

SUMMER 2025

# EVERY CHiLD

CEF of Ireland National Newsletter

Giving thanks for...



...of ministry



1950 – 2025





**CEF**  
CHILD EVANGELISM  
FELLOWSHIP®

Since 1937

*Reaching children worldwide®*

**CEF of Ireland** is part of the worldwide CEF family, and we have a passion to teach the Bible to children and young people in an engaging and relevant way, through our direct ministries, training, church partnerships and resources. We want children to enjoy our ministries, but more importantly, we want to teach them deep truths in a way they can understand. Our vision is that every child, in every county, would be in the word of God every day.

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# Welcome!

Once again summer has arrived. I wonder what the weather has in store for us this season. Hopefully it will be warm and sunny during the day and when we are all tucked up in bed for the night it will be cooler with rain. These weather conditions, no doubt, would please everyone! Of course, we cannot forecast what the weather will be like this summer but we can forecast that, whatever the weather, children will be reached with the gospel by our dedicated workers and faithful volunteers.

As you know we have three main ministries throughout the summer months: 5-Day Clubs, Holiday Bible Clubs and camps. Please pray that all of these ministries will be able to take place; pray that each of the local workers will have enough volunteers to help them; pray for safety and protection and pray that Christian children will be edified and that we will hear of children trusting the Lord for salvation.

Many thanks,



**David & Heather Cowan**  
National Directors



Facebook, Instagram, X:  
**@CEFIreland**

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Our financial policy is to “ask God and tell his people”. As we seek the Lord’s provision and share our needs with you, please find the relevant details below if you’d like to support us financially:

## Online:

[www.cefireland.com/give](http://www.cefireland.com/give)

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To set up regular giving, forms are available at [www.cefireland.com/give](http://www.cefireland.com/give) or by contacting our Finance Office (028 9073 0921 or [finance@cefireland.com](mailto:finance@cefireland.com))

## Bank Transfer

(Northern Ireland & Republic of Ireland)

To give via bank transfer, please contact our Finance Office (028 9073 0921 or [finance@cefireland.com](mailto:finance@cefireland.com))

## Phone:

You can give a gift by card by calling our National Office on 028 9073 2263

## Post:

Gifts can be sent to our National Office along with designation instructions (if applicable). Cheques payable to ‘Child Evangelism Fellowship’. Gift Aid declaration forms available at [www.cefireland.com/giftaid](http://www.cefireland.com/giftaid) or by contacting our Finance Office (028 9073 0921 or [finance@cefireland.com](mailto:finance@cefireland.com))

# TRAINING, EQUIPPING, SUPPORTING!

Stephen & Grace Chambers, Area Directors (NW Europe)

The work of Child Evangelism Fellowship in North-West Europe is comprised of a dedicated group of around 70 Christian leaders and boards, workers and volunteers who are singularly focused on sharing the gospel with the **19.6 million children** across the area. Our mission is deeply rooted in the belief that every child should be afforded the opportunity to hear about the Lord Jesus Christ, to put their faith in him and to grow in their knowledge and understanding of him.

One of the key initiatives of late has been the work of 'Christmas Together' and the running of Christmas Party Clubs. These one-off clubs, on many occasions, have led to the establishment of more regular Good News Clubs, which provide a safe and engaging environment for children to learn more about who Jesus is and what he has done. They are designed

to be accessible and welcoming, offering activities, stories, and lessons that resonate with young minds.

Additionally, many countries organise Easter and summer outreach programs, which bring the gospel to children in creative and impactful ways, often through churches, camps and community events. **Please pray for the workers and their efforts to evangelise the lost and disciple new believers.**

There is a strong emphasis on training and equipping local workers and volunteers. Through programs like the Children's Ministry Leadership Course (CMLC), there has been practical and theological training of individuals passionate about children's ministry. We are so excited about those who have been trained recently—some are working in their churches, some have

