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February 2012 Newsletter from
Josephine District
P. O. Box 755
Grants Pass, OR 97528



CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP

Josephine Joy Journal

February 2012 update on the ministries of God's people serving children in CEF
"Even so, it is not the will of your father in heaven that one of these little ones should perish." Matthew 18:14

Pastor James Downing Received Christ in a Good News Club®

When James was nine, he attended the Good News Club at the Gasquet Bible Church after school. Upon hearing about his eternal destiny and Christ's death for his sins from the grandmas teaching the club, James prayed to receive Christ. He later graduated from



Multnomah Bible College and served as a pastor in Reno. Twenty years ago the Lord called him to serve as Senior Pastor of Jerome Prairie Bible Church. God has blessed the community through his faithful proclamation of Truth from God's Word and the outreach ministries this stimulated. Jerome Prairie was one of the first churches in the area to have a school based released time Bible class, and James has enthusiastically encouraged his congregation to help serve in this ministry for the Jerome Prairie School during his tenure. A few years ago James invited me to join the monthly meetings for ministry leaders of the Church of the Valley which has strengthened CEF's connection with local churches. We appreciate James and his congregation's faithful support and involvement in CEF through the years that God continues to use to save souls and bless the community.

Free Bibles Given to Club Members

A generous donor provided cases of Bibles to give to club members who didn't have one this fall. With over a thousand children now in clubs, there are other children who would like one. If you would like to help, you can donate to CEF's free Bible fund, or order Bibles and have them sent to CEF. We also collect used Bibles to distribute to children.

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Office: 541-476-5235 400 C SW J Street
Children's Bible Teacher Resource Store
& Library open to serve you Mon., Tues., Thurs.
10 AM - 4 PM
Web site: cefjo.com email: jimcef@msn.com
CEF USA web site: cefonline.com
CEF Children's web site: wonderzone.com
Tel-A-Story for Children: 888-878-8660

If you have email and would be willing to receive this newsletter on the internet to save postage & printing costs (~.40), please let us know.

Committee:

Chairman: Roy Allen
Vice Chair: Marianne Peterson
Treasurer: Jim Heinen
Secretary: Gary Spangler
Daureen Willard, Jeanette & Ricky Downes

Staff:

Missionary Director: Jim Cunningham
Administrative Assistant: Donna Joplin

2011 General Fund Summary

January 1 to December 31:

Donations: \$70,497

Expenditures: \$69,661

Jehovah Jireh Does It Again

Thank you Lord and His people who He lead to donate to fund the operations of this mission in 2011. As the above numbers attest, all expenses were covered by your generosity. CEF Josephine is funded entirely by donations and receives no grants or stipends from other agencies or CEF affiliates. As a 501c(3) organization, CEF Jo provides tax deductible receipts for all contributions. A significant part of the donations last year were made in memory of Pam Cunningham, Kay Parkins, Edith Stover and Dee Downes.

A generous donation to the Turner Memorial Fund in December will fund the bussing for Good News Clubs the rest of the year. Some years ago we received a gift from Grace Wallace's Estate that started a fund for CEF to secure a training center. There is now \$70,000 available for this. Please pray for this need and let us know if you hear of any suitable property that might be available (zoned commercial or R4).

Teens: What are you doing this summer?

"Look carefully then how you live, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil." (Ephesians 5:15-16)

Have you heard God's call to shine His light into the darkness, to rescue the perishing?

*"Go into all the world and preach the Gospel." (Mark 16:15)
"[God] desires that all people to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth." (1 Timothy 2:4)*

Do you realize God planted you here in this needy mission field to serve Him?

"For you were created in Christ Jesus for good works." (Ephesians 2:10)

Did you know children are one of the most open and teachable group of locals to reach, and they naturally look up to you?

Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God." Mark 10:14

Would you like to learn how to reach them?

Then



could be for you!

Receive child evangelism training at the CYIA school at the Aldersgate Conference Center in Turner June 16-22, then help share Christ with children in at least three local CEF ministries during the rest of the summer (in clubs, camp, or fairs). Scholarships and support raising assistance available. For more info, go to cefpdx.org or search for CYIA on YouTube. Applications now available, due May 15. Qualifications: Born Again, available May 19, June 16-22, have time for at least 3 ministries during the weeks of July 9-Aug. 3.

Does your church need teachers for VBS?

We can bring you a team of CYIA graduates who will be trained and equipped to provide an hour of Bible instruction Monday-Friday July 16-20, July 23-27, or July 30-Aug. 3.

What's Happening in Good News Clubs®

During a regular share time in a class at school as to who is in your "Circle of Love," a club member said "My Good News Club teacher, because she teaches me about God."

A teacher at the Rogue River Club (which has grown to 193!) gave New Testaments to each member of her club at Christmas. One of the members begged for another one to give to a friend. After the teacher gave him one, she watched him run to a boy on the playground and excitedly give it to him. The lad responded by giving the little missionary a hug!

When the answer to a review question was Bathsheba, a child answered, "the lady that was taking a bath".

A child told her teacher that "I wish that Good News Club was every day."

A club teacher explained that the world doesn't like Jesus and tries to X him out of Christmas by saying Happy Holidays, but we who know Christ should not only say Merry Christmas, but Happy Birthday to Jesus. The children started cheering and clapping to the surprise of the teacher.

A club teacher noticed two boys in her club didn't attend church. When she found out that a church near their home has a bus ministry, she contacted the family and was glad to find out they were interested in having them attend the church, so she arranged to have them picked up by the church bus.

When a club member had to move to Medford, he asked his teacher if he could come back to school just on Wednesdays for club. When they arrived back at the school, the boy looked around and when he saw no one was watching, he told the teacher "I'm going to hug you," which he did.

An aid for the school approached the staff as they returned from club and asked if a special needs student had an aid at club. Due to a misunderstanding, the child didn't. The aid was quite alarmed until she found out that he behaved very well without an aid; then she was surprised!

A club teacher thought all her students had accepted Christ as Savior. She asked them if they had, and was surprised when a boy said he hadn't. She gladly led him to the Lord. It turned out to be his last week at club, as he moved away.

When the members came out of school to attend Good News Club, a girl held up a sign that said "Good News Club Rocks."

Children Love

DAY CAMP GOOD NEWS

The 35th year of this fruitful and fun ministry is coming July 9-13 to the Rinehart Volunteer Park and the YMCA. Thanks to volunteer staff, children can still attend for just \$35. Good News Club teachers will teach campers to trust God for victory in lessons from the Book of Judges. Basketball, soccer, swimming and crafts are all part of the fun. Last year was the largest camp ever with 179 campers; You too can be a part of the excitement and share Christ's love as you serve as a Team Leader or Helper. If you know of any missionaries or evangelists that will be in the area during camp, please let us know so we can contact them to see if they can speak at an afternoon assembly. A nurse and craft leaders are also needed. Contact CEF for a staff application or camper registration.

Tell children about true love with a Gospel Valentine from CEF

Pray for the children and CEF workers. Monthly prayer updates from the ongoing ministries are prepared and sent out by email or mail each month. If you would like to receive these, please contact us.

The next **CEF Conference** will be on a cruise ship on the Caribbean April 30-May 4th and will include ministry in schools in Nassau, Bahamas. Costs start at about \$520. Register by Feb. 15 at christiancruises.net