

## CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP OF EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA, INC.

January 2024

Dear Friend,

When the prophet Moses came to the end of his life on earth, he granted the responsibility of leading the nation of Israel to Joshua, his successor. Joshua must have felt weighed down by the monumental task of leading God's people to a fresh start in the Promised Land. Knowing this, God commanded Joshua at the beginning of his ministry, "Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest" (Joshua 1:9). Throughout Joshua's ministry, this promise from God rang true both for Joshua and for the people of Israel as they began their fresh start as a nation.

As we have been teaching the children in Good News Clubs the incredible stories of Joshua, I cannot help but relate to Joshua in the monumental task of leading a group of God's people to a fresh start. I often refer to former director Dr. Mable Ruth Wray as a Moses-like figure in the ministry of Child Evangelism Fellowship of Eastern PA. Her years of godly leadership of this ministry resulted in thousands of children coming to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Many are still living in her legacy.

Leading the ministry to reach the children of today's post-Christian society is no small feat. Perhaps you have been in a similar situation, having to remind yourself, as I have, of God's promise to be with us each time we face another fresh start. We as a ministry have leaned upon this promise again and again, especially over the past year.

Many fresh starts have begun in 2023 and will continue in 2024. The Lord has called several new directors and staff members to the ministry, creating fresh starts in many of the county chapters. Tioga County welcomed Mark Werner as their new director-in-training this year. Wayne and Pike Counties welcomed Sarah Halloway as Ministry Coordinator after the retirement of long-time director, Bob Longenecker. Berks County also faced a transition as their assistant director, Matthew Wear, stepped up to become director-in-training after the resignation of Sara Bowers. All of these transitions and more have created fresh starts in many of our chapters.

Our literature and design teams have also experienced a fresh start as they have begun the long process of updating our materials to meet the needs of today's child. This includes a new "look" for much of our literature, as well as brand new, engaging illustrations to visualize our Bible lessons (pictured below is a scene of Joshua and Moses from one of this year's lessons, as well as a "Main Truth" card from our Samuel series that shows our new "look"). The content of our materials is also being evaluated for it's relevancy and application to the modern child. Our curriculum, too, has had a fresh start this year.

Like Joshua and the Israelites, CEF of Eastern PA has encountered the beginning of a new chapter. We as a ministry are looking forward to what the Lord will do in the next year as we continue this fresh start. Thank you

for joining us in the increasingly vital mission to reach children with the Gospel. We truly could not do it without you.

For the children,

**Doug Williams** 

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR









Thank you for believing, as we do, that boys and girls in Eastern Pennsylvania need to have an opportunity to hear God's Word and be taught how to believe in and receive the Lord Jesus as their Saviour.

Your special Memorial and Tribute Gifts to CEF of Eastern PA, Inc. have a vital part in meeting this need now and leaving a legacy for generations to come.



In tribute to Dr. Jeffrey Davis

Norman Price

In memory of Dr. Mable Ruth Wray

Ellen Whipple Susan Hoover

In memory of Valerie Williams

Jeffery Edmunds Marian Williams Daniel Williams Caleb Williams

In memory of Joshua & Valerie Williams

Jeffery Edmunds

In memory of Virginia & Roger Landis

Mary Landis

In memory of Janice Deeter

Mary Landis

In memory of Marty Geise

Rodney Long

In memory of Patricia Gleanson

Helen Anderson

In memory of Mr. & Mrs. George Derck

Dennis Derck