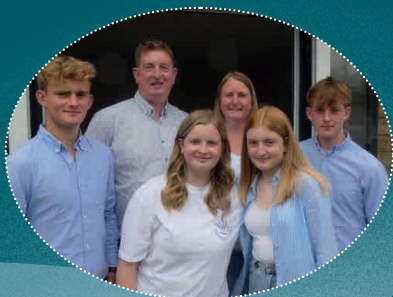


entered CEF ministry, and others are still praying about it. The Lord is also using the Teaching Children Effectively (TCE) courses to better train volunteers for direct ministry to children. This ensures that the work is sustainable and continues to grow across the area. **Please pray the Lord will provide many more to be trained and to become workers and volunteers in all 11 countries.**

Prayer and support are also integral to our efforts. We encourage believers to pray for more labourers to join the effort, as highlighted in Matthew 9:37-38. Only by fostering a partnership of committed churches and individuals, can we extend our reach and impact.

We trust that together we can make a profound difference in the lives of children, planting seeds of faith that can grow and flourish for generations to come.

**Will you pray for and support what the Lord is doing in North-West Europe?**



We praise God for the strong links between CEF of Ireland and the rest of Europe. From our earliest years, God gave Sam Doherty a vision for reaching children right across this great continent.



## SO MUCH POTENTIAL

In the early 1970s, the first CEF missionary to Romania, Trudy Kuhlman, travelled to the country and prepared a detailed report. In an audio message from that time she said, “There is so much potential in this country!” In Northern Ireland, mainly due to the testimony of Richard Wurmbrand, many believers began to pray earnestly for the persecuted church behind the Iron Curtain. God was working!

The CEF European Outreach team based in Vienna was instrumental in training, translating literature and inspiring children’s workers to teach children from the Word of God.

In 1989, when communism fell, the doors were wide open for the gospel. The churches were enthusiastic about their God-given freedom and used every opportunity to share the gospel. The local churches, together with CEF, sent missionaries from Ireland—Roberta Stevenson, Tom & Margaret Somerville and Linda Corry (to name a few). Shortly after this, local believers were trained for full-time ministry at Kilchzimmer, Switzerland and in Sibiu, Romania (from 1995) and many children heard

the wonderful gospel message and responded by God’s grace!

Every Home Crusade printed millions of children tracts which were widely distributed, and children were encouraged to study the Word of God through the Bible Correspondence Course ministry (with 65,000 children studying the Word of God regularly and hundreds of thousands of children and teenagers impacted over the years).

God has raised up full-time workers in Romania and across the Central Europe area. Today many of these workers are supported by the shortfall ministry (approximately £12,000 per month) as well as local support. We praise God for the hundreds of thousands of children that are being reached each year with the gospel through workers and volunteers.

**To God be the glory!**

**For more Shortfall information, visit:** [partners.cef-europe.com](https://partners.cef-europe.com)

**To receive a monthly Shortfall Whatsapp update, visit:** [cefireland.com/shortfallmessage](https://cefireland.com/shortfallmessage)



As we celebrate our 75<sup>th</sup> year of ministry in Ireland, we want to take time to reflect on God's goodness to us over the years. Some of you have been with us on this exciting journey from the earliest days, others joining more recently. However long you've been involved, and in whatever capacity, we trust you'll rejoice with us that "thus far the Lord has helped us" (1 Samuel 7:12).

## REFLECTIONS FROM PHILIP & DENISE ANNETT, NATIONAL DIRECTORS

**FROM 2010–2016**



Looking back on our time as National Directors fills our hearts with joy as we recall God's grace and faithfulness in our lives and ministry. We are so thankful for godly leaders who came before us and those who encouraged us through the highlights and blessings, challenges and difficulties.

"Church to Children" was an exciting ministry project. A short gospel book was written for children called 'The Fixers'. This was made available to churches to deliver to homes in their area, along with a correspondence course to follow-up the children. Many churches reached unchurched children in their locality with almost 20,000 gospel books distributed.

Another literature project saw 3,000 gospel resource packs called "Unravel" go into our local primary schools across Ireland. Teachers and Principals greatly appreciated this excellent resource.

