

CEF®



Winter
NEWSLETTER



Child Evangelism Fellowship® of Snohomish County

The Greatest of These is Love

By this time of year, there are usually two very clear results from those who made a New Year resolution in January; those who compromised and as a result, never got going on their goals, and those who passionately continued and are still going strong. We all wish to be the latter of the two, but experience tells us there are many variable as to why people do not find success right away, and despite our efforts, we fail.

What doesn't fail? LOVE.

The Bible tells us in 1 Corinthians 13, also known as "The Love Chapter" this simple truth. It reads as follows: *"4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. 8 Love never fails."*

Reading this context of scripture makes it believable that if we possess what this passage describes,

we would need nothing else. Yet, this word has to be one of the most abused expressions in the English language. We love our spouse... but we also 'love' pizza! Clearly the true meaning must be emphasized or implied outside of the word, itself.

As I ponder on the ministry to children and the lives that I have seen touched, the prayers that have been submitted by these kids, and the families represented, I am forced to ask, "What do these kids really know of love?" A good number of the children I have reached this year came from broken families. Precious as they are, do they understand when we use descriptions like "Father's love"? With Holy Spirit involved, I believe they do.

As we share Bible stories and the lessons in them, we share the Love of God and Salvation through His Son. The kids witness the love we share for them and that it is genuine - a love that can only come from God. (1 John 4:7-8)

As we teach these amazing little believers, their faith is built up. They bring their requests before God

with child-like faith, and there is nothing too big or too small to ask of Him. As they learn and memorize scriptures they gain hope and peace. And the Love Chapter leaves us with this; *"13 And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love."*

Many will celebrate 'love' this month in many different ways for many different reasons. Our Good News Clubs® and party clubs will be sharing the greatest love ever known!

Thank you for your prayers, participation and support. I love you with the love of the LORD!

- Mary Garay, Director

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New story every day!

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1 John 4:7-8

"Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love."

Exciting Club Reports!

Good News Clubs®
- Debby Bohl for the Team



Fun Winter Facts:

It is with great joy that we report that we have seen glimpses of spiritual interest and growth among the kids who are attending club this year. One or two are giving attention each week to memorizing the Bible verses and/or doing the Bible verse activities. Several have requested Bibles, received Bibles as gifts, or chosen a Bible for their prize, and we spend time during club teaching them how to use their Bibles. Praise God with us for the way His Spirit works in each of our hearts to draw us to Himself and to shape us into the image of His Son.

The Good News Club curriculum for this year has been rewritten to incorporate some great ideas from those who have used it over the past several years. For example, at the end of each unit of study we now have a review lesson in a party format. At our last one, which had a Skittles theme, there were 14 kids who came. Our snack included Skittle Cookies. We divided into small groups and dramatized the stories of the unit, Jesus Is God Who Cares for People. Our songs, as always, had lots of very active motions and gave us yet another way to rehearse the truths we have been learning from God's Word. All of us enjoyed reviewing our Bible memory verses in a 5-in-a-row type game we called Skittles! We were all winners and went home with more than just Skittles, but plenty of those, too! The youngster who trusted Jesus as her Savior at the beginning of the club year, when hearing one of the teachers talk about the importance of that step of faith, piped up, "I did that!" We were so grateful to hear that testimony of her faith. Thank You, Jesus!

Please join us in calling on the Lord for His steadfast love, patience, wisdom, mercy, and grace for each and every one of our clubbers. We are truly blessed and glad that they are coming and want them all to be able to hear and respond to God's powerful, Life-giving Word! We thank you so much for your partnership with us in prayer. To Him be all the glory!

- 10 inches of snow equals one inch of liquid rain
- Sapporo, Japan is the worlds "snowiest" city. It averages 630 cm of snowfall each year!
- Snow can fall from clear skies when the temperature is below -10 degrees Celsius. It can be as warm as +5 degrees Celsius and still snow.
- Every snowflake has 6 sides.
- Mount Kilimanjaro, in Tanzania, is the only permanent snowcap within sight of the equator.
- Over 80% of the world's fresh water is locked up in snow or ice.
- A single snowstorm can drop 39 million tons of snow, carrying the energy equivalent to 120 atom bombs!





