

YEAR TWO IN SOUTHERN IOWA

Article by Christiana Callison

This summer we had the opportunity to partner with two Southern Iowa churches to use our inflatables and share the Gospel! We wanted to share two stories from these events.

Working with New Beginnings in Corydon, we hosted our 2nd annual Corydon Good News Spectacular. This year we added a prayer tent. We had a family come under our prayer tent. This family walked straight over to the tent before going on any inflatables or starting any fun. He, his wife and four small children came under the tent as the father began to pray. They did not have a specific prayer request but wanted to pray before starting their fun. The father's prayer was the sweetest, most sincere prayer. He thanked God for the beautiful weather and the opportunity to have fun with his kids. He gave God all credit for the blessings in their lives. What touched my heart was to see a father leading his family in placing Christ first before fun. They stayed to chat for a while. None of the children were begging to get started on the fun, they just patiently waited. To my surprise, one of the little girls had a small purse and inside her purse was her brand-new baby pet hedgehog! Little did I know that little hedgehog was in the middle of the prayer circle the whole time. It was so refreshing to see a family truly place Christ first.

Article continued

At Faith Fellowship in Osceola, we had our 2nd annual Sliding into Fall event. While sharing the Wordless Book with the children, one of the volunteers told us this story.

"I was so blessed by the first group I shared the Wordless Book with. A child and her grandmother came to hear the Wordless Book. Georgia, who was about seven-years-old was very open to hearing the story of salvation. I asked her if she knew anyone who had passed away that knew God. The grandmother started sharing about the death of Georgia's mother. While Georgia did not even remember her mother when she lost her, she still had a longing in her heart for her mother. I explained about our need for a Savior and sin. I also shared that there is an opportunity to see her again and they could reunite in Heaven. Georgia was eager to pray for salvation. The grandmother was very thankful."

PRAYER AND PRAISES

---Praise God for the Good News Clubs that are going on this year. So far, over 70 children have attended Clubs!

---Please continue to pray for recovery for Kerry Lake as he does physical therapy and deals with the pain from shingles.

---Praise God for the 78 children who heard the Gospel through our Southern Iowa events. Two children put their faith in Jesus.

---Praise God for providing for our chapter's financial needs. Thank you for your generous support to make this ministry happen!



CEF®

CHILD EVANGELISM
FELLOWSHIP®

Since 1937

Reaching children worldwide™

Indian Lakes Chapter Happenings

"The best of the church are none to good for this work... Stand ready to help the little ones, and to cheer those whose chief calling is to attend to them." Charles Spurgeon



A YEAR WELL DONE

God has been so good to our chapter! As our year has come to a close, we give God the glory for allowing our chapter to reach 892 children with the Gospel! We look forward to seeing how God will work in this new year. Thank you for partnering with us to reach many local children!

RISING TO MEET THE NEED

Our chapter is led and directed by a local committee. We have been praying for God to add new committee members and two people have joined, meeting that need! We are excited to announce Elliot McKay of Fremont. Elliot has taught *Good News Club*® in his community. He says, “My dad was a summer missionary in high school growing up in Huston. My siblings and I worked as summer missionaries. We developed a true appreciation for the important work of *CEF*. I have always been very grateful for the work this ministry does.”

God has also brought Wanda Bouma of Fremont to our committee. Wanda has been a *Good News Club* helper for many years in the Ottumwa schools! Wanda says, “I am thankful for the opportunity to stay in involved with *CEF* by becoming a new member of the committee. *CEF* is a wonderful organization in presenting the wonderful news of Jesus and learning how to follow Him. Children need to hear the message now more than ever.”

Rhonda VanSoelen has served as our committee’s chairman for the last two years. She joined in January of 2018. After much prayer, she has decided to step down from our local committee. We are very grateful for the years of service and wisdom she has brought to our committee!

Please be in prayer for our local committee as they lead our chapter through many decisions each month.

GOOD NEWS CLUBS HIT THE SCHOOLS

We are excited that Good News Clubs have started again for the 2022-2023 school year! This semester, we have six Good News Clubs in Sigourney, Knoxville, Pella, Monroe, Bussey and Oskaloosa (held in a home). Several club teachers have shared the following stories with us. Praise God for how He is already working in the lives of the children.

---At the *Good News Club* in Bussey, the teacher asked the two children who attended (they were siblings), “You know what John 3:16 says, right?” The older sibling looked at the teacher and said “No, what’s that?” The teacher took the time to share the verse with them and how amazing it is that Jesus came to earth for them!

---At the Pella club, the first week was a dinosaur party club to kick off the year. After the club was over, the teacher was talking to a kindergartener who came to club. The teacher said, “Tell your mom what you learned in *Good News Club* today.” The boy replied “God!” The teacher was shocked as he didn’t think the boy was listening a whole lot, but he was! We praise God that this boy was learning about God and we are excited to build on that each week.

---In Knoxville, the first week there was only one child- a 4th grade girl who had attended last year. She walked in and told the teachers “I remember you from last year!” She was shocked when the teachers remembered her name. After the invitation was given, the teacher asked, “Have you ever believed in Jesus as your Savior?” The girl replied “Yes! Wait. It’s been a while.” After the teacher talked more with her about it, she prayed for assurance of salvation. *Article continued*

After praying, the teacher asked, “If you believed in Jesus as your Savior, where will you get to go someday?” Her eyes glowed as she shouted “Heaven!” What a blessing it was to witness this girl receive assurance of her salvation. If there had been more children, this conversation may have not happened. Praise God for bringing the right child to club that day! Now we pray for growth in this *Good News Club*!

---At the Monroe *Good News Club*, the teachers have been praying for revival in their town and God is answering that prayer through Club. Last year they had 15-20 kids who attended faithfully. There was a *5-Day Club*® this summer held by these teachers and many of those children attended. They had a float in a parade during the summer, advertising Club. This year, at the first meeting they had 26 kids attend. Then the teachers passed out 100+ flyers in the homecoming parade. The next Club meeting had over 40 children! Each time they meet new children are attending. After the Bible lesson, two little boys came for counseling. They both needed Bibles. The 5-year-old told the teacher that he loved Jesus, knew Jesus died for his sins and wanted a Bible, but he couldn’t read. The teacher assured him he would have a Bible and someday he would be able to read it all on his own!



Good News Club at Monroe!