One of the biggest challenges we faced was to ensure that CEF of

Ireland complied with new Charity Act legislation brought in by the government. We had to look at many things including our governance, finance and accounting and our charitable purpose. We valued the help and expertise of each person who helped to make sure things were done in the right way and we praise God for his help to complete this long process.

To mark the 65th anniversary of CEF of Ireland, we organised a special spiritual retreat for all our workers and missionaries from around the world. It was such a blessing to have the whole CEF family together and we really appreciated the ministry of Pastor Robert Morgan (USA) and Mr Reese Kauffman (then CEF President).

We were so thankful for God's wisdom, grace, and strength during those years. God takes ordinary people and does extraordinary things through them!



# CAMP CENTRES

Seaview & Oceanview

Over the past 75 years, some of the greatest blessings have come through the ministry of our two camp centres. We could write a book on them!

Seaview, in Kilkeel, was purchased in 1975 for £25,000. After months of praying and sharing the need, £32,000 was raised to purchase and adapt the previous guest house for use as a camp centre! After many years of use, Seaview was refurbished in the early 2000s and then rebuilt in 2021. Each time, God provided everything needed. Tens of thousands of children and young people have known God's blessing in Seaview over the years. Many trusted Christ there during camps and weekends.

In the late 90s, the need for a second camp centre was realised and the need made known as a matter for prayer. In the west of Ireland, space was such an issue at camps being held in Lisadell that the main hall was being used as the boys dorm, the meeting room and (on wet days) the sports hall! There were also only enough chairs for either the dining room or the meeting room.

By 1994, the plans for a camp centre in Rosstown were made known and by summer 1997 the building

was largely complete and ready for opening. It has been a labour of love for a number of people who have given much time, money and tears to the ministry there in Donegal.

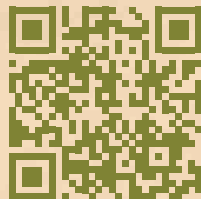
Only heaven will reveal the fruit of these two special places. Please pray that God would continue to bless our camp ministry, and that he would continue to provide all that we need at Seaview and Oceanview.





THE LORD HAS DONE  
GREAT THINGS AND  
WE ARE GLAD

At our recent Easter Conference, we had a seminar on the history of CEF of Ireland. It's a whistlestop tour of God's kindness to us as a mission over the last 75 years! You can watch the seminar by scanning the QR code.

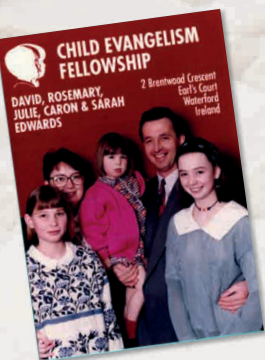


“... We **THANK**  
**YOU** our  
**GOD**”  
and praise your  
glorious name.”  
1 Chron 29:13

CEF of Ireland  
75th Anniversary  
celebration

Saturday 27th  
September 2025  
@ 7.30pm  
Lurgan Baptist Church





# THANK YOU!



In 1992 a car left Belfast to make the 200-mile journey to Waterford. Inside, the Edwards family were taking the first steps on a journey of serving the Lord that would last over 30 years. Little did David and Rosemary Edwards know, the Lord had plans for them to serve not just in Waterford, but also in Dublin before moving north to serve as Assistant National Directors, and finally as National Directors (2016–2025).

At Easter Conference this year we marked David and Rosemary's many years of faithful service. David and Rosemary shared how, when God called them, their prayer was simply: "God, we are available".

We praise God for how he took those available servants and used them over the years to reach the children of Ireland. And we thank David and Rosemary for their willingness to go and serve. Please pray for them as they adjust to this new season of life.



**You can watch an interview with David and Rosemary about their ministry by scanning the QR**



# THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS

**Johanna Austin,**  
**Local Worker (Wexford)**

While I have been writing this, a team of young and 'not so young' people are taking the Good News Club (GNC) in the Gaelscoil (Irish school) here in Wexford town. This GNC has been running for 29 years now—it is the longest running GNC in Co. Wexford with over 30 children on the roll book at present. For me, this year has been one of the most encouraging years as I consider what God has been doing through this club.

