



CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP OF READING AND BERKS COUNTY, INC.

Affiliated with CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP OF EASTERN PA, INC.
1307 Good Street, Reading, PA 19602 | 610-374-4634 | CEFBerks@juno.com

Mrs. Sara Bowers, Director | Mr. Matthew Wear, Assistant Director

Mrs. Mary Christman, Ministry Assistant | Mrs. Helene Hoffman, Office Coordinator



Dear Friend,

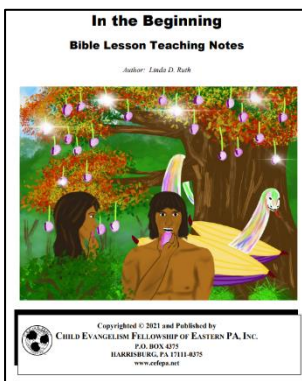
“... Behold, I [God] will do a new thing; ...” (Isaiah 43:19).

Beginnings are exciting with a bit of trepidation – **beginning** a new job or a new relationship, **beginning** your journey as a parent or grandparent, **beginning** a new exercise program or a class on an interesting subject matter, **beginning** in a new home or location, **beginning** a new year with unlimited possibilities, or the **beginning** of spring with budding flowers and trees.

We are excited about some **beginnings** happening in our ministry! During the pandemic we **began** a YouTube Channel and a website. Both are growing with new content and viewers. We **began** filming videos **beginning** with our “Life of Christ” Series at our office in 2020. Then we progressed to filming at our State Headquarters’ office in Harrisburg with better equipment since we could not get back into the Reading School District in the fall as we had hoped. The School Board changed policies since the pandemic which required us to have a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). After we wrote the proposal for it, the School Board voted that outside organizations no longer needed an MOU. While we waited, we **began** filming in front of a green screen for our “How to be Thankful in Hard Times” 5-week Series which concluded with our 2-part Christmas Lesson. Then we dabbled in some live action with William Tyndale (pictured right) and our “God’s Forever Word” Series which concluded with our Easter Lesson.



In December, we **began** online giving through easyTithe on our website. In January, we **began** helping the Chinese Fellowship Church in Wernersville strengthen their children’s ministry through training and materials.



In February, Good News Clubs finally **began** in the Reading School District teaching none other than our brand-new “In the **Beginning**” Series on Genesis. CEF OF EASTERN PA, INC. hired an illustrator to redo our “**Beginnings**” Series and “Patriarch” Series. Our former Director, Linda Ruth, rewrote the Bible Lesson Teaching Notes for “In the **Beginning**” (pictured left), and our current Director, Sara Bowers, rewrote them for “Patriarchs of Our Faith.”

Only God knows what other new **beginnings** He has in store for us this year. Your partnership is greatly appreciated especially as we seek to reach the digital generation! Because of your support some children are **beginning** their relationship with Jesus and others are growing in their faith.

Your Laborers for the Children,
Sara, Helene, Mary, and Matt

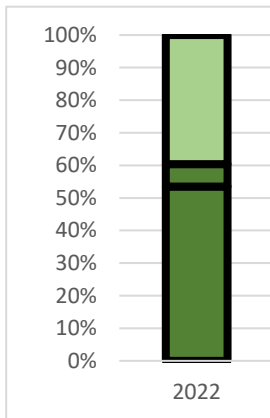


Our Director

Sara **began** in ministry in September of 2009 in Philadelphia County and **began** ministering in Berks County in August of 2013. The last few years she has had many new **beginnings** including little Paul who will be 2 in September. He began walking mid-December and is **beginning** to say words. He is a curious little boy.



Top: Sara and Andy in Tombstone, AZ coming home from visiting family at Christmas
Below: Paul trying on daddy's shoes



Sara concluded 2021 with 95% of her support with 59% from people who designated their gift to "Sara's Support" and 36% from people who designated their gift to go to "Where Needed Most." The 5% deficit comes from our "General Fund." Praise God her support was 28% higher than in 2020!

