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CEF
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Greater Cincinnati Chapter Newsletter

Assisting churches and individuals with child evangelism and discipleship and connecting these children's families with Bible-believing churches

Summer County Fair Ministry Reaches **1,253** Children and Youth with the Gospel

113 Make First-time Professions of Faith

"Come and see the works of God, Who is awesome in His deeds toward the sons of men." Psalm 66:5



Paul Adams witnessing to a young man at the Butler County Fair

Our local chapter was blessed to have Paul Adams join our evangelism efforts this summer as our first Fair and Festival Coordinator. Paul's leadership was an answered prayer for this ministry and the results are indisputable. Paul's passion for preaching the Gospel, faithful prayers, administrative skills and unrelenting efforts are deeply appreciated.

The Wordless Book was used to share the Gospel at all three fairs. To prepare volunteers, a training event was held June 20th at Grace Bible Presbyterian church in Sharonville. Training topics included the biblical basis for all portions of the Wordless Book, as well as what to say to people as they walk by the tent and the logistics of working fairs.



Rocky Smith, Local Director, demonstrates how to share the Gospel at fairs with his daughter



Paul Adams explains sin, the dark page of the Wordless Book.

The training sessions were video recorded and shared with volunteers who couldn't attend the training. The videos also served as review training for those in attendance. It took a small army of 60 Gospel-equipped fair workers to complete our fair schedule. This included staff, committee members and our mighty army of volunteers. We were especially blessed to recruit and train 21 new volunteers.

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GREATER CINCINNATI

P.O. Box 778
Mason, Ohio 45040
www.cefcincinnati.org
office@cefcincinnati.org
(513) 456-1675

Local Director
Rocky Smith

Chapter Committee

Carolyn Horton,
Chairperson

Ruth Boyatt,
Vice Chairperson

Sandy Silvashy,
Secretary

Betsy O'Kresik,
Joe Boyatt,
Mari Lou Banks and
Roger Slack

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Serving Butler, Clermont,
Hamilton and Warren
Counties

Fall 2024

Hamilton County Fair – June 27th through June 30th

This fair was much shorter than the other two fairs. On Thursday and Friday, the fair began at 4:00 PM while the weekend hours were considerably longer.

As with all fairs, there are times when we witness one-on-one, times when it's a couple of children and other times when it's a large group.



A large group of youth hearing the Gospel in our new CEF tent

209 children and youth reached
13 first-time professions of faith

And we are happy to report that our new CEF tent weathered a severe thunderstorm on Saturday. We're thankful that both Rocky and Paul were there along with Christelle Lee and family to hold the tent down. A quick trip to the hardware store was made soon after that to get some additional sophisticated anchoring materials - cinder blocks and tie ropes.



Michelle Berry explains that sin is anything we think, say or do that breaks God's Word and makes Him sad.

Warren County Fair – July 15th through July 20th

We started working this fair at 11:00 AM and finished around 7:30 PM with two shifts of workers each day. We learned that there was more traffic when the rides were operating so we will adjust our hours next year to be there when it is most crowded.



Emily Sawyer and two pre-teen girls

379 children and youth reached
20 first-time professions of faith

There were many in-depth discussions with youth and parents and we were certainly blessed by what the Lord was doing. Plus, we were able to refer a number of families to churches and we continue to pray that they visit them.



Paul Adams sharing the Gospel with a group of 4-H boys

Butler County Fair – July 21st through July 27th

This was the busiest fair and we overflowed our tent space numerous times. Thankfully, a generous donor has offered to double our space for next year because this fair is very well-attended with many people stopping by the tent.



Allen Hughes and a group of older boys

665 children and youth reached
80 first-time professions of faith

Professions of faith were made and hundreds of seeds were planted. As with the other fairs, we were struck with the deep interest youth had in spiritual matters and searching. Please join us praying for the Lord of the harvest to bring others into these lives to water the seeds we were privileged to plant.



We had to take a group over to the vacated Army tent due to overflow in our tent.

Christian Youth in Action (CYIA) and Summer Events



Left to right: Local Director Rocky Smith, Aiden Lindsey, Christelle Lee (Overflow Ministries) Terrance Watson, Ja'Riah Moore, Madyson Wolf and Emanuel Howard

This year our chapter sent six people, mostly teens, to CEF of Ohio's week-long missionary training in June at Mt. Vernon Nazarene University. Attendees were trained on the Wordless Book and all parts of a 5-Day Club and 3-Day Club which are similar to Good News Clubs. This summer's curriculum called "One Way" teaches children that there is only one way to God, through His Son, Jesus Christ. "One Way" featured evangelistic Bible lessons, memory verses, songs, a missionary story featuring Amy Carmichael, games, snacks, and activities. Training equips youth for serving over the summer as well as in the future. Its use is valuable and timeless as we pray these youth will witness and disciple others throughout their lives.

