

# MOUNTAIN-VALLEY NEWS

# CEF OF SCHUYLKILL COUNTY

Seeking to reach the children of Schuylkill County with the Gospel

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## “The One Percent”

The month of October, for us, means the beginning of Good News Club<sup>®</sup>. We are so thankful for the small army of volunteers who make it possible to have every one of our clubs. Our Volunteer Training Class in September was packed. It was probably one of the biggest turnouts that we have had. And yet, it is still a small number, and we would gladly welcome more volunteers in order to offer Good News Club to more schools.

But small numbers do not hinder God’s working. In his book, *The Mediterranean Sea Rules*, Robert Morgan writes about the sinking shipwreck that the apostle Paul was on with two of his companions. Together they made up about 1 percent of the souls on board. Yet God saved the lives of every person on that ship because of those three men. Another time, God saved the Israelites with just about one percent of the original army that intended to help Gideon fight the Midianites.

And Jesus said that the kingdom of heaven is like yeast in a loaf of bread, and yeast is about one percent of the ingredients in bread, yet bread won’t rise without it. Morgan writes, “The followers of Jesus are usually a minority in any community, nation, school, team, business, factory or military unit. They’re often marginalized and ignored, often disdained. But they – you and I – are spiritually magnetic, drawing the world toward Christ in ways we don’t even realize.”

Wherever believers go, they are a preserving influence in the world. We thank God for the one percent that represent Christ in the schools of Schuylkill County!

*~Linda*

### Contact information

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Staff  
Mrs. Shelley Hikes  
Mrs. Linda McCarthy  
Mrs. Trixie Ruch

## More Summer Highlights

We received the following letter from a family who attended several of our ministries this past summer:

*"Dear CEF Staff,*

*We sent our son ... to Grace EC day camp (they mean 5-Day Club), Good News Day Camp & the World Cup event at BMHS. Wow! What great experience. This was the first time we have done anything with CEF & we will be back for sure. (Son's) favorite part at each event was the story. Thank you for all the love of Christ you pour into these kids. It takes a lot of work & it is appreciated!"*

Their son sent his own note:

*"Dear CEF, I liked the story at soccer camp!!!! Thank you!"*

Trixie received the following text from a mom who volunteered at one of the 5-Day Clubs:

*"I am so taken aback. These teens are incredible! I've never seen such evangelism in all my years by our youth!"*

## Local Committee

Erik Gottfried, Chairman  
Chris Trapani, Vice-Chair  
Linda Fetherolf, Secretary  
Cathy Nagle, Treasurer  
Members:  
Jean Hurst  
Tom Tilden

## CEF of Schuylkill County Looking for a Local Coordinator

Mark Twain once said, "Reports of my death have been exaggerated." I believe I can say something similar, "Reports of my retirement have been exaggerated." While I did step down from full time hours, I continue to serve with CEF of Schuylkill County in the same capacity as before. It is my hope that the committee will hire someone to take over the job of director while I am still working here (I have no retirement date in mind and love the work I do), so that we would be able to work together in a mentor/mentee role.

The qualifications of the Local Coordinator/Director are:

- A passion to reach children with the Gospel
- Demonstrate leadership characteristics.
- Be skilled in analysis, problem-solving, planning and implementation.
- Be a strategic thinker.
- Be able to take initiative.
- Be able to direct the work of others.
- Have good people skills.
- Have vision and be able to communicate it to others so they will become involved in the ministry.
- Be able to resolve conflict.
- Submit to higher authorities including biblical authority
- Be able to successfully complete CMI and other training as needed.

If you or someone you know may be a good fit for the role of local coordinator/director, please have them call the CEF office for more information and on how to apply.  
570-544-8042

*Shelley Hikes*

## Weekly Prayer Time

**Wednesdays: 11:00-12 noon**

Please join us any Wednesday that works in your schedule.

## Gifts were given to CEF between August 13 - September 21 , 2026

**In Memory of:**



**Farel Becker**

*by: Delores Becker*

*Paul and Mary Jane Olson*

*Ron and Shelley Hikes*



**In Honor of:**

**Isaac Hart**

*by: Mrs. Joan Mengel*

### Mailbox Club

#### August

Lessons graded: 44

Certificates earned: 1

Professions of faith: 0

### Tel-A- Story

**1-888-878-8660**

Listen online

[www.18888788660](http://www.18888788660)



A new biblical truth story is recorded daily.  
And it's FREE!

### Budget Corner

as of August 31, 2026

YTD Income: \$130,011

YTD Expenses: \$118,441

Difference: \$11,570

2026 Budget \$184,865

Thank you for praying! Wilma Schlegel, grandmother to our summer missionary Lillian Szilli, has volunteered to serve as the new Mailbox Club Lady. She is currently in training with Janet Kramer. Continue to lift them both up as they make transition.

### Stay Connected

[office@cefschuykill.com](mailto:office@cefschuykill.com)

[cefschuykill.com](http://cefschuykill.com)

570-544-8042



**Help the children to know what the true meaning of Christmas is all about:  
Host a Christmas Party Club!**

Do you have 2 hours free 1 evening during the holiday season?

What about 2 ½ hours on a Sunday afternoon?

Or how about 4 hours on a Saturday?

There are 8,760 hours in a year, are you willing to give 2 to 4 of them to help the children know the real meaning of Christmas? To teach the children about Jesus the Christ?

Our lesson this year is set in Hawaii and is about a grandfather who takes his grandsons to a hospital on Christmas Eve to distribute gifts to the children who are unable to be home for the holiday. During their visit the the story of Christmas is shared.

We have everything you need to put together a Christmas Party Club: Lesson, game and craft ideas, Scripture verse, decorating ideas, invitations, etc.

**Contact CEF 570-544-8042 for more information on how you can host a  
Christmas Party Club in your area.**



Since 1937

**CEF<sup>®</sup>**  
CHILD EVANGELISM  
FELLOWSHIP<sup>®</sup>  
*Reaching children worldwide™*