While I am in my office praying for the children, I praise God for the next generation of leaders that he has been raising up. Joshua (age 18) took on the leadership of this club back in September. He has faithfully and enthusiastically led each week with love for the children and passion for the gospel. He encouraged the team and checked in with me after each club letting me know how it went.

During the autumn, three teenage girls from this GNC team, came to me on Fridays for training in how to teach a Bible lesson to the children. In February they each had the opportunity to teach the Bible lesson in the club. I was encouraged by

their commitment to prepare well and teach with conviction. Two of these girls have grown up in this GNC since they were four years old and all three of them have been to our camps, Summer Outreach Training Course and Youth Challenge. It is a blessing to see their desire to serve God in the same GNC where, as young children, they grew in their understanding of what it means to trust and follow the Lord Jesus.

As GNC finishes up for the summer and I prepare for camps, I am also praising God for the next generation of leaders that he has raised up to take on roles in leading the camps. All the junior leaders in our Wexford Good News Camp were themselves campers in this camp a few years ago. Our Teens Camp in Donegal this August will be organised and led by Róisín Reid and Conor Lewis. They both started in our Good News Camp as little eight-year-olds in our first two years of doing camp in Durrow in 2012 and 2013. Now they are taking on the responsibility of leading the Teens Camp (with me in the background).

These young people are not only involved in CEF clubs and camps—they are also involved in evangelism in their schools and college campuses, in their churches and with other missions. Praise God, he is raising up a generation of young leaders who are spreading the good news that they heard when they were children. **“We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord...” Psalm 78:4** NIV

# YOUTH CHALLENGE

Colin Hylands, Team Leader

As schools are off and summertime (or our version of it) is here, often we will hear the inevitable comment:

?

**“I SUPPOSE THIS IS YOUR BUSY TIME OF THE YEAR?”**

The answer is, “Yes, but ... !” Summer is busy—with camps and with teams of young people going out to reach children in Ireland and other parts of the world—but it's built on the investment made during the autumn and winter work by a team of volunteers and workers. The summer, in some ways, is like the tip of the iceberg.

If you look “under the surface” you can see work that has been going on over the past number of months to encourage young people to serve in the summer:

1



## JYC

Almost 50 JYC groups meet regularly teaching and discipling young people. From mid-January to early March there are JYC weekends for all areas in Northern Ireland, and at other times for those in the Republic of Ireland. This year we were learning about how to ‘stand firm in a shaken world’ from the book of Daniel. The young people were encouraged in their personal walk with God, and about their involvement in mission through the mission project and our special missions evening in March.





2



## SUMMER MISSIONS PROMOTION

As young people get older, we want to encourage them to be involved in mission. One way is in summer missions. Our opportunities for summer were launched at New Year Camp where 200 young people heard about how they could be involved. The opportunities are available on the website, but promotion continued at Teens Weekend, Easter Conference, in youth groups, schools, and through social media and individual connections. Pray as you read this for young people this summer going and serving in local areas at clubs and at camps across Ireland. Pray also, for teams of young people going to areas with no CEF workers in Ireland, and for teams going to Scotland, Spain, Poland, Macedonia, and Jamaica.

3



## TRAINING

A JYC Leaders' Course is conducted online each autumn, and it was encouraging to have 30 students from various parts of Ireland and GB take it.

Is summer the busy time of year? Yes, but it's also the result of a team of people investing in young people throughout the other months of the year. Pray for the summer ministries and pray as we start back to the work "below the surface" in the autumn, that God will richly bless.

75 years

Although we have volunteers of all ages, as you look back over the last 75 years, it is clear that God has been pleased to use young people in particular to reach boys and girls. Please pray for our Youth Challenge ministry over the years to come!



