



THE NEWS BULLETIN

2019 Vacation Bible School Edition

A publication of the
**ARMENIAN MARTYRS' CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
OF PHILADELPHIA**
(ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL UNION OF NORTH AMERICA *and* UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST)

Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus — Themes, Memory Verses and Bible Stories

Monday

When you're lonely...Jesus rescues! - The Lord will hold me close. (Psalm 27:10)
Տէրը զիս պիտի ընդունի : (Սաղմոս 27:10) - Jesus' parables about lost things.

Tuesday

When you worry...Jesus rescues! - The Lord comes to the rescue each time. (Psalm 34:19) Տէրը բոլորէն կը փրկէ զանիկա: (Սաղմոս 34:19) - Martha worries and complains.

Wednesday

When you struggle...Jesus rescues! - Be still, and know that I am God! (Psalm 46:10) Հանդարտ կեցէք ու զիսցէք թէ ես եմ Աստուած: (Սաղմոս 46:10) - Jesus' friends try to rescue Him in the garden of Gethsemane.

Thursday

When you do wrong...Jesus rescues! - Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world. (John 16:33) Աշխարհի մէջ նեղուրթիւն պիտի ունենաք, բայց քաջասիրտ եղէք, եւ աշխարհին յաղթեցի: (Յովհաննու 16:33) - Jesus welcomes a criminal before dying and coming back to life.

Friday

When you're powerless...Jesus rescues! - This is the same mighty power that raised Christ from the dead. (Ephesians 1:19-20) - Peter and John heal a lame man in Jesus' name.





↑AMCC Moderator, Vicken, takes the helm as preparations for VBS begin.



↑During the skit, Jaimie had some real difficulties being stranded on the island. She learned that no matter what, Jesus rescues! The skits helped reinforce each day's lesson.

↓Mr. Sevag taught the Bible lesson and got the children involved. Day 2 was the story of Martha and Mary; the older groups were given jobs to do to prepare for guests; they picked up trash, set the table and made food . . .



↑VBS began with a light supper providing an opportunity for volunteers to interact with and get to know the children. Homemade lahmajun was popular!



↓ . . . while the youngest children sat at Jesus' feet learning. Hmm, most of the older children were like Martha, thinking that was unfair - Bible lesson learned!



Dinner was followed by singing with motions led by "motionologists" Araz, Miriam, and Catherine.





The children were assigned groups by age then travelled to games, crafts/science and Bible story/snack stations. Each activity reinforced the day's lesson.

← Kid Vid time reinforced the Bible story with a short video and thought-provoking questions.



On Day 3, the children learned that fish are always in motion in the ocean and in big groups. But God asks us to be still and know him, something fish can't do. The large pail of fish crackers reminded us to be still when we are struggling.

Day 5 at Imagination Station - The children made boats powered by rubber bands. Without the rubber bands, the boats were powerless, reinforcing the day's theme: When you're powerless... Jesus rescues!



Every day we closed with singing and a review of the Bible story and verse. The children were exceptionally enthusiastic, quick learners, and sang the songs with energy. Their answers to questions about the Bible story indicated they had been paying attention and learning. They were a joy to teach!

On the last night of VBS, parents came for a special closing presentation. They were pleased to hear their children share the songs they learned and hear them recite the Bible memory verses. Each child was given the book *Notes from Jesus - What Your New Best Friend Wants You to Know*. The program closed with prayer and was followed by refreshments and fellowship.

A special blessing this year is that two of the volunteers were AMCC VBS "graduates". As young children, they participated in AMCC's Vacation Bible School. They served as helpers last year, and were eager to come back to serve again this year. And serve they did, very well. We are blessed to see the "fruit" of our labors.


Many thanks to all of the volunteers who gave their time, energy and resources to make this VBS a success.



When you do wrong... Jesus rescues! The children learned that Jesus died to forgive them for the things they have done wrong, They wrote on post-its something they did that they knew was wrong and tacked it to the cross to remind them that Jesus rescued them by dying for their sins.

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 To view more VBS pictures and videos, like us
on Facebook: www.facebook.com/amccpa

This year over 90 children in the Bourj Hammoud area (outside Beirut) are participating in Vacation Bible School at the Armenian Evangelical Church of Nor Marash (see their group photo below). With fifteen leaders, they are studying I Cor. 13, with the title "Empowered by Jesus" in a full-day, five-day-a-week program. The AMCC VBS children and their families along with donations from AMCC members raised \$4,000 to help defray the costs of VBS in Nor Marash.



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