellowship.

When I made the decision to believe, I wanted others to know about Jesus, too, so they would have an opportunity to go to heaven. The Bible tells us God gives us spiritual gifts to be used for His purpose and His glory, and I believe mine is teaching. When I was eight years old, I gathered my neighborhood friends who did not attend the GNC and retold the stories I had heard with the flannelgraph materials my mother would purchase for me.

During the high school years of my life, I was very involved in the ministry of Youth for Christ having the privilege of being led by a very special director. Our public school had a Bible Club during the lunch hour that sometimes had 100 attendees. I continued to share the gospel with my classmates and friends using

the Wordless Book.

Years later, after marrying my high school sweetheart and having three daughters, I shared the Wordless Book to countless clients at our local crisis pregnancy center, sometimes having the opportunity to lead a young woman to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. I became a speaker for Christian Women's Clubs using the Wordless Book as part of my testimony. I have often been told my words were among the clearest presentation of the gospel that the ladies had heard and on occasion learned of the fruit on my efforts.

Because I came to know Jesus at a young age—praise God, even a child can understand—I grew up avoiding many of the temptations that youth experienced at that time. I have been blessed to have a life of growing in Jesus.

## County Fairs (continued from Page 1)

households, but met at the fair to be together. Velma said they both prayed to receive Christ that day. What a blessing to see these two pray together for the most important decision of their lives. She shared another story from Morrow Co. Fair where a young teen was dressed in black and wanted a skull painted on his face. Velma explained

that we paint pictures representing life and light. She shared with him of Jesus' love for him and he prayed that day to receive Jesus as Savior. She noticed a change in his hardened facial expressions which became softer. He visited her at the tent the next day, having removed the black paint from his nails and not wearing all black. She

hoped and prayed that the message of salvation was a life change for this young man.

We are thankful for prayers as this year's fairs wrap up with Loudonville Street Fair in October. They will have an indoor station which reduces noise levels and shelters from the crisp/sometimes rainy weather.



# October 2023 Praise and Prayer



1. Ask the Lord to provide a buyer for the sale of TJ Hahn's home in Illinois.
2. Pray for **Sue Baer**, our office manager. Pray for God to give her wisdom.
3. **Loudonville Street Fair** begins today.
4. Pray for boldness as our fair workers share the Gospel at the Loudonville fair this week.
5. **Solid Rock GNC** begins today. Pray for strength and wisdom for leaders.
6. Pray for more kids to be saved today and tomorrow, the last day of the fair.
7. Praise God for the **In His Steps** Fall Focus today. We will be receiving a grant today!
8. Pray for CEF to get into **North Korea**.
9. **Canadian Thanksgiving!** We are very thankful for our Canadian supporters of CEF.
10. Pray for the GNCs starting today at **Taft Elem** (Ashland) & **Budd** in Loudonville.

11. Pray for the GNC starting today at **Park Avenue Elementary** in Mt. Gilead.
12. Pray for **Shirley Davidson**, Chairman of the CEF Local Committee for wisdom.
13. Pray for **Mark Boyd**, our treasurer.
14. Pray for **Gail Graham**, our secretary.
15. Pray for **Jan Mulvihill** & her parents (CEF Missionaries in Belize) who will be sharing at Little Flock today!
16. Praise God for **Fueled By Prayer** which supports our chapter with prayers/finances.
17. **Teaching Children Effectively™** class meets this evening. Pray for students to finish well.
18. "Let us love one another" (1 John 4:7).
19. **Local Committee Meeting** today. Pray for guidance and wisdom.
20. Pray for creative ways to invite kids to Good News Clubs.

21. Pray for God's blessing on the Trunk or Treat CEF is doing at Spitzer today!
22. Praise God for our new **Ministry Coordinator, Pastor TJ Hahn**.
23. Pray for **Sue Packard**, Assist. Secretary.
24. Pray for TCE students doing their Bible lesson practicums this evening.
25. Pray for **Mary Elkins**, Ashland County Representative on the local committee.
26. Thank the Lord for churches willing to partner with a GNC and provide workers.
27. Pray for committee member **Kaye Hahn**.
28. **Thanksgiving Party Training** & Joseph today at Zion's Refuge Bap. Church 9 AM.
29. Praise God for **Barb Long** who is also serving on the CEF Local Committee.
30. **Thanksgiving Party Training** & Joseph today at Zion's Refuge Bap Church 6 PM.
31. Pray for the TCE students as they do their Bible practicums this evening.



