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A CHANCE OF A LIFETIME

August 11th,
12th, & 13th

THE
PERSEID
METEOR
SHOWER IS
SCHEDULED
TO LIGHT UP
THE SKIES.

Wake the kids
or grandkids
at midnight to
enjoy this once
in a lifetime
event, and cre-
ate memories
that will last
forever.

“Children are the
living message we
send to a time we
will not see.”

John W. Whitehead

n-kûr' j-m nt

Encouragement. Even spelled in a way that we are familiar with it seems beyond us to understand exactly what the word means and how to go about putting it into action. The word itself means “to give courage” or in other words it is the act of giving hope or support to someone who needs it. As Philippians 4:16 reads, in the Message version, “It was a beautiful thing that you came alongside me in my troubles.”

There are as many words to convey the feeling as there are ways to express it. Hopefully this short listing of terms will help in your understanding of just how many

Showing Support
PRODDING

Spurring On
GIVING HOPE

Commendation

GIVING APPROVAL

ENERGIZING

CHEERING ON

AIDING OR ASSISTING

Expression of Approval

Promotion of Growth

Revitalizing

ANIMATING

FIRST THESSALONIANS FIVE:ELEVEN



VISIONS OF VISION PROJECT LAUNCHED

**“THERE IS NO EXERCISE BETTER FOR THE HEART THAN REACHING DOWN AND LIFTING PEOPLE UP.”
~JOHN HOLMES**

On March 14, 2013, an agreement was signed by Christians Encouraging Christians, Inc., Mustang Optical, Mustang Kiwanis and Dr. Thomas Wolf, Ophthalmologist, to form a strategic alliance for the purpose of helping to alleviate the problem of obtaining eye care for those who are experiencing financial difficulties.

Dr. Thomas Wolf, MD, an ophthalmologist who services the greater Oklahoma City area, has agreed to perform two eye exams per week free of charge for our Visions of Vision project.

The Mustang Kiwanis organization has agreed to furnish funds to supply eyewear for students in the Mustang, Oklahoma, school system who are recommended by teachers or counselors.

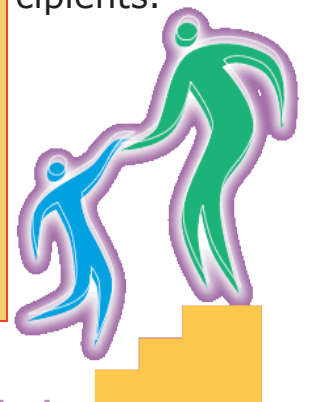
To help further meet the objectives of the “Visions of Vision” project, Caddo Electric Cooperative Operation Roundup Program awarded a \$2,000 grant to Christians Encouraging Christians, Inc. This grant money will help us with the expenses of the adults who are in need of eye care.

Mustang Optical will measure, make and fit the eyewear at a substantially reduced price so that our funds will benefit the most people.

Kathryn Spradley, President of Christians Encouraging Christians, Inc., is the coordinator for the “Visions of Vision” project. She says that this project has been made possible by the generous donation of 850 pairs of eyewear from an anonymous out-of-state optician. The Mustang newspaper ran an article about the Strategic Alliance being signed, and we have had

many calls for information about our project. We have now established the process for coordinating this effort and have begun meeting the eyewear needs of the recipients.

The scope of this project is not limited to Mustang, Oklahoma, so if you know of someone who is in need of eyewear and does not have the financial means to obtain it, please contact Kathryn at (405) 204-4570, to make arrangements to start the process for an eye exam and the appropriate eyewear at no cost to the recipient.



**“Therefore encourage one another and build each other up...”
first thessalonians five:eleven**



WEAR IT OR SHARE IT
SHIPS 1,300 LBS OF CLOTHING
TO HONDURAS

A group of committed volunteers spent numerous hours sorting and packing clothing, and sealing and labeling boxes so that we could meet the shipping company's deadline of March 22, 2013. There were over 1,300 pounds of clothing packed into thirteen large boxes and shipped to Tegucigalpa, Honduras, for distribution to Christians in the surrounding area.

We were also able to include in this shipment 175 pairs of reading glasses and sunglasses, which was part of a large donation of eyewear donated to the Visions of Vision project by an out-of-state optician.

We offer a special thank you to Eric and Wensdae Eby, Dana Cutter, Vicki Connor and Lloyd Spradley for working diligently to accomplish this huge task.

We were able to ship this assortment of clothing and glasses due to a generous financial donation from Ken and Shirley Cook who make their home in San Antonio, Texas. We are so thankful for people who are willing to help us make this project successful.

“Each time you try to encourage someone else, your own soul will be flooded with light.”

