



Child Evangelism Ministries Newsletter January 2024

Celebrating 75 years of reaching boys & girls for Jesus in Elkhart & LaGrange Counties!

"Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God."

Mark 10:14 esv

A Rich Sweet History of Children's Ministry in Elkhart County.

In 1949, Margaret McCullough became the first director of Child Evangelism here in Elkhart County, she continued to serve as director for the next 25 years.

The CEM archives are a bit bare going back to the early years, we don't have a lot of information about Margaret. We do have some certificates of completion for children's ministry and a couple pictures. While there aren't many pictures from those early years, we have found many through the decades as photos became more available, one thing you'll find over and over again are pictures of kids in their school or at VBS or even in someone's backyard with funny faces, crazy hair days or posing with the iconic Happy Day Express! Through it all we see the faces of kids who heard the Gospel because Child Evangelism was there and so were the volunteers, because people prayed for and supported this ministry and believed the mission field to children was a needy one.



Join us in 2024 as we spend this year looking at the past and celebrating what God has done over these last 75 years, join us as we make plans for the future and continue to grow CEM. We'll celebrate on **March 26, 2024** with a banquet at the Blue Gate in Shipshewana, but the celebration doesn't end there, we look forward to highlighting the incredible work God has done through CEM all year long.

The foundation of CEM is rooted in scripture and spurred on by the love for children and the importance of showing them how they can know Jesus as their Savior. The leadership of the boards and directors, past and present, have remained true to those foundations and continued to trust God in His leading and direction of the ministry. To God be the Glory!

Kristina Choate, director

How much was ...	1949	2024
avg. annual salary	\$3,600	\$53,500
minimum wage	\$0.40/hr	\$7.25/hr
house	\$14,500	\$223,600
new car	\$1,650	\$48,000
loaf of bread	\$0.14	\$2.50
gallon of milk	\$0.84	\$3.99
postage stamp	\$0.03	\$0.68
gallon of gas	\$0.26	\$3.12

Togo 2002 - 2024

March 8, 2002, began the first Happy Day Club in Togo, West Africa at Ecole le Reveil. Geri Bloom and Thelma Myers travelled to Togo in January of 2002 to train and begin the set up of Happy Day Clubs.



Thank you for your help in making Guy and Edith's dream of owning their own house a reality.

Happy Day Clubs in both the schools and churches will begin again the week of January 15th. We have leads in adding 2 more schools. Pray as the final details are worked out.

Our team is excited to begin a new year. Plans are already being talked about for VBS in July and August. Pray for the team as they start in January to get churches lined up. We are planning on having 2 teams of 3 and reaching 30 churches during the VBS season.

Thank you for your continued support of the ministry in Togo. Lord willing two of the men will be joining me in Ivory Coast sometime in 2024. They will be doing training and VBS's. Not sure the exact time and details, but pray for everything to work out.

May God bless you all as we head into the new year.

Check out some pictures of Guy and his family in their new home.

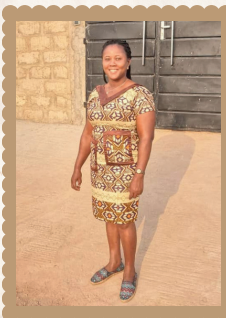
John Parsons, Child Evangelism Ministries of Elkhart and LaGrange Counties Africa Ambassador

Hello Mr. John & Hello my brothers and sisters,

It is with great joy that I write this message to you. It's been three years since we started building our house. We thought we'd finish it one day and live there. This dream has come true sooner than expected thanks to your donations to us. Not to be long, we ask you to receive all our thanksgiving. May Almighty God shower you with all His blessings.

GUY: I'm at a loss for real words to let you know how grateful I am, what you've done is priceless... My cup is overflowing.

EDITH, my wife: Our difficulties in renting rooms in people's houses are over. My joy is great.



PRISCILLA, my daughter: I didn't dream that in this year 2023, I will be in my own room but I have been there since September 15th. God bless you.



PRINCE, my boy: I now live in my room. I go out and come back whenever I want without knocking on the door. Thank you very much.



May our God, who knows all hearts, assist you in all your undertakings and bless you a hundredfold in the Beautiful and Precious Name of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! AMEN!!!

- Guy

CEM is a non-profit ministry existing for the purpose of reaching children for Jesus.
All gifts are tax deductible.



Reaching boys and girls for Jesus for 75 years!

Child Evangelism Ministries of Elkhart & LaGrange Counties, Inc.
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