

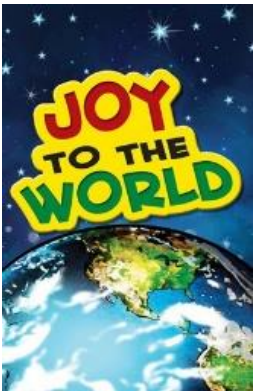


Greater Cincinnati Chapter Newsletter

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

Spreading the Gospel at Christmas

It's heartbreaking that many elementary-age children have no idea that Christmas is about Jesus but think it's only about Santa, presents, time off and fun with family and friends.



In 2014, a study showed that one-third of United Kingdom children don't know Christmas celebrates the birth of Jesus¹ and we believe American children aren't far behind in our increasingly secular culture. Our CEF chapter is making a strong effort to bring the gospel and true meaning of Christmas to our area's school children by holding 12 "Joy to the World" after-school Christmas parties. Children love parties, especially Christmas parties, and many parents will let their children attend even if unchurched. It is an excellent time to evangelize children.

The party teaches about the prophet Isaiah who long before Christ was born gave a loving message that would bring joy to people from every tribe, tongue and nation. After showing Isaiah the terrible effects of sin, God provided a glimpse of the promised Savior- the best news in the world. The Savior's advent as a baby (Isaiah 53:5-9), His resurrection (Isaiah 53:10), and His reign as eternal King (Isaiah 65: 27. 25) were revealed to the astonished prophet.

After teaching Isaiah's messages (prophesies), the lesson uses Christmas cards to show how Isaiah's prophecies were fulfilled in Christ.



The prophecy of the Savior's birth Christmas card has a baby feet clue on the front opening to the birth of Jesus that was prophesied in Isaiah 53:5-9.

CHILD EVANGELISM
FELLOWSHIP® OF
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Jim Silvasly

Serving Butler,
Clermont,
Hamilton and
Warren Counties

Christmas 2022

¹ A United Kingdom 2014 survey of 2,000 families sponsored by Christmas Starts with Christ.

(continued from front page)

Christmas party training was held at Grace Bible Presbyterian Church in Sharonville on November 19th. The first hour was an actual Christmas party where attendees reverted to their eight-year-old selves and pretended to be a kid at a CEF party. There were some “real” children there, thankfully, who were much better than many of the adults at skills such as getting down on the floor and getting up again.

Most of the attendees were new to CEF and learned about our mission to evangelize and disciple children and to connect them and their families with Bible believing churches. Having a Christmas party is a good introduction to CEF.



Ruth Boyatt leading an active party game



Miss Mari Lou teaching the memory verse, Isaiah 45:22



Young and old party-goers doing their best flamingo impersonations



Interactive games are a good way to keep kids' attention

The Reason for the Season

Open House in Fairfield



As you know, CEF looks for opportunities to tell children the true meaning of the Christmas season and is having an open house event for children of all ages to celebrate. Share the birth of Jesus in a walk through the Scriptures with fun-filled activities for everyone. The walk through takes about thirty minutes.

You'll hear the answers to questions such as:

- Why did Jesus have to come to earth?
- Who were the first evangelists?
- Why were people searching for the King?

Thursday, December 8, 2022

2:00 to 5:30 PM

**Red Door Church
1140 Smiley Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45240**

Libby Dalton, author of “Libby’s Christmas Letters,” will be there. Make a donation to CEF and receive a signed copy as a thank you for helping us reach the children of Greater Cincinnati.

A Word from Rocky Smith, Local Director

“The Door of Opportunity”



Rocky demonstrates the Christmas party Bible lesson during training.

The apostle Paul uses this phrase in his letters describing the Lord’s providential leading of where Paul’s evangelism efforts were conducted.

- 1 Corinthians 16:8-9 “but I will remain in Ephesus, a ***wide door for effective service*** has opened to me.”
- 2 Corinthians 2:12 - “when I arrived in Troas, .. a ***door was opened for me in the Lord.***”
- Luke uses this phrase to describe God’s will for Paul and Barnabas in Acts 14:27, “***He opened a door of faith to the Gentiles.***”

As I journey with Christ with the mission work here in the Cincinnati chapter, this is a reality I am experiencing. I am both humbled and delighted seeing the Lord open doors for us to begin Good News Clubs and Christmas Party Clubs. Additionally, continue to pray that the Lord will make clear where our gospel preaching and ministry efforts continue for the rest of 2022, 2023 and beyond. Please join me in prayer that the Lord will open “wide doors for effective service.”

Jesus is the ultimate door. He stated very clearly in John 10:9 “**I am the door**; if anyone enters through Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.” Please continue to pray that we have more doors open to do the Lord’s work and children understand that Jesus is the door to eternal life.

Cincinnati’s 2023 Strategic Plan

At the October Local Committee meeting the 2023 strategic plan was set which includes both one-year and three-year goals. With the addition of Rocky Smith as full time Local Director, we anticipate significant growth in our ministries and will add 5-Day Clubs and Fair Ministries to our current ministries, Good News Clubs and Christmas Party Clubs. Lord willing, in 2023 we will reach 2,000 children through:

- ✓ At least 14 Good News Clubs
- ✓ Five 5-Day Clubs in the summer with five teen missionaries (Christian Youth in Action)
- ✓ At least 15 Christmas Party Clubs
- ✓ Two ministry fairs – Butler County Fair, July 23-29, 2023 and Lebanon Applefest, September 23 and 24, 2023

Come and see what the LORD has done! *Psalm 46:8a*

Psalm 46 reminds us how He has blessed us richly in 2022. We are truly thankful and for his provision to hire Rocky as our Local Director and for the financial support raised last Christmas that qualified us for additional financial support from CEF International Headquarters. We are asking you to prayerfully consider supporting our ministry as we raise funds for Rocky and ministry expenses. Our initial need for 2022 Christmas giving is \$20,000 to meet our 2022 shortfall.

Giving Tuesday 2022

We had our first Giving Tuesday email fundraiser on November 29th and we received a **\$5,000 matching gift** for it. The dollars are still being counted.

Year-end Giving 2022

Another matching gift donor is throwing out the challenge – **they will match dollar for dollar up to \$10,000!** Please consider partnering with us to reach 2,000 children in 2023. We are looking for financial partners to implement the 2023 strategic plan, as well as volunteers to evangelize and disciple the children.



Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me" Matthew 19:14a

Gift Designation: 2022 Expense Shortfall (if any) Fair Ministries Ministry Training & Launch materials
 Promotion & Communication Office Needs & Supplies Local Director Support

Name _____ Address _____

One time gift of \$ _____ OR a monthly gift of: \$25 \$35 \$50 \$75 \$100 Other \$ _____

Payment method: PayPal (QR code below) check enclosed credit card electronic banking other



Name on credit card _____

Card number _____

Expiration date ____/____ We will call you for the three-digit security

Phone (____) _____ code so it does not go through the mail.