Sara **begins** 2022 at 60% of her support (January through March) with 54% from people who designated their gift to "Sara's Support" and 6% from people who designated their gift to go to "Where Needed Most." The 40% deficit will come from our "General Fund" if the amount is not raised by year's end.

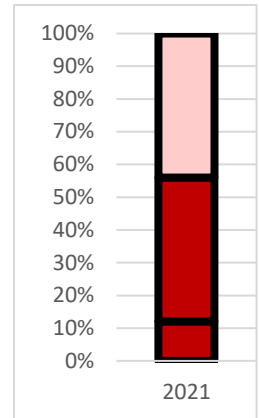
Will you pray for people to join Sara's financial support team?



Our Assistant Director



Top: Matt and Sarah
Wear
Right: Baby
Wear



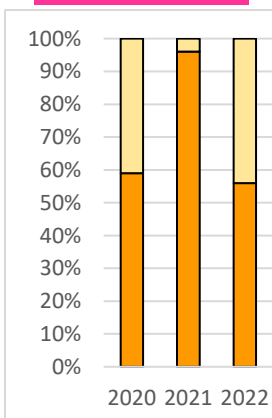
Matt **began** in ministry in October of 2019. He and Sarah **began** their married life together in April of 2020. They are excited to announce they are expecting a little boy (August 4.) Please pray for them as they **begin** the chapter of parenthood.

Matt concluded 2021 with 64% of his support with 17% from people who designated their gift to "Matthew's Support" and 47% from people who designated their gift to go to "Where Needed Most." The 36% deficit comes from our "General Fund." Praise God his support was 36% higher than in 2020!

Matt **begins** 2022 at 17% of his support (January through March) with 8% from people who designated their gift to "Matthew's Support" and 9% from people who designated their gift to go to "Where Needed Most." The 83% deficit will come from our "General Fund" if the amount is not raised by year's end.

Please continue to pray for more people to join Matt's financial support team.

Ministry Finances



Praise God giving increased by 53% in 2021! Therefore, we ended the year with 96% of our expenses covered. The 4% deficit was covered by an estate donation from 2019. We are indebted to those who value this ministry and give financially! With your help we found a new tax preparer which cut that expense to \$1,150, another praise! As you can see, we upgraded our copier lease and have **begun** printing in color. We begin 2022 (January through April) with 56% of our expenses covered because of your generosity. However, we still fall short of our monthly needs mostly due to staff wages. We currently have a 44% deficit. Will you join us in asking God to meet our monthly expenses, especially staff wages, through His Church and His people? If, while praying, you feel led to give, please use the enclosed response sheet to designate your donation. If the need you request has already been met, we will put it towards General Fund unless otherwise indicated. All gifts are tax deductible. Checks can be made payable to CEF Berks or you can give online by visiting our website (www.CEFBerks.com) or scan the QR Code with your smartphone. **Page 2**





Filming Puppet Skits

Sara and Mary filming Matt's video about Palm Sunday



Reaching the Digital Generation

Sara, Matt, and Mary **began** learning about filming in front of a green screen last November when they partnered with Brianne Williams and Miriam Higley, State Headquarters' staff. We **began** with our 4-part Thanksgiving Lesson which turned into 5 weeks of Holiday Fun and concluded with our 2-part Christmas Lesson. Then February **began** with our 2-part "God's Forever Word" Series and "How we Got the Bible with William Tyndale" Series. Easter week included 3 videos including our Easter Lesson and a bonus Bloopers video. We are thankful to our Executive Director, Doug Williams, and our Director of Finance, Rob Bingaman, for lending their voices for these videos.



Matt teaching "Digging Deeper"



Only God knows the full impact of these videos and our collective 3,234 views, which are continuously available to view on our website under "Kid's Corner."

