

DECEMBER

WINTER GREETINGS

2022

From Alan Snow

State Director of Child Evangelism Fellowship
of Connecticut and Rhode Island



A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

to our volunteers, prayer partners, supporting churches and individual donors for Child Evangelism Fellowship of Connecticut and Rhode Island! The staff and Boards of both states desire to reach children in every community in every part of their states with the Good News of Jesus Christ, and they work closely together with many volunteers to evangelize and disciple the children of both states and establish them in local churches.

It's been an exciting year for CEF of CT and RI, and for me personally. In April, God blessed me with a new role as state director for CEF of CT and RI after 32 years in a secular business role. While I had served on the boards of both state organizations, there has been a lot to learn in leading these organizations, and I thank you for your prayers!



The Children Are Hungry for God's Word!

A school nurse at an elementary school where we hold a Good News Club shared with us an event that occurred in one of her recent Health Classes. They were discussing issues pertaining to self regulation and how students deal with or cope with stressful issues or situations. She gave a range of examples and vignettes and one of the Good News Club members responded that, "**when you have Jesus in your heart you can be comforted when you are sad.**"

We spoke with the nurse about the messages and lessons we teach in the Good News Club and she wanted to thank us by letting us know the impact that the club is already making in the school. She added that numerous students in her class reacted to the statement made by the Good News Club member and asked a range of questions which unfortunately she was unable to answer due to her position and role as the school nurse.

We are happy to say that more children are now seeking to attend this Good News Club!



Train, Train, and Train Some More!

We trained 75 volunteers at five different workshops in both states for the start up of the 2022 fall Good News Clubs and Jesus -You Connection clubs this year.

In addition to these training sessions, more will be conducted in the new year. These training workshops help the volunteers gain new insights for understanding, evangelizing and discipling children using a variety of methods.



Praise in Connecticut!



Praise in Rhode Island!

We are back in the schools!

We began 2022 still unable to conduct Good News Clubs due to pandemic restrictions. We prayed as you did that these doors would open and, after two years of restrictions, they finally have!

We now have four Good News Clubs this fall, three in the Norwich and a new one in Lebanon. Praise God for the ability to resume this important ministry!

We thank the volunteers from Preston City Bible Church and Revelation Church in Bozrah for serving on these teams!

We also resumed some fair ministry and hope to grow in this area in 2023. We had a booth sharing the Wordless Book at the Great Griswold Get Together in July, with 41 children reached by sharing the Gospel with the Wordless Book bracelets.

We also participated in CityFest in Bridgeport, reaching 74 children in both English and Spanish. In total, 17 children professed their faith in Christ through these events.

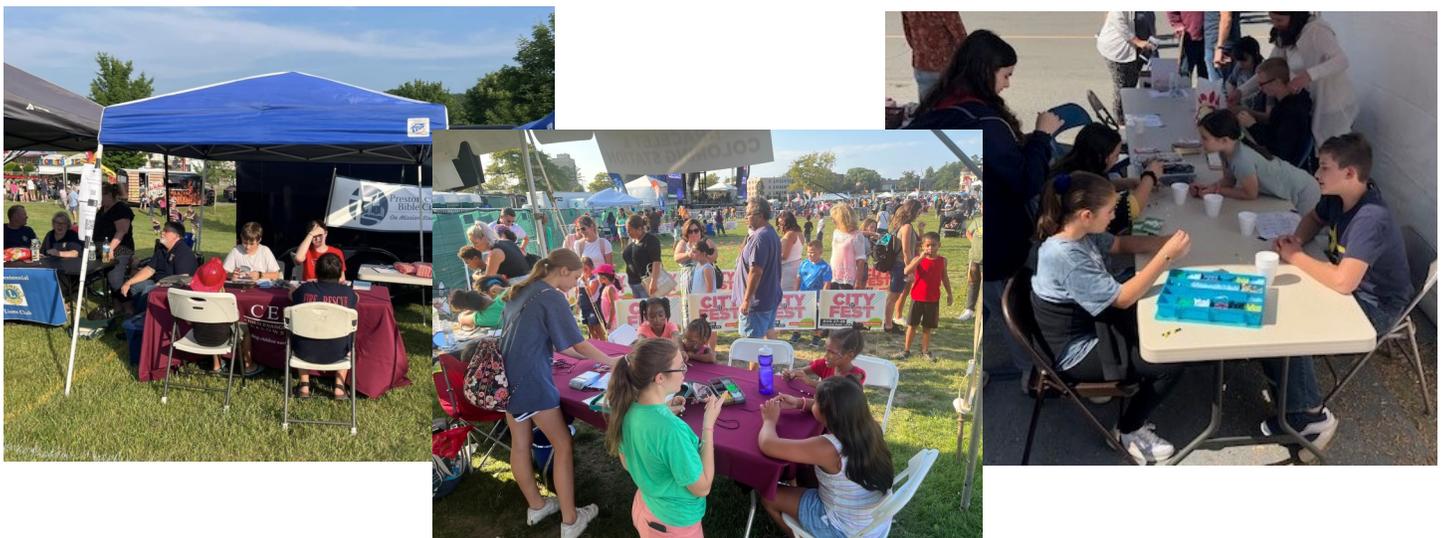
We expanded the number of schools we are in to eleven for the fall 2022 school year with Good News Clubs and Jesus - You Connection Clubs

