'N FOCUS

Spring 2024
Volume 14, Issue 1

'N Focus: A Prayer Update of *CEF* of Nebraska

Living in Light of Eternity

This statement continues to resonate in my heart and mind. In fact, it is the title of a devotional we are reading through as a family. Often, we become so consumed with the here and now, striving for another dollar, involving ourself in another activity, seeking to be comfortable, that we fail to remember that God did not design us for just the here and now. **He designed us for eternity, placing it in our hearts,** and He commands us to live and do all we do for His glory. So, as we work, parent, play, relax, eat, or whatever we do, we **are to live our life in light of eternity.**

The Lord does not call everyone into full-time vocational ministry, but **He does call all believers into ministry—the ministry of the Gospel.** He calls us to live out the Gospel everywhere. The Lord does call some into full-time vocational ministry, and He also calls a team to surround them with prayer and financial support. As we serve full-time, **we are so thankful for those of you** who pray and also for those who support financially so *CEF* staff can serve full-time. As we begin 2024, **we are needful of more prayer and financial supporters.**

We continually ask the Lord to provide financial resources for *CEF* staff and the ministry of *CEF* in Nebraska. We would again like to **ask you to ask the Lord** how He might have you join with us. It may be that you already support the ministry, and if so, **thank you**! Would you pray about potentially **raising your support**? If you do not already support the ministry, would you ask the Lord if He would have you **join with us**? We need your help to reach even more boys and girls for Christ through...

Your Prayer Support:

- ◊ to pray for the *CEF* ministries: *Good News Club,* Summer *Good News Club (5-Day Club)*, *CYIA,* party clubs
- ◊ to pray that God will strengthen our faith & supply our financial needs
- ◊ to pray for many souls to be saved as children hear the Gospel

Your Financial Support:

- ◊ to help us increase the ministry support another **$5,000-$7,000 per month**

We currently need the Lord to supply over $25,000 per month. As the Lord leads you, please make your check payable to *Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF)*. Your donation is tax deductible, and a receipt will be issued to you. You are also welcome to give online at www.cefonline.com or via the QR code. If you give online, click on the "Support" button in the top right corner, then click on the "CEF NEBRASKA STATE" button. You may choose to set up a recurring gift. Right before you finish setting up your giving, you may designate our name in the "memo" section. **Thank you for asking the Lord what He would have you do!**

CEF
CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP®
Since 1937 *Reaching children worldwide™*

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Extravagant GENEROSITY
The Heart of Giving

Once you pass on into Heaven, to whom will all "your" treasures belong?

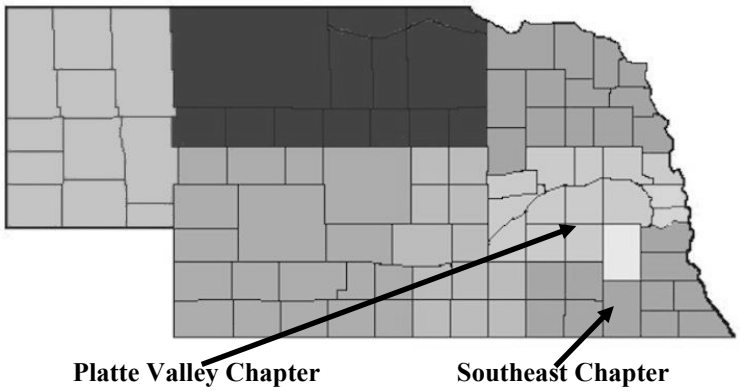
Have you considered **Planned Giving**? A planned gift is any major gift, made in lifetime or at death as part of a donor's overall financial and/or estate planning. These include gifts of equity, life insurance, real estate, personal property, or cash.

Please include ***CEF* of Nebraska** in your planned giving. Use the resources the Lord has given you to continue to impact eternity after you are already there.

Contact us with any questions or for further assistance.

CEF *of Nebraska Vision*

12,500 children—our goal to reach this year with the Gospel of Jesus Christ!



Over 10,100 children heard the Gospel last year in Nebraska with 102 indicating a profession of faith in Christ! This seems such a small number when compared to the estimated 250,000 elementary aged children in Nebraska, but because of the dedicated staff and volunteers, these 10,159 children were able to hear the Gospel!

To accomplish the goal of reaching 12,500 children, we need to see the Lord establish four new *CEF* chapters in Nebraska and bring full-time, fully funded missionaries to the chapters. We have been working on building a committee for the Platte Valley Chapter and seeking for missionaries for that chapter and the Southeast Chapter.

However, as vital as these chapters and missionaries are, we need the Lord to raise up 100-200 additional volunteer team members for *GNC*s, Summer *Good News Club*s *(5-Day Club*s), fair ministries, party clubs, and *CYIA*.

God Continues to Answer Prayer!

"**Can I have a Bible?"** a *Good News Club* child asked. When he was given a Bible, he was so excited! The next couple of weeks he brought his new Bible to school, and would excitedly turn in his Bible to the memory verse they were memorizing that week. This has happened often throughout the school year.

47 *Good News Clubs a*re currently being held weekly in Nebraska. **Over 4,000 children** have been impacted with the Gospel message so far this school year! That is double the number of children from all of last year! The Lord is bringing more children to the clubs than in previous years. Three new *GNC*s have began in January, and we are fairly certain at least another two will begin in February. We are prayerful that even more clubs will begin before the end of this school year.

