

Third Annual Ecumenical Vacation Bible School Held at NWC



The Recreation Crew—Teenage helpers for the Ecumenical Bible School, held their own swim party and barbecue at the NAF swimming pool relaxing after a busy day with the elementary children. The help these people gave during Bible school sessions cannot be measured by those unable to see the group in action.



A recreation break conducted by some of the recreation crew was enjoyed by members of the Elementary Vacation Bible School in the grassy area across the street from the Chapel Annex. Anita Moulton, far left, planned the recreation program and was ably assisted by the Rec Crew, teenage helpers for the week.



Evening fun with the High School conducted by Sharon and Robert Baldacci on the Chapel lawn during Ecumenical Vacation Bible School. Sessions were held on topics such as life objectives, personal attitudes and other discussions pertinent to life today. Attendance held at approximately 30 young people during the week.

Photos By
J.A. Wilson

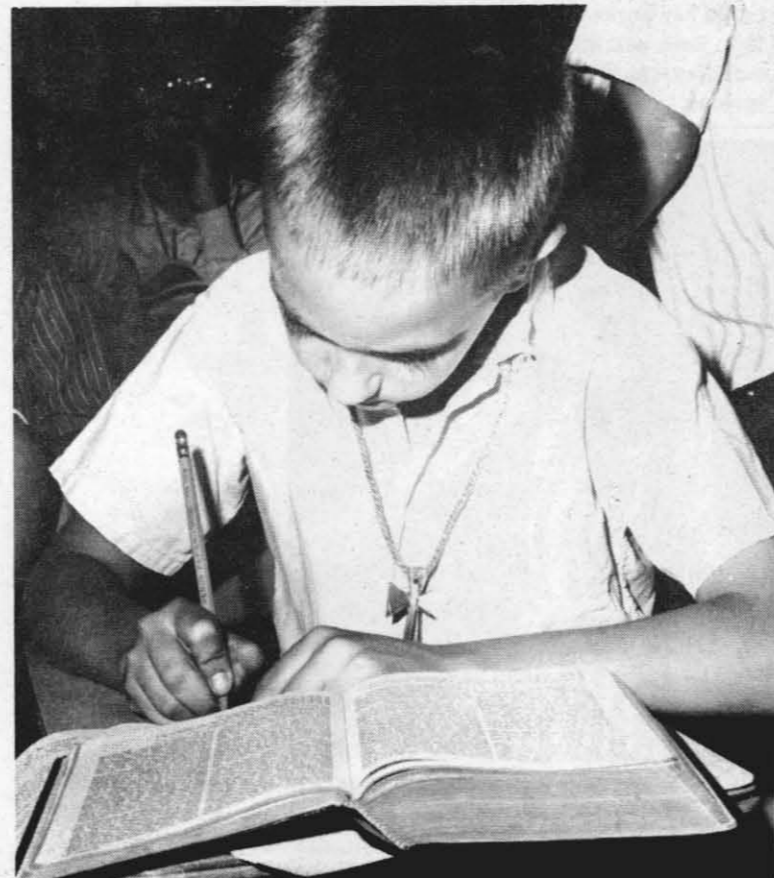
Story By
Jeanne Schreiber



Exploring Tomorrow With Jesus—Sheila Simmons, teenage helper for the Kindergarten Class, conducted daily sessions by reading Bible stories during Vacation Bible school at the East Wing of the Chapel. Children enjoyed the sessions as an opportunity to be together with their friends and not be separated by their religion.



Happy days with friends learning about Jesus. First graders enjoyed crafts and other activities provided by the Ecumenical Bible School sponsored by the Protestant and Catholic congregations of the All Faith Chapel. Barbara Evert, assistant craft teacher, assists the children at a craft session held at a Chapel Annex.



A boy and his Bible—John Wilson deep in thought during a Bible session at the Chapel Annex. Elementary children were guided by the theme "Explore Tomorrow With Jesus" at the Ecumenical Vacation Bible School. John wears the cross he made in one of the craft sessions. The week was devoted to teaching the children about the similarities of the different religions represented at Bible School.

The Third Annual Ecumenical Vacation Bible School, sponsored by the Protestant and Catholic congregations, was held during the week of June 12. Overall coordinator for the school was Senior Chaplain R. E. Osman with Chaplain E. Middleton as school director and Father Jack Smith conducting the college group sessions.

Guest speakers for the college class were Dr. Carl Austin, Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Armstrong and Sisters Diane Reese, Renee Harris and Barbara Geib, Sisters of the Order of Notre Dame, Saratoga, California. Average attendance for this group was 15.

High School activities were conducted by Mr. and Mrs. Bob Baldacci, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Leonard, Mrs. Chris Brinton, and Lt. Cmdr. L. Bender, (USN, Ret.). Attendance averaged approximately 30. Group discussions were held on topics such as: life objectives, personal attitudes, relationships and ethics, evaluating priorities, and life styles. All sessions were based on passages from Matthew.

The Junior High group averaged 70 participants for the five days of Bible School. This active class of young people was under the direction of Miss Yolanda Casados with Mr. and Mrs. Rich Gagilardi, Lt. Cmdr. and Mrs. Barry Kunkle, Mrs. and Mrs. Dave Koelsch, Marvin Backman, Chaplain and Mrs. Middleton, Don Raef, Mark Van Buskirk, Mr. and Mrs. Robert O'Handley, Jerry Zaharius, and Gino La Marca assisting. Activities included bowling, swimming, singing and a barbecue swim party at the NAF pool to culminate the week's special sessions.

