

Every Child.

Every Nation.

Every Day.

Good News Review

"By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

John 13:35



Love of God in our Culture

Did you know that Saint Valentine brought the messages of God's love for us and for Godly loving marriages to a culture that was hostile to the Gospel of Christ and Godly marriage? The legend of St. Valentine has some validation from an archeological find in Rome and some historical correlations.

St. Valentine was a Christian leader in Rome during the rein of Emperor Claudius. During this time in the 3rd century, the Roman Empire was in decline and rife with immorality. Additionally Rome was suffering from numerous wars externally as well as many internal uprisings. As a result the Roman army was suffering from massive desertion and very low recruitment. This led Emperor Claudius to outlaw marriage, stating that marriage was the cause of the problems with soldiers.

St. Valentine defied the law and took the message of the Gospel to anyone who would listen, and he secretly would provide marriage ceremonies for those seeking marriage. As a result Claudius had Valentine arrested. Claudius eventually put him to death, after St. Valentine attempted to convert the Emperor. There are many traditions surrounding St. Valentine, but one thing is clear... he loved God's message of love more that his own life and he demonstrated that we should share the Gospel to a hostile world.

Though we may have some recent positive political shifts taking place in our country right now, the underlying problem of unbridled sin and hostility to Christ is still prevalent. We should remember that God is in the business of encountering those hard hearts with the Love of Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit working through us, as we bring the good news of Christ. And of course the greatest example that people will see is our love for one another. So lets be about our Father's business with hearts overflowing with genuine love for people and especially our fellow Christians.

"By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:35ESV

What's Happening in Mid-Columbia

On January 4th the CYIAers put on a little celebration for Julie Fritts, in honor of her years of service and love to CEF, Mid-Columbia and Oregon. People came from all around to pay tribute to Julie. We had many laughs and some tears as numerous stories were shared. The CYIA students put on a Missionary Story of Julie's life. It was well done and quite fun and informative. David McGaughey presented a picture, created by CEF illustrator, Jeremy Sniatecki, that was an incredible portrayal of Julie's heart for children. In the end Julie was presented with a gift. Julie has always wanted a female Corgi puppy (which are a bit expensive and of course require time and attention). The CYIA members and other CEF supporters contributed to the purchase of a pure bread Pembroke Welsh Corgi and gave her to Julie at the end of the Missionary Story. Julie has named her new Corgi pup "Queen B", with the nickname "Queeny". The "B" in Queen B is a subtle nod to when Julie calls you a "Brat" it is regarded has the highest form of affection.

We had Teacher Training for this next quarter of Good News Club curriculum, "God's Faithfulness: Return to Canaan". It was my first Teacher Training where I was the primary teacher. It was good and we had great discussion and fellowship. If you are interested in the curriculum we have it in stock now and available for purchase at the office in The Dalles.

Pre-Training is coming, and the planning committee came together and divvied up the responsibilities. Several of us on the committee are new to coordinating Pre-training, so lots of questions and discussion and training took place. We all are excited and have jumped right in to the preparation. Pre-Training is scheduled for April 11th-13th.

It has been said "Nothing happens until we pray." Please be in prayer with us as we continue in the tasks the Lord has given us to do. Blessing to you all.

How can I help out at Mid-Columbia CEF?

Update on the Snow Tires for the CEF Van...

All the funds needed for the van tires has been graciously donated and we are now transporting kids safely across the frozen tundra on studded tires. Thank you so much for giving and praying for this need.

Our annual budget is a bit short in our forecast. Due to cost increase in our economy, we have calculated a shortfall for the year overall. Please prayerfully consider increasing your giving. Even 5-10% by everyone will help.

We always need volunteers to help us fold, tape, and address our monthly newsletter if you would like to help with that. We usually send out about 370 newsletters monthly. As you can see from the picture to the right, we take anyone.

Thank you for your financial and prayerful support in this ministry... God Bless You.

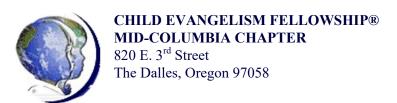
New Addition to the Office

This is Winston. He has recently joined our family and frequently comes to the office. He definitely gives Moxy the cat competition... at least in cuteness.



CYIA Honors Julie Fritts





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Return Service Requested

February 2025

The New Curriculum is now available at the CEF Mid-Columbia office

