



CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP OF EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA, INC.

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January 2022 Newsletter

Dear Friend,

Happy New Year!

There are so many things to be thankful for starting this New Year. For many of us this is a chance to have a fresh start with **new** challenges and new dreams to conquer. Even the Lord reminds us about newness that can be found in Him. ***“Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.” (Isaiah 43:19).*** This verse reminds us of what God has done with Child Evangelism Fellowship of Eastern PA, Inc. over the past two years. In the midst of all the challenges, our Lord has brought about **newness** to the ministry.

We have hired **new** young staff that love the Lord and help us continue to increase our outreach to children through **new** creative ways. We are working on reaching children from different cultures and languages who live in our counties. We are hiring more bilingual staff and have begun to have our curriculum translated in two different languages. We now have clubs that only have children from other countries.

In addition to our normal outreach in Eastern PA, technology is allowing us to reach children weekly in 26 different states and 2 countries. I have been blessed to give the Gospel message to children and parents from another nation with a translator while sitting at my desk at State Headquarters. We have empowered **new** staff in their 20s, who have taken over the recruiting efforts with **new** ideas, **new** energy, and **new** methods to connect with college recruits for the ministry. We are seeing a great increase of interest now from college students because of their efforts.

We are also working on **new** methods to increase our training ability, which will allow us to overcome the obstacles that the pandemic has caused all of us. We have a big vision for this and are working on this **new** vision. One of the greatest new challenges that the pandemic has caused is access to children. We have turned to a **new** method of access by creating a new phone app that is allowing free and constant contact with parents, teachers, and children. **We recognize there is no substitute for face-to-face**

interaction and will not change our ministry approach; but we also recognize how children interact today through technology and want to utilize this tool for more connectivity and outreach possibility. The app is being tested in Philadelphia with the vision to make it a ministry-wide tool. We are planning ahead for potential obstacles and preparing in light of this new vision from our Lord.

With a heavy heart, we also want to celebrate and remember the lives and faithful service of many dear saints that God has called home in 2021. We have included the many memorial tributes that many of you have made in honor of them in 2021. We do pray for their families as we celebrate the gift of each life. Thank you to all of you, family and friends, that have given in remembrance and honor of them.

In addition to the **newness**, we continue to give thanks for all of you who partner with us. We are thankful for the faithfulness and wisdom of our State Board guiding the ministry through this tremendous time. We also give thanks to all the staff and committees in each county that work so diligently to reach the children for Jesus Christ. We are so thankful for all the teachers who labor faithfully each week teaching the children about the Good News of Jesus. We are thankful for all the volunteer workers who help the staff and teachers each week in so many ways. We continually give thanks for all the prayer partners and financial partners. **We give thanks for those whom our Lord has designed this ministry and called all of you to be a part of reaching – the children.** We also give praise to our Lord for trusting us to show the love of Jesus to all the children He brings to us each week.

We are so thankful to our Lord who desires to give us newness in Him. The pandemic has brought about many changes and new challenges to all of our lives. **For CEF of Eastern PA, Inc., He has used this time to bring about a newness through new ideas, new staff, and new energy.** We are thankful that God still chooses to use the ministry and outreach of CEF of Eastern PA, Inc. to reach many new children each week with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

In Him,



Pastor Doug Williams
Executive Director



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