June 19-27

cyiaTM
CHRISTIAN YOUTH IN ACTION

Are you called to impact the lives of Christian teens? Do you have a burden to see teens develop their evangelistic and discipleship skills? Our Christian Youth In Action® (CYIA™) Training Camp does just that. Every summer we hold our nine-day training camp at a location in the Pacific Northwest where a team of staff and volunteers help teens and pre-teens learn how to effectively share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with children in the local community.

We had 111 teens attend CYIA 2014. Those teens reached 416 children with the Gospel message. 49 of those children made first-time professions of faith in Jesus and 53 children were assured of their previous salvation commitments! Those little children coming to the Lord wasn't the only way He worked during our camp. Christian friendships were made, teens connected to others from across Washington State, making new and deep friendships, and those teens learned that no matter how young they may be, they can be a missionary wherever they may be planted and God will use their experiences to minister to the hearts of people young and old. After camp, the teens have a commitment to serve in their communities by assisting with local 5-Day Clubs. State-wide they taught or assisted in 193 clubs, reaching 3,759 children, 265 of those asking Jesus to be their Savior.

We at CEF of Washington are committed to continually help this program be successful as it grows. To do that, we will be moving the location of CYIA 2015 to Multnomah University in Portland, Oregon with our 5-Day Clubs being hosted in near-by Clark County, Washington. This location offers quality accommodations, food service, and room for growth. We have taken the task of trusting the Lord to help us raise \$25,000 to make this possible without raising the rates for our attendees above \$395. \$12,500 of that would be used as our down-payment to hold the dates of the 2015 camp

Prayer Luncheon

COME JOIN US! Our Prayer Luncheon this month will be held on **Monday, February 23rd at 12pm**, we will have a delicious lunch prepared by our volunteers and hear from our guest speaker. We together go to the Lord in prayer and agreement for the needs of the chapter.

This month we are blessed to have **Kinder Smoots** as our guest speaker.

Kinder Smoots serves as the Executive Director of Eagle Wings disAbility Ministries, serving the relational needs of adults with disAbilities, their caregivers and families, in Snohomish County. Eagle Wings has the opportunity to train volunteers to love others well, and discover the unique giftedness that each person has. Serving as a bridge between the community of adults with special needs and faith communities, we provide an opportunity for community members to discover that each person has value, and if we allow it, others can become our teachers. There is no



"them" or "us" but we are all human beings, on a journey needing love, faith, companionship and community.

Hope to see you there!

"The Bible is one of the greatest blessings bestowed by God on the children of men. It has God for its author; salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture for its matter.

It is all pure."

John Locke

(June 19-27) and the other \$12,500 would be used as an ongoing deposit for the years to come.

Your investment in this ministry doesn't just have an impact during the summer. In a time where we are seeing young people leave the church soon after they are college-age, one of the most encouraging pieces of feedback

we have received is from a pastor who has sent youth from his congregation to CYIA in recent years. Pastor Bruce Einspahr of Columbia Bible Church in Kennewick, Washington told us that 90-95% of teens their church sponsored to attend CYIA were still connected to their faith, even after graduating from High School and/or College because of their experiences being used by God to impact others. We have also seen over 20 former CYIA Trainees join the CEF of Washington Staff. Please prayerfully consider partnering with us in this important ministry to help us reach our \$25,000 goal.

- Jeff Kiser

State & Regional Director

www.cefofwa.com



CEF® of Snohomish County

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Resource Center Hours:

Hours: Tuesday 10am-4pm
Thursday 11am-2pm
OR Call for appointment



Our website has PayPal and our Resource Center has PayPal Here - use your credit card!

Office (425)252-6314
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"UNCONDITIONAL"

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8

*Valentine Banquet
Dinner & Movie
Fund-raiser
\$14 each,
\$25 for
married couples*

This fund-raiser is for Christian Youth in Action™. Ticket sales are through the JYC™ youth - call or email to purchase or reserve your tickets and/or for them to be mailed to you. Sponsored by Child Evangelism Fellowship of Snohomish County.

February 14th
*Dinner seating 5:30pm
Movie begins 7:00pm*

710 Pecks Drive - Everett, WA

CYIA® Fundraising

Please visit the donations page:
www.youcaring.com/cefsno

THANK YOU!



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Snohomish County Chapter
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Address correction requested