With *CEF* existing in nearly every country of the world and in all 50 states, the attacks from the enemy come regularly. Here in the USA, one such attack comes from the After-School Satanist Club. Their goal is to provoke fear and to ultimately shut down *GNC*s. Please help us pray against these clubs, and for the Lord to use the negative attacks for His glory. Pray also superintendents and principals will easily allow the *GNC*s to begin.

Musgrave's Moments

A new year is upon us. It seems the older that we and our children grow, the busier life seems to be! You have probably noticed that also. Basketball and now speech and debate have stretched our schedules, but it has been rewarding to see our children grow in their physical skills as well as their vocal and communication skills. These are skills and abilities that the Lord can use not only now, but also later on in their lives. One of the categories of their speech is apologetics. They have nearly 80 categories of theology and its application they need to research and be ready to defend. This is their third year, and each year they grow stronger.

Isaac continues to gain confidence in speaking. Sometimes he needs a little extra prodding, but he is growing in his ability to communicate. He is playing basketball Saturday mornings again, when we aren't traveling for his older siblings basketball games or speech and debate. He is preparing to write and present a speech on former President Thomas Jefferson for his Classical Conversations class.

Ethan's large school project this year is preparing for a mock trial. This requires studying in detail a court case and being prepared to act out the side of the prosecution and the defense. His class is spending a great amount of time in preparation for the mock trial which will take place later in April. As basketball begins to wind down for him, he is spending more time preparing for speech and debate.

Ariana has many projects as she wraps up her senior year. She is working on a 20 page thesis, preparing for her senior piano and harp recital, practicing her speeches and team policy debate, keeping up with her school work, all while getting ready for graduation in May—and of course seeking the Lord for direction after high school.

Please keep us in your prayers. Let us know how we can pray for you. May the Lord bless you richly!

Become a Partner with CEF of Nebraska

Partnership, according to the dictionary, is an association of two or more people towards a common goal or purpose. Partnerships come in many forms: A partnership where you volunteer your time, make connections, or give financially. Whatever partnership(s) you choose, it is a bond between you and others.

Luke 10:2 states that the harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few. A partnership of your time is most likely the most valuable as you get a daily deposit of 86,400 seconds of which none is saved and all is spent each and every day.

Philippians 2:3: "Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourself." Is there anyone you know that you could invite to partner with *CEF*? What connections can you make? Whom do you know that loves Jesus Christ and children?

2 Corinthians 9:7: "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. Consider a partnership where you leave a financial legacy that will speak for you years after you go home to glory. This comes from having a solid financial plan and a solid estate plan. Don't leave anything to chance, hoping that it all comes out right—it never does.

As 2024 unfolds before us, partner with us in bringing hope and an eternal assurance that is promised by God in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

MEMORIALS AND HONORS

That Live to Serve Others

In memory of Lela Adams Frantz

by

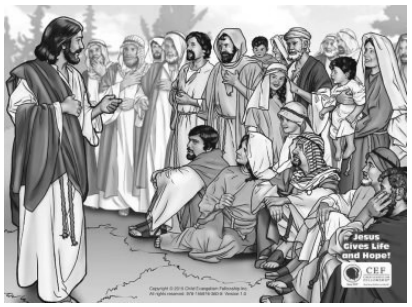
Mary Ann Kramer, David & Nancy Baltensperger, Richard Lewis, Raymond and Sherri Rodgerson

In memory of John "Jack" Nebelsick

by

Carmen Hill Grant

Easter Party Club



March 31st is the day set aside this year to celebrate Easter, or rather, **Resurrection Sunday**. This is often a major holiday for people to go to church. Why not also use it as an **extra opportunity to impact children and families** who don't attend your church?

Host an **Easter Party Club!** You can host a club at a **nearby public elementary school gym**. We can help work on this with you. You could also host it at a **community center in your town**. These are "neutral" locations, often encouraging more people to come.

Hosting an Easter Party Club **at your church** is also a great opportunity to reach more families. Wherever you hold the party, be sure to invite them to your Easter services on Resurrection Sunday.

Christian Youth in Action (CYIA)

Does your church have enough volunteers? There just never seems to be enough, right? How can that be changed? **Invest in the youth of the church.**

Find the young people who show a desire to grow in their walk with the Lord, come alongside them and say, "We have seen you growing in your walk with the Lord, and we are excited for you! Because of that, we want to encourage you by sending you (and your friend) to a summer training called ***Christian Youth in Action (CYIA)*.** When you come back, we'd like to see you get involved in helping teach Sunday School, or AWANA, or children's church, etc." Churches who have invested this way in their youth have seen great results in the lives of the young people and in their church.

Three *CYIA*'s will be held in Nebraska this summer: ***CYIA* Lincoln** at Lincoln Christian School in Lincoln, NE, **May 26-June 1, 2024.** ***CYIA* East** at Twin Lakes Bible Camp in Manson, IA, **May 26-June 1, 2024**, and ***CYIA* Tri-Cities** at Nebraska Christian School in Central City, NE, **June 2-8, 2024**. More information and applications can be found at www.cefnebraska.org/cyia.

P.S. Thank you for supporting us. We appreciate all your prayers. Psalm 28:7 The Lord is my strength and my shield; My heart trusted in Him, and I am helped; Therefore my heart greatly rejoices, and with my song I will praise Him.