



CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP OF EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA, INC.

December 2024



Dear Friend,

Every day as children, my three siblings and I would sit in our dining room to eat, feet dangling, gazing at the framed photo hung there above the table. For my entire life, the same photo hung in the same place on the wall. It pictures a white-haired man sitting beside his Bible and a loaf of bread. The man's head is bowed in quiet prayer.

Former director Mable Ruth Wray gifted the print to my parents many years ago, and it represents a legacy of prayer and faithfulness with an impact too vast to even calculate. While cleaning out my mother's house earlier this year, my siblings and I decided that the photo should go back to where it came from—CEF State Headquarters, in Mable Ruth's former office.

While this photo, which I learned is called, "Grace," may have not caused me a second thought as a child, as an adult, I realize its deep value and what it represents in my life and my family. It became a powerful reminder of how we as believers should start our day, spend our day, and end our day—in prayer. This is the legacy left to me by my parents and by Mable Ruth Wray.

Perhaps it takes a whole lifetime of walking with the Lord to truly understand the power of prayer. **There are many gifts you can give your children and grandchildren this Christmas, but don't underestimate one of the greatest gifts you can give: your example of the heart of dependency that comes with daily prayer.** As James 5:16b says, *"The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."*

This is a gift that we long to give all children in Eastern Pennsylvania. Yet we need your faithful prayers in order to continue to do so.

Philadelphia County Update

Thank you for your prayers and support surrounding the very difficult decision to close our Philadelphia County chapter. **It has been a hard journey, but God has been with us every step of the way.** We are in the process of selling the buildings in Philadelphia, and God has provided an opportunity to move the office and materials to a space in a local church.

We have good news! God has raised up Roberta Jackson to continue the ministry in Philadelphia. Although on a much smaller scale, we praise the Lord that Roberta, along with our team of faithful volunteers, will help equip eleven continuing Good News Clubs as well as some summer ministry programs. With someone to manage the local office, ministry can continue in some capacity there in the city. This in itself is a miraculous answer to prayer!

Matching Gift Giving Opportunity

We are excited to share with you that the Lord has provided a matching gift to begin the 2025 ministry year. **A generous donor has offered to match up to \$10,000 that will springboard the ministry into this next year.** This opportunity begins this holiday season and will end on Valentine's Day, February 14, 2025. Would you prayerfully considering giving toward this matching gift in order to double your impact? As always, financial gifts to the ministry are accepted by check or online at cefepa.net/donations. If you feel led to give, please designate your gift for our "Matching Gift" fund.



2025 Prayer Needs

As we move into 2025, please join us in bringing these requests before the Lord:

1. Please pray first of all that the Lord would guide us in recruiting **more laborers** to fill various staff, committee, and teaching positions throughout the counties.
2. We also ask for special prayer to connect with **the next generation of ministry partners** that the Lord is raising to take up the torch of bringing the Gospel to children.
3. Another priority in the ministry for 2025 will be **revitalizing our training programs** in order to equip this next generation with the decades of experience that the ministry carries.
4. Please pray for God's wisdom and direction as we seek to add **new members to our State Board**.
5. Lastly, please pray for the **finances** for all the counties and for State Headquarters. We have shared with you the various financial challenges throughout the years, and, although the Lord continues to provide, we still covet your prayers in this area.

Thank You

"Thank you" never seems sufficient when we consider the prayers, volunteer time, and support that you have offered this ministry over the years, especially in these last few as they have been particularly challenging. Child Evangelism Fellowship of Eastern PA, Inc. would not exist without you. Your faithfulness, love, and devotion to our Lord has allowed this ministry to be effective for many years, and will continue to have an impact for many more to come.

On behalf of the State Board and State Headquarters staff, we pray that you and your family have a blessed and Merry Christmas!

For the children,



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