

# AROUND MAINE

Spring 2012



Dear Friends,

We are thankful for God's hand of blessing upon the ministry of Child Evangelism Fellowship all "Around Maine." We truly have known the reality of Ephesians 3:20-21: *"Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Jesus Christ to all generations, forever and ever. Amen."*

The Word of God teaches us that God is pleased when His people are united. I believe He blesses a united effort: *"Behold, how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!...For there the LORD commanded the blessing - Life forevermore" (Psalm 133).*

We have seen a united effort in reaching children from our CEF family all "Around Maine." Jessie Lofton is in her first year of full-time ministry in our eastern Maine chapter. She needed a vehicle; that vehicle was donated to her by our northern Maine chapter. Although Jessie's salary is small, there are not enough funds in eastern Maine to meet that need. Both our southern Maine and our western Maine chapters helped out financially, and Jessie's salary was brought up to date. Our central Maine director, Jeanette Linsey, is working regularly with Jessie, providing direction and giving practical help in the ministry.

Jessie did her internship at our "Neighborhood House" with Milton and Wendy Higgins. She receives a lot of help from our state office and Camp Good News staff. From all "Around Maine" CEF is coming together to help grow the work in eastern Maine. And the work is growing, both in our eastern Maine chapter and throughout the state.

We are in more schools once again this year, with a few new schools being added even now. A new club just began in an elementary school in Gorham.

Please continue in prayer for our Good News Club ministry. Only God knows how long the door will remain open to our public schools.

Here at Camp Good News we are seeing the results of a united effort in our new staff housing. People from all "Around Maine" and beyond have given of their funds, they have prayed, and they have volunteered their time to make this building a reality.

At this time, we have less than ten thousand dollars left in our new staff house account. We need approximately forty thousand dollars more to finish the project. During the first week of March, we received a matching fund gift for twenty thousand dollars. In other words, for every dollar we receive toward this project, up to twenty thousand dollars, we will be able to use a dollar from this matching gift. To put it another way, the gift you give will double in value.

From all "Around Maine" children come to Camp Good News, and from all "Around Maine" volunteers come to help minister to those kids. This staff housing will be used primarily to provide a comfortable place for those volunteers. This new building will also help us to expand our winter ministry.

A united effort involves all of us. Thank you for being a part of our CEF family here in Maine. Thank you for helping us evangelize and disciple the children of Maine. Thank you for praying. And thank you for prayerfully considering our financial needs.

'Til Every Child Knows,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John".

John



Our State Office Team:  
John Romano, State Director  
Melanie Mulherin, State Ministry Coordinator  
Vernelle Fast, State Ministry Coordinator  
Jim Bowen, Administrative Director  
Donna Labbe, Secretary  
Natausha Daigle, Field Worker  
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*"The kids had a great time at the winter retreat.  
We've seen such a nice change in their hearts.  
We are so thankful they went."*



Winter retreats are a wonderful time to re-connect with campers and to introduce children to Camp Good News who have never been before. Five retreats were held with 224 campers enjoying fun activities and being encouraged from the teaching of God's Word. Thank you to the 100+ volunteers who joined us in ministering to the children.

### Summer at Camp Good News



CYIA- June 20-June 29  
 Week 1-July 1-6  
 Week 2-July 8-13  
 Week 3-July 15-20  
 Week 4-July 22-27 (Teen Week)  
 Week 5-July 29-Aug.3  
 Week 6-August 5-10  
 Week 7-August 12-17



Many hands will once again be needed to rake, clean, paint and do needed repairs to be able to open up camp again.



Work days will be held every Saturday in May and June (except June 2) until camp opens. Come, bring your youth group . . . or come as a church family. We appreciate the many hands that make for a better and cleaner campground for our campers.

### Our new staff building is becoming a reality!



Projected list of needs to complete the building:

Inside lighting—\$1,500

Outside lighting—\$500

Paint—\$800

Electrical Work—\$4,000

Insulation—\$3,000

Sheet Rock/taping—\$4,000

Pine boards—\$3,000

Plumbing supplies & fixtures—\$15,000

Cabinets—\$2,500

Tiling—\$7,500

Flooring—\$2,500

**TOTAL—\$44,300**

### Rise to the Challenge~

Help us finish our Volunteer Staff House



For every dollar that we receive,  
it will be doubled up to \$20,000.



