

CEF NORCAL CENTRAL COAST

Serving Monterey, Santa Cruz and San Benito Counties since the 1960's

Every Child. Every Nation. Every Day.

Fall 2020

From Cussing to Confession

It's the first day of Good News Club via Zoom. You've been leading a Club for many years but this is your first time doing so online. Perhaps you're feeling a little nervous. All is going well until... one of the children types the f-word in the chat. Yes, *that* f-word.

How do you react? Do you ignore it, or make a big deal about it, or yell? Or do you offer correction and grace? Thankfully, our team lead did the latter in this very situation. He explained that bad language wasn't appropriate for Club and forgave the child.

Fast forward a week: you've spoken to the mom of the child and the child has apologized. You're back in Club and it's time to share the invitation to accept Jesus as Savior. Lo and behold, the child who had cussed was now wanting to hear more about the Gospel. And **during the one-on-one counseling, she receives Jesus as her Lord and Savior!**

We are thankful to work in a ministry where **there's a weekly opportunity for children to respond to the Holy Spirit.** We are also thankful to serve a God who's kindness leads us to repentance (Romans 2:4).

*“If you really
want to
experience God,
go and make
disciples.”*

-Francis Chan

Thank You!

These churches have graciously allowed us to host in-person Good News Clubs on their campus. Photos to the left.

1. Cypress Community Church in Salinas
2. Heritage Free Will Baptist Church in Greenfield
3. Grace Church Monterey Bay in Seaside

Your support means the world to us — thank you!



Good News Clubs at Cypress, Heritage & Grace Church (left to right)

"Start children off in the way they should go and even when they are old they will not turn from it." ~Proverbs 22:6

From the Director's Desk



Written by Becca Lamont

This time last year we were wrapping up our second annual Fundraising Banquet. I was only 3 months into my new job here as local director. I remember being so encouraged about how the evening turned out and couldn't wait to plan our next one. Unfortunately, we weren't able to host one this year due to COVID so we changed things up and hosted our first virtual auction instead. I am happy to report that **we surpassed our goal of \$10,000!** Thank you to each and every one of you who donated or bid on items. The funds raised will **enable us to continue to reach new children with the Good News of Jesus here on the Central Coast.**

Additionally, I would like to take this chance to **thank and honor Dave Anderson**, who is stepping down as our Board Chairman. Dave has **served the Lord faithfully and in our ministry for a number of years.** Thankfully, he will continue to help in a Good News Club. We love you, Dave! **We thank God for your leadership and direction** over the years!

From the Assistant's Desk

What kind of social media content are you interested in?



Written by Elizabeth Chavez

Perhaps more encouraging quotes, bible verses or photos of kids in Clubs. No social media? No problem! We can email you weekly with updates. Email me at elizabeth.chavez@cefnorcal.org
Elizabeth.chavez@cef

The Battle Belongs to the Lord!

God is moving in amazing ways! Please join us in giving the Lord praise & praying for our ministry

PRAISES:

- Our 6 Good News Clubs have gotten off to an excellent start this year. So far we have had one child give her life to Jesus!
- The Lord was very generous to us through our first ever virtual auction (more to the left); we reached our goal!

REQUESTS:

- For more local board members who can supply vision and ideas to move the ministry forward.
- To evangelize even more children. Please pray they will get into a Neighborhood or Zoom Club.



Listening to a memorized Bible verse

Prayer for Clubs

If we are sure of one thing in this Gospel ministry, it's that the evil one *does not* want the children we're working with to turn their lives over to Jesus. It's with that in mind that we are asking for people to pray for our Good News Clubs *while they are meeting*. Would you join us in this very important part of our work?

Choose a day and time, put a reminder in your phone and pray. It's that easy!

- Mondays 3-4 pm
- Tuesdays 7-8 pm
- Wednesdays 4-5 pm
- Thursdays 3:30-5 pm
- Fridays 3-4:30 pm
- Saturdays 10-11:30 am

We send emails to our prayer warriors on a monthly basis. If you'd like to be added to our list, tell us by sending your email to:
**centralcoast@
ceforcal.org**



Girls at one of our Neighborhood Good News Clubs

New Ways of Reaching Kids (and others who are listening in)

Out of the five years I have been helping with Good News Clubs, this is the first year Clubs have not been in the local schools. It can be intimidating having to change a system that you are comfortable with, but God has proven faithful as we have transitioned Clubs to Zoom and Neighborhood settings. While adjustments have been made for our Clubs, **the focus remains the same: sharing the Good News of Jesus with children every week.**

Trading classrooms for grassy lawns and chairs for hula hoops has been worth the new interactions our volunteers are having with the kids. One Club is held in a Salinas neighborhood and the volunteers who live there have had **opportunities to form relationships with the kids outside of regular Club time.** Our two Clubs via Zoom have also shown God's goodness; from the very first week, their Clubs went off without a hitch!

We are excited for the opportunities that our Clubs via Zoom open up. We realize that siblings and parents may also be listening in to the bible lessons. **With Zoom Clubs, the Gospel outreach goes further than ever before!**



Written by Christy Candelario

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How Do I Read This?

One of the things that has become clear through our ministry is how **Bible illiterate many children are**. Even children who come from Christian homes don't always know how to look up verses. The *Wonder Time* component of Good News Clubs allows us to teach them how to begin to understand the Word of God and show them what an amazing book it is. We are privileged to have the



Digging into the Word

opportunity to **get an Adventure Bible into the hands of all GNC kids**. We know that God's word does not return void (Isaiah 55:11) so we boldly give a bible to all who ask for one. Pictured here is Christy Candelario explaining how to find a verse in Psalms to a young girl in a Neighborhood Club. The girl **received her bible from us this summer and carries it around proudly**.

Central Coast's Local Board:

Dave Anderson, Chairman
April Kobayashi, Vice Chair
Kris Diaz, Secretary
Sally Boden, Member

Central Coast's Local Staff:

Becca Lamont, Local Director
Christy Candelario, Ministry
Coordinator
Elizabeth Chavez,
Administrative Assistant

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