Tri-County Nazarene in West Chester held a 3-Day Club in late June with 12 children in attendance and one child made a decision for Christ. CYIA missionaries Madyson Wolf and Aiden Lindsey were among the workers who helped teach and conduct this summer club. This church also held a community outreach back-to-school event, Waterpalooza, where they shared the Wordless Book.



Pastor Daniel Keaton of Rolling Hills Baptist Church in Fairfield teaches the Bible lesson with the help of Ja'Riah Moore.

Fairfield West Elementary, a school with a Good News Club, was the location for a 3- Day Club in July. Thirteen children attended this club that was co-hosted by Covenant Community Church and Rolling Hills Baptist Church both located in Fairfield. Additionally, CYIA missionaries Maydson Wolf and Ja'Riah Moore were among the club.



Betsy O'Kresik talks with the children from the Mobile Home Park.

Finally, the Madeira Mobile Home Park hosted a Good News Club over the past school year and to deepen relationships and share the Gospel, the Madeira team organized and hosted a back-to-school event. The Madeira team, led by Ruth and Joe Boyatt, included 19 ministry volunteers offering face painting, food, a balloon artist, as well as free bicycle repairs from Maderia firefighters. And most importantly, the Gospel via the Wordless Book shared with 27 kids and parents.

Second Annual Sporting Clays Classic

On Friday, October 11, 2024, we are excited to host our Second Annual Sporting Clays Classic. You are invited to join us at the Sycamore Gun Club, where shooters will compete as we aim to raise \$13,000 this year. Registration is open and we're inviting businesses and organizations to consider participation and becoming a sponsor.

For more information and registration please visit: cefcincy.org/scclassic



First Annual Sporting Clays Classic participants October 11, 2023

Good News Club Training Event Breaks Records

We are excited about upcoming new and returning Good News Clubs that will begin this school year. With all the new volunteers who joined us for the fairs, plus a group from Kerusso Baptist Church in Hamilton who had a prayer booth near us at the Butler County Fair, we had more people at the fall kick off training this year than in years past. In fact, we had 70 in attendance eager to learn about Good News Clubs.



Our annual training event was conducted at Grace Bible Presbyterian Church in Sharonville. It featured a session called “Good News Club 101,” which included an abbreviated demonstration of Lesson 1 from the fall curriculum series, “God’s Love: Hope for the Outcast.” This was especially helpful to people who have never seen a club operate. Additionally, there was comprehensive training on how to prepare and conduct an effective Good News Club. To further equip our club workers, a featured special video presentation, “Loving the Traumatized Child,” was presented to help volunteers understand and work with some behavioral issues they may encounter. The training sessions concluded with special guest Phil Miekley, a retired Madeira Middle School teacher from Northern Hills Bible Chapel, who shared much-appreciated wisdom, wit, and very practical methods of managing a classroom.



Packed house at the session about effectively teaching parts of club



Bountiful brunch provided by Grace Bible Presbyterian Church



Phil Miekley teaching tips for classroom management

A Word from the Director, Rocky Smith

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.”

Matthew 5:6



As I take account of everything that has occurred in CEF of Cincinnati this summer, I am humbled, encouraged, and overwhelmed by His goodness! There is much reason to praise God as this Cincinnati Chapter continues to grow, with leadership, workers, church partners, resources, faithful prayer partners, and most importantly, the children in Greater Cincinnati reached with the Gospel.

From my humble perspective, there is a sincere “hunger and thirst for righteousness” here in Cincinnati. I see this twofold: with our children and youth who are seeking meaning and purpose, as well as fellow brothers and sisters in Christ, who are sensing an urgency to get involved in evangelism. First, the sincerity of children and youth willing to hear the Gospel at the fairs was unlike anything I’ve seen in my life. The more our culture and society spiral into spiritual decay, the more we need to be prepared to point our kids and youth to Jesus! And secondly, I am encouraged by how many fellow believers are indeed realizing that remaining silent about their faith in Christ, is no longer an option. What a privilege we have to share the Gospel and invite children to believe in the Lord Jesus as their Savior! There are still thousands of children in our region that we can reach, and I believe the Lord will continue to have our local chapter reach more children. I want to thank you for your fervent prayers, faithful giving, and determined efforts to serve in this Greater Cincinnati Chapter. If you’re receiving this newsletter and have yet to get involved with CEF of Greater Cincinnati, I would encourage you to pray about how the Lord might have you support our local mission work. You can become a faithful prayer partner, serve in our Good News Clubs, or financially support CEF of Cincinnati.

May the Lord bless you,
Rocky Smith