Sara and Mary filming the Easter Lesson



This is what Sara sees while filming – very bright!
Pictured: Mary, Brianne, Matt



Good News Clubs



Girl: "I thank God for letting us have Good News Club because I love this class."

Girl: "The Bible Lesson seems to get shorter every week." (They in fact did not, but she was so into the story that she was sad when the lesson ended.)

Boy: "Is there videos of God at creation? What is God's [phone] number?" He cannot fathom a time without technology.



Counselor: "What did you want to talk to me about?" **Girl:** "I want to know how to repent?" After the counselor talked with her and asked if she wanted to talk to God, she said, "I do, but can I in Creole?" What a sweet opportunity the Counselor had to tell her that God understands all languages.

Boy: "You mean to tell me everyone came from Adam and Eve?" **Volunteer:** "Yes." **Boy:** "Whoa!"



Clubber: "Please pray for my family. My cousin was killed in a shooting." (This clubber is referring to the shooting at Brookline Park in Reading.)

Girl: "Thank you so much for teaching me about Jesus! My Grandmother loves God and tries to tell me about Him in Spanish, but I don't understand Spanish."

8 Clubs in the Reading School District
10 weeks of Club
1 Pre-K Club
163 children enrolled
17 children trusted in Jesus
13 Club staff

Will you **begin** praying for God to burden at least 10 Believers to be Good News Club volunteers in the fall?



Summer Missionary Training School (SMTS)



Retired Berks County Director, Linda Ruth, prerecorded "How to Lead a Child to Christ"

In 2020 our 2 weeks of training school was cancelled due to Covid. In 2021 it was held for 1 week online. (Matt was a student.) This year SMTS will be in person once again, but for only 1 week (June 11-18). Matt and Mary will be attending as Staff-in-Training learning how to evaluate students. Sara will once again be the Dean of Women. All 3 will have various other duties. Please pray for energy, health, and wisdom. SMTS is just the **beginning** of our summer ministry.



SMTS 2021: Matt, Mary, Sara, and Paul

Bible Story Papers

These children have completed the first Series and received their Certificate:

- Kyra Ariella Valentin
- Shuko Buckwalter
- Celeste Freed
- Jasper Freed
- Neve Freed
- Violet Freed
- Jacob Mackie
- Ana Pickering
- Salome Parra
- Fahima Thelisma
- Braxton Valentin

Through these Courses 4 children have chosen to begin a relationship with Jesus.



Sara's prerecording of Bible Lesson #5



SMTS on Zoom



Matt practicing

Summer Ministry = 5-Day Clubs

This summer we will be teaching 5-Day Clubs once again because providing transportation for Day Camp has been challenging. Ask God to provide a solution for next summer. These Clubs take place for 1 hour and 15 minutes for 5 consecutive days. Each Club consists of a Bible Lesson, Memory Verse, Songs, Missionary Story, Mission's Emphasis, Games, and a Puppet. A 5-Day Club host/hostess provides a location, invites the children, provides a snack if they choose, and needs their PA Child Abuse Clearance, Criminal Record Check, and FBI Fingerprinting unless they have lived in PA for the last 10 years. You can contact us if you need help obtaining your Clearances or visit our website.

We have 12 5-Day Clubs scheduled including two Mini Camps (see enclosed flier) and a VBS. We have another 4 in the works and are praying for 5 more for a total of 21. Want to receive weekly email updates? See the response sheet.

Last summer 212 children attended our 17 5-Day Clubs. Although no one **begun** their relationship with Jesus, some heard for the first time and others grew in their faith. We have not reached that many children in a single summer since 2014 where we reached 232 children.



The Tuke's house



The Rohrbach's farm



Kissinger's Church

These children had never heard the story of Joseph until last summer.



The Wetherhold's backyard

A mom, "Thank you so much for teaching my girls. They have grown up hearing the Truth, but I wonder if their faith is their own."

Hostess, "I noticed my daughter putting into practice what she learned on Monday about having a good heart attitude."



Mohn's Hill EC Church

