

March 2026

# Impact

Child Evangelism  
Fellowship® of  
Franklin and Fulton  
County

## When Plans are Different

What do you do when life goes differently than you planned? It often seems that things never go the way we think they should. And yet, God always works it out far better than we could ever imagine.

Seventy-four years ago, Miss Dottie had a determination to reach the children of this area, so she began Child Evangelism Fellowship of Franklin County. Together with Miss Lois, they invested their lives in laying the foundations of that ministry in every corner of Franklin and Fulton Counties. Did it always go how they thought it would? I sincerely doubt it. Years went by, Fulton County got added to the chapter, children grew up, flashcards replaced flannel graph, teachers retired, and new ones came in. And through it all, God is just as faithful now as He was when they started. How wonderful that our God isn't going to stop working things out now!

Nearly three years ago, I met a very handsome man, Pastor Nathan Hykes, on the first day of Good News Camp (June 12, 2023). I simply thought I'd made a new friend. Turns out, God had a different plan in mind because we became husband and wife and only three short months later, much sooner than we planned, I discovered that He has blessed us with a baby! This special blessing is due to arrive on May 10th. In less than three years, God turned my entire life upside down.

These past few months have been filled with much prayer and consideration with my Nathan. However much I love this job, I can clearly see the Lord's leading to make my family and home my greatest focus and priority. So, I will be finishing my time as the Office Manager at the end of March and beginning this next chapter as a homemaker.

Is this what I originally planned? Not exactly "but God meant it unto good," (Genesis 50:20). Being a part of this ministry has been a tremendous blessing, and I am forever thankful for the opportunities I was given to serve the Lord. Thank you for the prayers so many of you have offered for me, the staff and volunteers, and this ministry as a whole! The Lord has been so faithful in blessing us with the ability to reach so many children with the Good News and I ask you to continue keeping us in prayer as we seek the Lord's will, timing, and blessing throughout the upcoming year.

With gratitude,  
Kristen Hykes

## Notes from Nathan

As many of you know, I am at a different GNC each day of the week. I wanted to highlight my Friday club at South Hamilton Elementary School where around 40 children get to hear the Good News of Jesus. At this club I have the privilege of teaching the kindergarten and first grade. I started to teach this group in a more basic and simple way, but after the Bible lesson they would ask so many questions. The questions weren't 'elementary' ones, they were serious and advanced questions about God's Word.

I was so grateful to have these types of questions and to be able to provide answers to them. This group desires to learn more about God's Word and that has been very encouraging. This is what CEF is all about, leading children to Christ and teaching them about God's Word. I'm thankful to hear what questions they have and I'm excited to come back each week to see what they might ask next!

## Colin's Corner

Small but mighty. That was the motto of Hooverville Elementary School, which I saw everywhere back when I attended there eleven years ago. I still see that motto every Monday, going into the school to pick the kids up for Good News Club. It's so awesome to teach at a club I used to attend as a kid; it's a full-circle moment to see how far God has taken me. Every Monday, I am reminded of that "Small But Mighty" in more than just the small size of the school. The size of the club is only five kids, which is VERY small compared to all the other clubs that I do. At first, it really discouraged me that the club had not seen any growth, but as the year went on, I saw it as an opportunity. With such a small number of kids, you really get to know the kids and their personalities. I've gotten to have so many great conversations with the kids on the bus and while teaching that I can then apply to how I teach the club in a way I wouldn't be able to in a class size of 20. I know that God has made our club this way for a reason, and I thank Him for that all the time now. God has shown me that He can do great things with the small and make it mighty, all for His honor and glory

## The Steady Presence

Change. We dread that word. I know for me personally change has been part of my vocabulary for almost three years now. Some change is hard. The change of losing Tiffanie was at times almost insurmountable. The change of leaving this ministry that I love to start a ground up ministry toward men who have lost spouses is incredibly hard. The reality that we will have to move sometime in the future has also been hard. But the Scripture doesn't promise the mundane and predictable, instead it calls us to trust in Him with all our hearts and to not lean to our own understanding. We simply respond with obedience, hard and heavy obedience at times, but obedience nonetheless.

Our chapter is in the midst of change. Kristen has been an incredible office manager of which I am grateful to have served alongside. I remember her being in my youth group at Chambersburg Bible Church. She always wanted to be a mom. I cannot tell you how excited I am for her and Nathan. They get to be parents, which is in my opinion one of two most incredible things to do in this world alongside being a spouse. I know without a doubt that they will be wonderful parents and will teach their children in the path they should go. I am so proud of the woman that Kristen has become.

We think that change demands immediate answers, but that's not true. Change calls for immediate trust. Kristen and I won't be here during the summer months which means that a lot of things will be different, but different isn't bad. I have the utmost confidence that our committee will make excellent hires to replace both of us. Our committee is deeply rooted in Christ and has been busily working to create job descriptions and find the person that God has for Franklin and Fulton County. I encourage you, pray alongside our committee as they seek the face of the Lord. I am beyond confident that the Gospel will press forward and that boys and girls will continue to know Christ as their Savior. ~ Matt Robinson

## Social Media

Look us up on Facebook.  
Look for updates, meetings, teacher tips, U-nite<sup>®</sup> videos, devotions, and more.

We have also created an online platform. Here is the website for the online giving: <https://franklincef.breezechms.com/give/online>

## QR Code for Camp



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