We now have Good News Clubs in all of the elementary schools in the Coventry School District and in three of the four elementary schools in the Chariho Regional School District.

We have two Jesus - You Connection Clubs in middle schools, one in the Coventry District and one in the Cranston District.

We also continued a very special club we conduct with the Providence Campus Evangelistic Fellowship that includes kids from the local area as well as several children who join via Zoom from a restricted country!

We thank our many volunteers from Wood River Baptist Church, Knotty Oak Baptist Church, Faith Fellowship, Praise Tabernacle, Perryville Bible Church, and Preston City Bible Church who make these clubs possible!



CEF of CT and RI Board and staff members along with volunteers from both states assisted with the fair ministry at the "Big E" this year.



What are our goals for CEF of CT and RI in 2023?

Christian Youth In Action® is a CEF program designed to train high school and college students to reach the boys and girls of our community with the Good News of Jesus Christ. Two teens from Connecticut participated in the CYIA training this summer, held jointly with Massachusetts, and then conducted summer ministry in 5-Day Clubs.

Larry and Debbie Porter, CEF of RI, served as instructors for CYIA again this year. Through their assistance and CYIA students, we were able to help a small church in Fairfield County put on a successful VBS!

Another outcome from the CYIA ministry —the Porters are preparing two CYIA students from Massachusetts for a short-term mission trip to Antigua in February.

There are 3 ways you can help the ministry of Child Evangelism Fellowship in both Connecticut and Rhode Island:

Pray – please pray that our ministries will reach many children in both states, and that many will believe in Christ as their Savior.

Volunteer – most of CEF’s ministry is done by volunteers. Do you have a heart for sharing the Gospel with children? Or would you just like to use your skills and gifts to help the ministry? Please reach out to us at alan@cefri.org.

Give – Please prayerfully consider a gift to CEF of CT or RI. *See enclosed card.*

In Connecticut, we seek to:

- Reach more communities in eastern Connecticut and beyond with more Good News Clubs in public elementary schools
- Increase the number of students in Christian Youth In Action and grow the summer ministry.
- Establish a ministry to the children of Navy families stationed at the New London Submarine base.
- Expand involvement in fair ministry with participation in at least three events

In Rhode Island, we seek to:

- Resume Good News Clubs in the Providence schools
- Begin our first Good News Clubs in the Pawtucket schools
- Begin our reach into other districts in Rhode Island.
- Increase the number of students in Christian Youth In Action and grow the summer ministry.
- Establish a ministry to the children of Navy families stationed at Newport
- Expand involvement in fair ministry with participation in at least two events



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Thank you for your support for Child Evangelism Fellowship of Rhode Island and Connecticut in 2022. May God bless you and your family this holiday season and in 2023!

*In His Grace,
Alan Snow*