Anonymous



 **2013 WISH LIST**

OFFICE SUPPLIES

FURNITURE

CELL PHONES

CLOTHING

VEHICLES

APPLIANCES

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

SHELVES FOR

“WEAR IT OR SHARE IT”

VOLUNTEERS

CEC is in the process of revamping our website and is in need of a volunteer with web design experience to help us complete the task.

If you would like to volunteer or know of someone please contact Kathryn at 405-204-4570.

THE “WEAR IT OR SHARE IT” PROJECT IS IN NEED OF A VOLUNTEER CARPENTER TO HELP BUILD SOME CLOTHING RACKS AND SHELVING. IF YOU ARE A CARPENTER OR KNOW A CARPENTER WHO WOULD BE WILLING TO HELP US PLEASE CALL KATHRYN AT 405-204-4570.

BOARD MEMBER UPDATE

IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH THE CEC BYLAWS, THREE BOARD MEMBERS ROTATED OFF OF THE BOARD AT THE MARCH BOARD MEETING. WE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE TO EACH OF THEM FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO OUR ORGANIZATION. KATHY FOX FROM FARMERVILLE, LOUISIANA, AND AARON AND CELINDA DEGOUGH FROM LONDON, KENTUCKY, HAVE GIVEN MANY YEARS TO SERVING CEC, AND EACH BROUGHT THEIR OWN INDIVIDUAL TALENTS THAT HELPED CEC FURTHER OUR MISSION. WE THANK EACH OF THEM FOR THEIR INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS.

2013-2014 BOARD MEMBERS

President—Kathryn Spradley
Vice President—Vicki Connor
Secretary—Lloyd Spradley
Treasurer—Leota Smith
Phil Bray
Shelley Martin
Karla Pool

Excellence is our goal!

EXCELLENCE is
Caring more than others think is wise.
Risking more than others think is safe.
Dreaming more than others think is practical.
Expecting more than others think is possible.

TWO NEW MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

We are excited to announce that CEC has added two new board members:

Karla Pool, CPA, is from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and has over twenty-four years of accounting experience, which includes nonprofit accounting. She is currently employed by FAA in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Phil Bray, CGFO, CGFM, MBA, CPA, is from Keller, Texas, and has over 35 years of accounting and supervisory experience. He is currently the Director of Finance for the city of Bedford, Texas.

We are looking forward to working closely with these two new board members and know that the experience they bring to the board will be a huge benefit to our organization. We thank them for their willingness to serve.

**"A candle loses nothing by lighting another candle."
Erin Majors**

ENCOURAGEMENT 101: CHILDREN

By Kathryn Spradley

In our last newsletter we answered the question “How do you know what to do to encourage someone?” by listing things we can do to encourage seniors. In this newsletter we want to direct our attention to the children in our lives. We formed a focus group and did a brainstorming session, which resulted in the following interesting list of ideas to encourage children.

ENCOURAGEMENT FOR CHILDREN

- Treat them with honor and respect
- Acknowledge their importance in your life
- Expect the best from them
- Apologize and ask forgiveness when you have done something to hurt them
- Listen to their concerns, joys, sorrows, etc. and ask questions to stimulate conversation
- When you discipline, do it with love and the proper spirit
- Validate their hurts and pains
- Teach them to be grateful
- Teach them to respect authority
- Teach and practice effective communication
- Help them memorize the books of the Bible
- Spend time with them
- Encourage their questions
- Read the Bible to them every day
- Pray with them every day
- Keep your children in mind when making career choices
- Work towards having a harmonious home
- Display scripture sayings in home
- Help them memorize Bible verses
- Read to them
- Tell them a story about Christ
- Remind them of God’s love for them
- Find a way to teach them a moral value
- Teach them scripture songs
- Tell them Bible stories
- Teach by example to love the Lord’s church
- Play a game that teaches good values/ character
- Tell them how God loves them and wants what’s best for them

- Practice patience with their mistakes and help them learn from mistakes made
- Let them hear you praise and find the good/ positive in your spouse and other Christians
- Talk about heaven to them
- Remember special days
- Share a compliment that you have heard about him/ her
- Set aside a whole morning/ afternoon/ day just for spending time with them
- Look for the good in them and compliment them when you find it
- Help them find wholesome/ fun activities to do with family/ friends
- Help them select and maintain friends that have good values

Remember these ideas came from a brainstorming session and are in no particular sequence. These are ideas that you might possibly use to encourage the children you come in contact with on a daily basis. We pray we all practice I Thessalonians 5:11 with every child we know.

We encourage you to submit your own ideas to us so we can continue building this list. We will eventually have these posted on our website when its reconstruction is complete.

“If you think they are too small to be effective, you have never been in the dark with a mosquito”
Anonymous