



Children's Ministries

Pour out your heart like water before the presence of the Lord; Lift up your hands to Him for the life of your little ones... Lamentations 2:19b

“Soaring with Jesus” VBS Recap

Over the last few months so much has happened as we prepared for Vacation Bible School. Open spots were filled at just the right time, by the right person, almost as if God had it planned all along (which we know He always does). So many people came together to make our VBS work, over 140 volunteers. People helped with planning, decorating, teaching, and guiding. Many people donated toward our needed supplies and sponsoring a child so they could attend VBS. Also, many people prayed for VBS, that the message would be clear and God would be glorified in all we do. Thank you all so much for making VBS a wonderful experience for so many families in the church and community.

We averaged about 190 kids a day at VBS this year with many new attendees. A common observation was that the Gospel message came through loud and clear. The message spoke to everyone, not just the kids. With it all tying in so well with the Flight School theme and songs, everyone learned so much and had a blast doing it. Here is a summary of the weeks lessons, as we can all gain from following these simple, but important principles:

- **Prepare for takeoff!** – Give your life to Jesus and get off the ground.
- **Trust your instruments!** – Trust God over yourself and He will keep you on course.
- **Don't stall, don't fall!** – Never stop moving forward with God.



- **Avoid Drag!** – Sin will drag you down, but faith will lift you up.
- **Go supersonic!** – Break through the barriers by living for God.

The Friday Night Program wrapped up the week so well with the kids doing the actions to the songs as they sang, followed by “Pilot Slider” leading us in prayer as he asked us to give our lives to Jesus or to rededicate our lives to Jesus. The church’s “backyard” was filled as we all enjoyed lots of ice cream, fun activities, and meaningful conversation. Please continue to be in prayer that the week has a lasting effect on the lives it touched. Hope to see you all again next year!!

Susan Pederson
VBS Co-Director

Programs

Evensong Kids

Will resume in September

Sunday School

Will resume in September

Wednesday Night Activities

Will resume in October

Dawn Rico

Children's Ministries Director
dawn@bethesdalutheran.org

Karen Ratering

Children's Ministries Assistant
k.ratering@sbcglobal.net

www.bethesdalutheran.org
(715) 835-5073

Opportunities in Children's Ministry

With summer upon us, we would love for you to be thinking and praying about where God might be leading you to serve this fall. Our weekend children's programs will start in mid-September, and our Wednesday night programs start October 6th. If you've never served in Children's Ministries and are wondering what it's all about, please contact me; I'd love to talk with you. I could also connect you with a volunteer who served this past year to share with you about what is involved and how they were blessed! We also have job descriptions posted on our website under the “First Serve” category on the home page (scroll down to the Children's Ministry listings). For those who have served this past year, I would encourage you to prayerfully consider if God would like you to work with the children again this coming year. I'll be talking to you soon!

Bible Camp

Eleven of our 3rd and 4th graders are spending June 27 – July 1st at Inspiration Point Bible Camp and nine of our 5th and 6th graders are attending July 11th – 16th. There have also been a few other Bethesda children attending camp on other dates this summer. Please keep them in your prayers as they soak in God's Word and have a blast meeting new friends and participating in fun activities. Also pray that

God would continue to work in their hearts and grow their faith as they return home to their normal routines.



Dawn Rico
Director,
Children's Ministry