



SOMD CEF Beacon

Child Evangelism Fellowship of SOMD

“God Is Still at Work”

August 2023

Help Us Reach The Children of Southern Maryland!

From Bernard Lake, CEF SOMD Area Director:

Our Lord and Savior is not willing that anyone should perish (2 Peter 3:9). God's heart is that all men, women, boys, and girls come to know Him for salvation. Because God wants everyone to hear the gospel, we must be busy sharing the Good News with children, men, and women every day.

In June 2023, I wrapped up ten weeks of teaching at the CEF headquarters in Baltimore, MD. After that, I helped train summer missionary interns at Camp-Wo-Me-To, in Jarrettsville, MD for our Christian Youth in Action program (CYIA). There, I worked with others to train young people to present the Gospel to children. I used much of the same training I utilized in Baltimore at the Children's Ministry Institute earlier this year. At camp, I also served as chaplain, ministering to the young people at the camp.

Though the efforts to find summer missionaries for 5-Day Clubs this year were unsuccessful, we were still able to hold two 5-Day clubs. At Life Community Church of God there were 36 children, with nine that made a profession of faith! The other club was at KCA with 33 children hearing the good news of the Gospel. Overall, for the 2022-2023 year, though, the Lord has blessed our work. **Together we reached 869 children and had 117 professions of faith!**

As the summer begins to wind down, I am working with our GNC churches and our team leaders to ensure they are equipped and trained, and to provide the necessary tools to begin our fall Good News Clubs. **I thank God for the dedicated people** who are bringing the Good News to this generation of children!

Unfortunately, we are seeing a drop off in volunteers. I, and some dedicated helpers, are actively working to get into more schools and hoping to hold on to the schools where we already have clubs. Pray that God will open the doors for more churches and church members to sponsor schools. We have several schools which are open to holding Good News Clubs in the local area, but insufficient volunteers to staff the schools. Our experience is as Jesus said, "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few" (Matt. 9:37). **Please pray for new volunteers.**



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One of our volunteers, Michelle Tefft, writes:

Hello! The animal Zonk review game was a favorite! That goat kept showing up to take their points. On Wednesday of our 5-Day Club, Victoria taught the lesson and there were eight children who chose to accept Jesus as their Savior! On Friday, Lydia taught the Bible lesson; it was on the rich young ruler who decided to follow Jesus. We had one child go over for counsel time and she decided to follow Jesus! When asked what made her go over, she said, "Well, I wasn't sure before if I wanted to make Jesus my Savior, but now I know I do want to follow Him!" God is working in young hearts! Thanks for all that each of you do to bring God glory and make Him known! We had a wonderful big group (36 precious souls) and I know that God will continue to use what each one learned this summer in their lives for years to come—even one of our busy 5-year-old boys!

We may have a few less hairs, but the family of God has a few more members! Rejoicing for all God is doing!



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CEF is on the move! CEF of SOMD (you and me!) are busy working to bring the Gospel to every elementary school in Calvert, St. Mary's, and Charles Counties through Good News Clubs and summer 5-Day Clubs. We have seen the children being blessed at the Good News Clubs, but there are many more who have not yet heard the Gospel. You can help CEF take the Gospel to children by purchasing discount cards, AND you will get many times the cost back in savings at local businesses. These make a valuable gift for family and friends! To learn how you can to get your cards, please contact:

Calvert County
Bonnie Smithers at 904-421-3454

St. Mary's County
Karen Anderson at 443-624-2707



We can't do this without our faithful supporters. We praise God for you! Would you pray about giving on a monthly basis by joining our team of **Advocates**? Just \$5, \$10, or \$20 a month would help us.

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