The elementary groups, under the direction of Mrs. Jackie Renne and Mrs. Susan Manatt, met from 8:30 to 11:15 every morning to

participate in an opening worship service at the Chapel, classroom lessons, crafts, recreation and a mission project. Offering was received daily through the week during worship services which will buy 400 chickens through the "Heifer Project" to be sent to Latin American countries. A relief worker in 1944, helping out in a food line, thought it would be far better to give people chickens and food-giving animals than to just give them temporary relief.

He started the "Heifer Project" by sending 18 heifers to Puerto Rico and to this date, the project has sent 4,000 food producing animals and over 1 million chickens to over 85 countries.

The Elementary Vacation Bible School had 36 adult teachers and aides, 42 teenage classroom helpers and 14 ladies serving refreshments throughout the week. Mrs. Lucille Peterson provided an outstanding crafts program developed along the theme of the

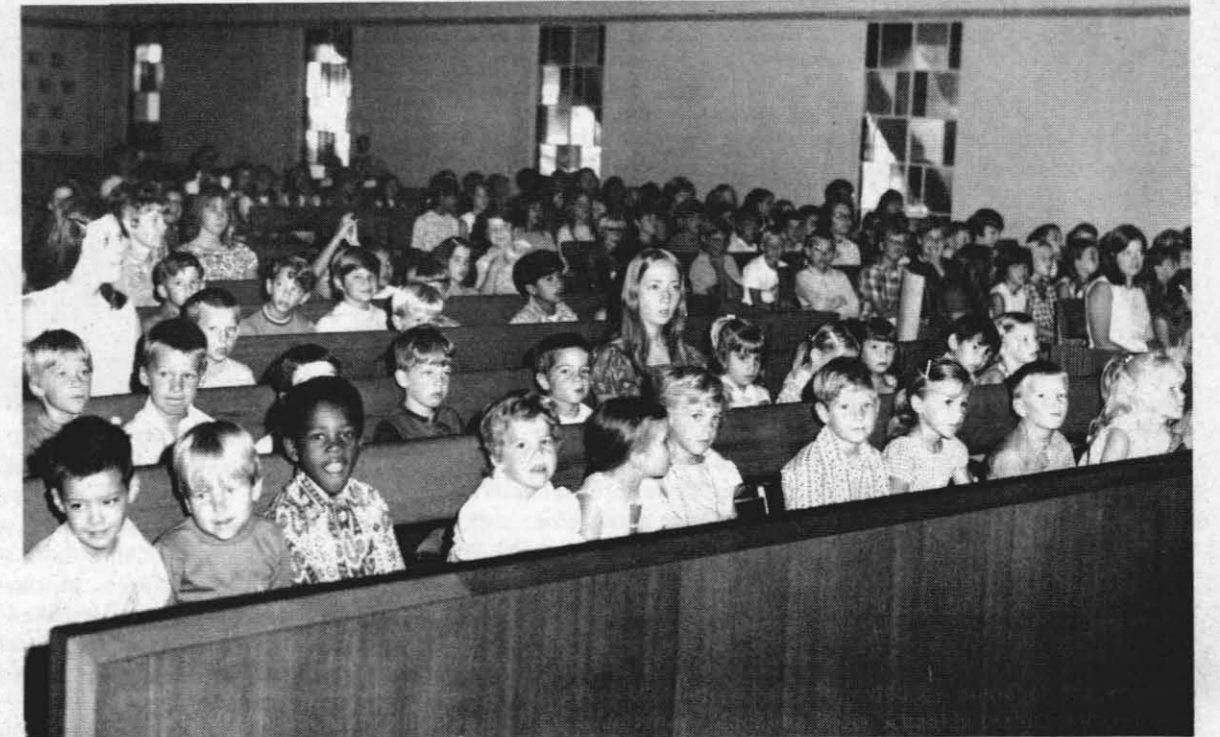
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Senior Chaplain R. E. Osman and Father Jack Smith conducted a Folk Mass and served communion to the members of the high school and college groups the last night of Ecumenical Bible School. The young people participated in the ceremony held in the East Wing of the Chapel. Guest speakers related how their lives were enriched and guided in daily living by their individual religions.



Craft projects were among the many activities of the children at Chapel Annex 95. Virginia Wirtz, Susan Hayden and Maggie Mercado, craft aides, were active participants with the youngsters while building model churches at Ecumenical Bible School. Children of all faiths had the opportunity to be together while learning of Jesus and his teachings.



Opening worship service assembly at the All Faith Chapel was held every morning before classes, crafts, recreation and a mission project. The youngsters of the pre-kindergarten group through sixth grade wait for the Ecumenical Bible School to start. Individuals participated in the ceremonies by carrying the flags.



Margaret O'Drobinak, surrounded by the pre-kindergarten children, finds Bible school a challenge. Children were instructed in how the teachings of Jesus related to their lives today. Crafts, recreation activities and refreshments also were enjoyed by the little ones.



The Junior High School sessions, held in the evenings, were active, busy meetings. A swim party and barbecue held at the NAF swimming pool on the last night of Ecumenical Bible School, brought the group together in fellowship with a songfest after swimming and the evening meal.



Pre-kindergartners pray during story session at Chapel Annex 95. Margaret O'Drobinak, Bible School teacher, makes the week a meaningful one for children attending the well planned sessions of the school.