# November 2023 Praise and Prayer

1. **CEF World Day of Prayer**. We meet locally at Zion's Refuge Baptist at 9 AM.
2. Praise God for open doors to get into elementary public schools.
3. Pray for **Scott Sharrock's Retirement Party** today from 1-4 PM.
4. Today is the **Christmas Party Training** at Centerburg FWB Church at 10 AM.
5. Pray for relationship building opportunities for all of us as we share His love.
6. Rejoice in God's Spirit, not one of fear, but of power, love and self-control.
7. Ask God for more volunteers to reach the children of MARCK.
8. Praise God for a free country in which we can proclaim the Good News of Jesus in the public schools to the children!
9. Pray for the Good News Club starting today at **Eastern Elem.** in Lexington.
10. God's love is strong! If God is for us, who can be against us? (Rom. 8:31)
11. Today is the **Christmas Party Training** at the MAC from 10 AM—12 Noon.
12. Praise the Lord for our newest committee member, **Jon Dech!**
13. Lord, help **Patty Arvidson** as she

- leads a **Preschool GNC** at Little Blessings Daycare (AM) & **Western GNC** (PM).
14. Lord, bless **Patty** as she teaches a Preschool GNC at **Berean MOMS** (AM) and also a GNC at **East Knox Elem. School**.
15. Lord, use the "Pine Valley Pumpkin Run" at Thanksgiving parties this year to draw children to yourself.
16. Lord, bless **Patty** as she leads the GNC at **Stingel Elem.** starting today!
17. Jesus, help **Patty** as she starts the GNC at **Danville Elem.** school today!
18. Ask God for ambassadors for CEF in churches, as we partner to reach families.
19. Thank You for the joyful songs of children at GNC's. Oh, sing praise to the LORD! Psalm 68:32b
20. Pray for guidance and blessing on the Christmas Party Training at 10:00 a.m.
21. Praise God for angels round about us, guarding us in all our ways (Ps. 91:11).
22. Ask God for more church partnerships to reach children of MARCK.
23. **Thanksgiving Day!** "It is a good thing to give thanks unto the LORD. And to sing praises unto thy name, O most High." (Psalm 92:1) Pray for the children to have a thankful heart for all the blessings you pour into their lives.

24. Mercy has triumphed over judgment! Your Grace is truly amazing (James 2:13).
25. "Give thanks to the Lord for He is good!" Psalm 107:1a
26. Lord, help **Kyle Latchaw**, our CEF of Ohio State Director. Please also help **Melissa**, his wife, as she recovers from a concussion from a car accident.
27. Praise God for open doors to get into public schools.
28. Kids love to run! May they run with endurance the race You have marked out for them (Hebrews 12:1).
29. Our world is in a battle. Help the multitudes who are in the valley of decision. Draw our club children to hear and understand (Joel 3:14).
30. Lord, draw each Good News Club® (GNC®) family to a body of believers (Psalm 26:8).



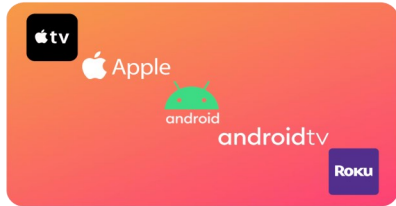
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### **CEF® of MARCK**

#### **Staff and Local Committee**

**Local Director:** Dale Baer

**Missionary Fieldworker:** Patty Arvidson

**Ministry Coordinator:** T.J. Hahn

**Office Manager:** Sue Baer

**Chairman:** Shirley Davidson

**Treasurer:** Mark Boyd

**Secretary:** Gail Graham

**Assistant Secretary:** Sue Packard

**Fundraising:** Shirley Davidson

**Finance Committee:** Jon Dech

**Member:** Kaye Hahn

**Member:** Barb Long

**Member:** Bob Maxey

**Ashland County Rep:** Mary Elkins

**Another Key Volunteer:**

**Mailbox Club® Coordinator:** Ann Hulver

### **CEF Office**

535 Beer Road

Ontario, OH 44906

**M-W-F 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

**Office phone: 419-756-7799**

**Dale Baer, Local Director**

**Email:**

**dale.baer@cefofohio.net**

**WWW.CEFMARCK.ORG**

### **Christmas Party Club Trainings**

**Sat. Nov. 4 (10-12 Noon)**

At: Centerburg Free Will Baptist  
Church, Centerburg, OH

**Sat. Nov 11 (10-12 Noon)**

At: Mansfield Alliance Church  
(291 W. Cook Rd., Mansfield)

**Theme: "God Keeps His Promises"**



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**November  
1st**

### **Zion's Refuge Baptist**

1400 Lucas Road, Mansfield

**Time: 9:30-11:00 a.m.**

Come join us for this prayer gathering or sign up to pray for 15 minutes anywhere you are during our 24 hour prayer vigil on Nov. 1. Call today for your prayer slot! (419-756-7799)