We are asking God and telling His people.

Would you consider helping to finish this project?



# Blueberry Mountain Bible Camp



I am sure you are very familiar with the saying, “how time flies.” Well, it has never been more evident to us than during the last few months. Wasn’t it just yesterday that our family was leaving the island of Guam and returning stateside to begin a new chapter in our missionary journey? Wasn’t it just yesterday that we were home with

extended family for the first time in nearly eight years? Wasn’t it just yesterday that our three college kids were all with us during Christmas break? Wasn’t it just yesterday that we arrived at our new home in Maine – Blueberry Mountain Bible Camp? Wasn’t it just yesterday that a group of 36 arrived on the mountain for our first teen retreat and we saw once again how God works in the hearts of people through retreat and camp ministry? Well, it all may not have been yesterday, but it sure feels like it to us.

Literally, as of yesterday we have had seven weekend retreats and our last winter retreat is scheduled to finish April 1st. Three of the groups gave us a deposit for next winter’s retreat before they left. It is truly a blessing to hear the testimonies of those who have spent their weekend here and know how it has impacted their lives for Christ.

How is all this happening? God’s people are playing a major role as they pray and support this ministry financially. We all have heard that the Lord responds when His people pray. We can see it throughout the Scriptures, and we can experience it in our own lives. The Lord has blessed our family in very special ways, and it is very evident to us that it is a direct result of Christians faithfully praying for us.

It is also happening because so many of God’s people are sacrificially giving so that our family’s physical needs are met.

We are humbled, and we are motivated to use those resources to bring about maximum spiritual return for the investment.

Thank you for your part in the ministry of Blueberry Mountain Bible Camp.

On the Victory Side,

*Fred and Lee Thompson*

## Winter Retreats:

Fred & Lee Thompson have hosted retreats at Blueberry Mountain each weekend in January, February and March. They will have their last retreat April 1.



## Summer Camp:

Teen Wilderness Adventure Week—July 8-13  
Junior Wilderness Adventure Week—July 22-27  
Junior Wilderness Adventure Week—July 29-August 3

## Blueberry Mountain Chapter:

We are rejoicing in God’s provision of wonderful folks who love the ministry at Blueberry Mountain Bible Camp and are serving with us as members of the newly formed committee.

**Pastor Barry Trask - Chairman**

**John Yansak - Vice Chairman**

**Sally Clemens - Treasurer**

**Nancy Blidberg - Secretary**

**Roy Bamford**

**Jim Blidberg**

**Leonard Reiss**

**John Thomas**

**Steve Lariviere**

## For more information about Blueberry Mountain

**Contact Fred at:**

Blueberry Mountain Bible Camp

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Weld, Maine 04285

Telephone: 585-2410

Email: [bmbcmaine@gmail.com](mailto:bmbcmaine@gmail.com)

**"I wouldn't have learned  
half as much stuff about God  
without you.  
God bless you  
and bless the Lord for you."**



This expression of thanks came from a 9 year old clubber but could be echoed by children across the state as they attend Good News Club each week. The "stuff about God" comes from the Word of God and is "...profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness" (II Tim. 3:16). God promises that these children will be "blessed in what they do" if they are a doer of God's Word.

**Currently enrolled in clubs across the state are:**

- 1128 children in After School Good News Clubs
- 113 in Regular Good News Clubs
- 165 in Monthly Party Clubs
- 80 in One-Time Party Clubs
- 89 children/teens in the JYou Connection.

From our Central Maine area: A small girl was so determined to pray a prayer for salvation she turned down her teacher's suggestion to go for counseling with the club co-worker. She immediately prayed asking Jesus to save her from her sin in front of the whole class. God has blessed us with **59 decisions** for Christ so far this club season.

The latest count of elementary schools in Maine is 490. Clubs are being held in 68 of those schools. To fulfill the Great Commission, we need to be in all 490 schools. "Til Every Child Knows" is still our vision.

**Pray for a Good News Club to begin in your elementary school.**

**CAMP GOOD NEWS**

413 Campground Rd  
Livermore Falls, ME 04254



I would like to give \$\_\_\_\_\_ to **DOUBLE** my investment toward the completion of the new staff house.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_