



Since 1937

**CEF**  
CHILD EVANGELISM  
FELLOWSHIP®  
*Reaching children worldwide™*

A ministry of Child Evangelism Fellowship of Schuylkill County

# Mountain-Valley News

## The Blessing of Children

DECEMBER 2023

**W**e are thankful for children. This may be implicit coming from a children's ministry, but really – we are thankful for children. Children are joyful – a sad child is a reality, but a rare one. Children so easily give away their smiles, their laughter, their happiness – I wish that attitude was the norm for me, rather than the exception. Children make us believe in make-believe. It is a cold heart that cannot engage children with their jokes, their ideas, their games. Because much of that is as real to children as what they see and feel and hear. I think this is why Jesus says to have faith like a child. Children easily believe in those good old endless things, like hope, and justice, and heroes. Christianity isn't silly (Christians can be a bit odd) but it requires trusting that something is there even though we can't experience it with our senses. This comes easily to children. Lastly, we are thankful for children because they remind us that God is not done with this world. To have children means you believe there will be a future for them. Maybe they don't reach adulthood before The End, but they can experience the joy of walking this earth with a God who loves them very much.

We are thankful for children.

Take time this month to thank God for the children in your life – sons and daughters, nieces and nephews, grandchildren, great grandchildren, your friends' children, the children in our neighborhoods. And I challenge you, because I know you can do it, and because we are called to – reach the children in your life with the gospel. The world will have them if you let it, and the world does not love children. The world may preach open-mindedness, freedom, enlightenment, but we know that's not what is in the world. The world is cruel and cold. A renewing of the mind comes from knowing Christ. True freedom is being saved by Christ, and abundant life does not come from meditating on the universe, but by hearing and doing the will of God, which is found in His Word.

Will you thank God for the children in your life? And can you express that thankfulness by striving to lead the children in your life to Christ?

Thankful for the children,

Dillon Wertman

### Contact information

*101 High Road  
PO Box 486  
Minersville PA 17954  
Phone—570-544-8042  
E-mail—  
office@cefschuylkill.com  
Website:  
www.cefschuylkill.com  
"Like" us on Facebook  
(CEF of Schuylkill County)*

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Mrs. Shelley Hikes

Field Workers  
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**Gifts were given to CEF between October 20—November 21, 2023**

**In Memory of...**



**My grandsons, Derek and Cameron**

*By: Joan Mengel*

**Joe Bittle**

*By: Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Berk*

**Weekly Time of Prayer**

Weekly prayer time.

12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

Stay for the whole hour, come for 15 minutes, 30 minutes~ whatever fits in your schedule.

Let's join together in praying for the children in Schuylkill County.



**Tel-A-Story®**

**1-888-878-8660**

Hear a new Biblical truth story every day. Listen online at

**www.18888788660.**

**Budget Corner**

2023 Budget  
\$160,721.00  
Monthly budget  
\$13,393.

**YTD (Oct. 31, 2023)**  
Income \$146,548.  
Expenses \$160,599.  
[-14,051.]

Online donations are accepted through Tithely.com

**Please keep the following needs in prayer:**

Good News Clubs began the week of October 1.

We are in need of help at the following afterschool Good News Clubs:

- Pine Grove ~ Thursdays 3:30-4:45**
- Schuylkill Haven ~ Tuesdays 3:00-4:15**
- Shenandoah ~ Tuesdays 3:00-4:30**
- West Penn ~ Mondays 3:15-4:30**

We are unable to seek to start clubs in the following schools due to a lack of volunteers:

- Mahanoy Area**
- Minersville Area**
- North Schuylkill**
- St. Clair Elementary School**

**For more information**  
**Contact the CEF office 570-544-8042**

**Stats**  
**October 2023**

- \*Lessons graded: 64
- \*New students: 0
- \*Certificates earned: 8
- \*Professions of faith: 1

**Pray for more children to sign up for the lessons.**



**October 2023 Statistics**



<u>Club</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>	<u>Professions</u>
10 <i>ASGNC</i> ®	176	2
2 Regular clubs	41	1
12 Good News Clubs	217	3

**Other Outreach ministries**

<u>Open Air Events</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>	<u>Professions</u>
Sept. 23 St. Clair Block Party	12	2
Oct. 1 Palo Alto Mountainside Bible Church community outreach	18	0
Oct. 7 Pine Grove One Rock One Community outreach	40	0
<b>Total children</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>2</b>



*“He was excited about it when he brought the paper home yesterday and was telling us all about what they did last year. Thanks.”*

The above testimony is from a grandmother who registered her grandson for the Christmas Party Club we are holding at the office this year. The grandson attended last year and you can see how excited he is to come this year! Our hearts overflow! Pray for our club which is:

Saturday, December 2 (10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.)  
 A light lunch will be served.  
 CEF Office  
 101 High Road  
 Pottsville PA 17901  
 (Just west of Minersville off 901)

If you have a child you would like to attend please call us asap: 570-544-8042 with the child’s name and age. Join us in praying for this exciting outreach.

**Mark Your Calendar**



CEF of Schuylkill County is again hosting a countywide time of prayer to be held on May 18, 2024 (10:00 a.m. to 12 noon). This event is hosted by CEF but is not about or for CEF~ we are going before the Throne of Grace on behalf of our children, schools, those in positions of authority, our churches and pastors, all outreach ministries, etc.

*“I pray because I can't help myself. I pray because I'm helpless. I pray because the need flows out of me all the time, waking and sleeping. It doesn't change*

*God. It changes me.” C.S. Lewis*

*may* 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

**Memorial & Special Tribute Gifts**

*All contributions are acknowledged with a tax-deductible receipt. Please make check payable to: "CEF".  
Send to: PO Box 486, Minersville PA 17954 (or in enclosed envelope)*

From: \_\_\_\_\_

**MEMORIAL:** In memory of \_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**SPECIAL TRIBUTE:** In honor of \_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Please send an appropriate tribute or memorial card to the following name and address:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

No amount will be shown on  
the card unless requested.