# I STILL ENJOY SCHOOL!

Heather Watson, Local Worker (West Tyrone)

Having just started training with CEF in January 2008, I was interviewed for, what was then called, the National Prayer Letter and asked the question, “What aspect of CEF ministry excites you most?” I replied, “Because I was a teacher, I am particularly excited about the schools ministry. There are many openings in schools for assemblies, R.E. classes, after-school Good News Clubs and 5-Day Clubs.” Over the years, I have found that to be true—I still enjoy schools ministry and yes, there are many openings!

In West Tyrone, there are currently 13 schools visited for monthly assemblies, while a further seven schools have a seasonal assembly at Christmas and Easter. It is not just the children who are present during assembly but also teachers and often classroom assistants. Many children do not go to Good News Club, Sunday School or church, so it is a great opportunity to teach God’s Word regularly. Having a quiz has also become very popular. This year we have been learning about different children in the Bible. Often, I get

to present certificates at the end of an assembly, and I have also had to judge a few art competitions!

In the lead-up to Christmas, I have the opportunity to visit schools in the area where we have no other contact to offer the children’s calendar for distribution. These are received very favourably.

Three schools in the area currently have an after-school Good News Club. They are just like other Good News Clubs and attendance at these tends to be quite consistent. In the summer term, there are openings for school-based 5-Day Clubs—sometimes during school hours and others after-school.

Praise God for the many openings there are in schools and pray that the doors continue to remain open.



## CEF Future Online Courses

### **TCE 1 (Teaching Children Effectively Level 1)**

Thursday evenings from 11<sup>th</sup> September to 4<sup>th</sup> December 2025 (12 weeks – with 30<sup>th</sup> October off)  
7:30 – 10:00pm  
Contact Rosalind (rosalindpa@cefireland.com) for more information

### **JYC Leaders' Course (Junior Youth Challenge)**

Wednesday evenings from 24<sup>th</sup> September to 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2025 (10 weeks with 29<sup>th</sup> October off)  
7:00 – 9:30pm  
Contact Stephen (stephenha@cefireland.com) for more information

### **PTC (Preschool Teachers' Course)**

Saturday mornings from 4<sup>th</sup> October to 22<sup>nd</sup> November (7 weeks with 1<sup>st</sup> November off)  
10:00am – 1:00pm  
Contact Johanna (johannaau@cefireland.com) for more information

# DIARY DATES

**14<sup>th</sup>–15<sup>th</sup> July 2025**

Office and Shop closed

**15<sup>th</sup>–18<sup>th</sup> Sept 2025**

Office and Shop closed for our Staff Conference

**27<sup>th</sup> Sept 2025**

75th Anniversary Celebration

Could you help?

Over the past year, we've become aware of a serious issue with the steep bank between Seaview and Kilkeel harbour. Subsidence has caused a significant portion of land to move to the bottom of the bank, and while Seaview is in no immediate danger, we need to fix the issue as soon as possible. Following recent surveys, we are now looking at a possible cost of £200,000.

This is one of the most significant unplanned expenses we've ever had in the mission. If you would like to give towards this work, please visit **[www.cefireland.com/seaviewproject](http://www.cefireland.com/seaviewproject)** or contact our Finance Office (finance@cefireland.com / 028 9073 2263).



**Thank you!**



# FAMILY NEWS

We are sorry that we recently had to say goodbye to a couple of our workers. Stan Beamish, who faithfully served the Lord for 32 years in his home county of Cork, retired from CEF at the end of March. Stan was ably assisted by his wife Denise, who retired in May 2023. Please remember to pray for Stan and Denise in the days ahead.

Emma Gordon reluctantly resigned from CEF at the end of February. Emma and her husband Neal were blessed last year with the birth of their daughter, Lydia. Emma felt that due to the irregular hours of CEF ministry and Neal's work as a Pastor, it was no longer possible at this time to continue her role as the local worker in South Belfast. Please pray for Emma and Neal as they seek to bring up Lydia, and as they minister together in Comber Baptist.

We praise God that Declan and Amanda Curley have agreed to continue the work in South Belfast, along with their ministry in West Belfast. Declan and Amanda will also appreciate your prayers, as they seek to build on the ministry which Emma had started.



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