

# **Mountain-Valley News**

# Learn to Fight

**JUNE 2024** 

#### Judges 3:1-2

"These are the nations that the LORD left in the land to test those Israelites who had not experienced the wars of Canaan. He did this to teach warfare to generations of Israelites who had no experience in battle."

What do you think about the world today? I've heard many things from many different people. One might point to an overall drop in crime, poverty, and mortality rates as a sign that the world is actually really good right now. Others say that the world hasn't been worse. Some say the end is near. Personally, I'm not sure it's worse than two back-to-back world wars followed by a cold war between two superpowers who threaten to end the world through mutually assured destruction. But I digress. I think the point I want to make is this: God can work through any circumstance or situation or world event to bring about His glory. So, let me ask a question then - if the world is really as bad as it is going to get, if the end really is near, why have children? Why focus on or minister to children? I think there is an argument that children represent hope. We have children because God is not done yet. Because children can still know the love of Christ, His passion revealed on the cross, even if the world is as dark as it has ever been.

The verse in Judges I shared above sheds some light on this. The Bible tells us why certain nations were left in the Promised Land. It's not because the Israelites were sinful. It's not because they doubted God and were fearful. The reason we are given is that God wants to test those who had not experienced battle. Modern Christians are not called to holy war against nations - we have no Promised Land to establish. But maybe God is teaching us spiritual warfare. Maybe things get bad not because God has left, but because He is beside us, wanting to teach us how to fight against the dark. Who would you rather have next to you in battle than God your Father? My challenge to you is this: don't throw up your hands and give it all up because it's too dark to see. Get a new vantage point, trust that God is near and that He wants to teach you how to fight. Not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers and authorities, the principalities, and powers of this present darkness.

~ Dillon

#### **Contact information**

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"Like" us on Facebook
(CEF of Schuylkill County)

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Linda Fetherolf, Secretary
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Missionary Team

## Gifts were given to CEF between April 24 to May 22, 2024 In Memory of...



My husband, Bill Houtz

By: LaVerne Houtz
George Maurer

By: Roy and Cathy Nagle

In Honor of...

Janet Kramer
By: Mrs. Joan Mengel



Join us in praying for Schuylkill County.

#### 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.

If you would prefer to receive the newsletter via email please send the request to office@cefschuylkill.com. If you would like to be removed from the mailing list please contact CEF by email, or phone: 570-544-8042.

#### **Redner's and Boyers Receipts**

Boyer's IGA \$148.61 Redner's Market \$0

Additional information: **Redner's receipts** are collected in the CEF office and must be totaled and taken to Redner's Market. We have been focusing on ministry preparation and have not had the time to unfold, unroll, and total the basket full of receipts. Please don't stop collecting them for us. **Please note: Do not cut off the words, "save-a-tape" because Redner's will not accept those receipts.** We must throw them away. If anyone would like to volunteer to come to the office and prepare the Redner's receipts we would be grateful.

**Boyer's IGA**~ Do not save Boyer's receipts. When you use the "keycard" with the CEF of Schuylkill County name on the card credit is automatically given to CEF. Boyer's then sends a check for one percent of the total twice a year (July and January).

#### THANK YOU!

#### **Community Aid**

Thank you! We have received \$1,342.90 ~ that's 10,330 pounds of clothes!

Thank you to John and Carol Clauser and Richard and Diane Stock for picking up the clothes at God's Helping Hands and delivering the bags to Community Aid.

Thank you to God's Helping Hands who put the overflow of clothes in the Community Aid bin so that CEF can receive the financial support.

*Thank you* to you~ who give clothes to God's Helping Hands.

Thank you from the families who receive the care cards CEF receives to give to families in need who then shop in the Community Aid store.

# *2024*



June 24-28 Lewistown Valley Tabernacle

614 Valley Road, Tamaqua

July 8-12 Valley View Park

524 Gap St., Valley View

July 15-19 Manbeck's E. C. Church (Pine Grove)

110 Wild Cherry Road, Sch Haven

July 22-26 Christmas Pines Campground

450 Red Church Road, Auburn

July 29-Aug. 2 Bethany E. C. Church 15 N. 13th Street, Ashland

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Cost: \$35.00

Volunteers are needed to serve! Community service hours may be earned for participating high school students. Could you help in the afternoon with crafts or making sno-cones~ That would be wonderful!

Consider providing transportation for a child/children in your neighborhood to attend. Sponsor money is available~ no child is turned away due to lack of funds. Please contact the CEF office 570-544-8042 for more information.

**Craft items needed**: 4" ceramic tiles, paper towels, any size Styrofoam trays, toilet paper, and 8oz. Styrofoam cups.

"The greatest unreached people group in America are the children." Jeremiah Johnson



www.18888788660.



#### **Budget Corner**

2024 Budget \$169,687.80 Monthly budget \$14,140.65

#### YTD April 30, 2024

Income \$63,648. Expenses \$64,731. —\$1,083.

Online donations are accepted through Tithely.com

### Mailbox Club<sup>™</sup> Testimony

The following testimony was sent to Janet by a 6<sup>th</sup> grader who had a horrifying experience no one should have to go through in their life:

I am a "proud Christian and my Savior will always be Jesus Christ to the end and after the end even."

This child was a part of the Mailbox Club in the past. Due to the trauma that occurred in her family, she stopped doing the lessons. But God continued to work in her life and she has decided to continue with the Mailbox Club lessons.

These lessons are a great discipling tool. Remember, spiritually speaking, there are only two groups of people in the world: The saved and the unsaved.

The Mailbox Club lessons are valuable to both groups.



#### **April 2024**

\*Lessons graded: 66

New students: 0

\*Certificates earned: 5

\*Professions of faith: 1

Pray for more children to sign up

