



Church of South India

Church of St. John the Baptist SECUNDERABAD



Vacation Bible School

VBS had its origin in 1952. A trial VBS was started at Kovilpatti, Tamil Nadu by a team from South India Biblical Seminary, Bangarapet. 75 Children attended. Since then it spread to different churches and places like wild fire. Those who committed their lives to the Lord in VBS are today pastors, leaders and workers. Friends Missionary Prayer Band emerged from VBS Teachers' Prayer Fellowship in 1960.

MOTTO : And thou shall teach them diligently unto thy children. - Deut 6:7

AIMS :

- ◆ To bring children to Christ
- ◆ To educate them to the Word
- ◆ To train in Christian living
- ◆ To encourage them to be active in the life of the church
- ◆ To challenge them for missions

HOW DOES IT HELP THE CHURCH ?

- Builds Sunday School
- Holds the youth for the church
- Revives cold hearts
- It awakens interest for the unreached

- Source : VBS Director's Hand Book

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The Vanguard

ORGANISERS

- Rev G Suresh Kumar - *Coordinator*
- Mrs Lalitha Christian - *Director*
- Mrs Usha Sagar - *Superintendent*
- Mrs Suhashini Bharath
- Mr Bharath Kumar
- Mr Noel Pereji

TEACHERS

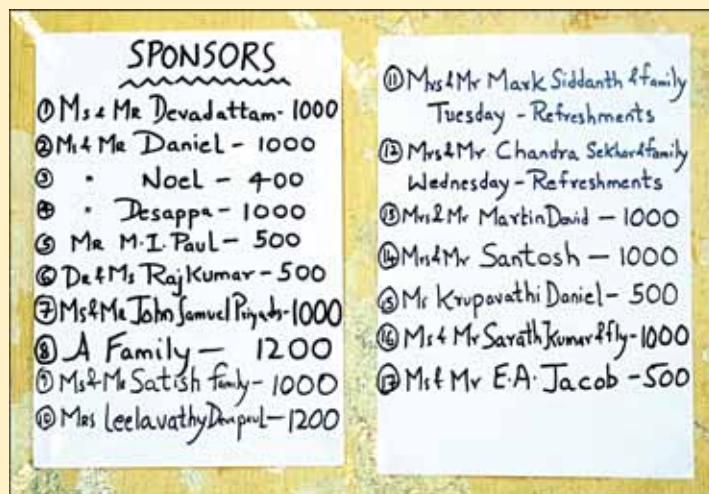
- BEGINNERS - M Sheba Pritika, M Candita Hephzibah, Mrs Gladys Paul
- PRIMARY - Mrs Subhashini Noel, Mrs Vinolia Pauline
- JUNIORS - Mrs Vijayalakshmi, Mrs Shanthi
- INTERMEDIATE - Mrs Anna George, Mrs Sunitha David
- SENIORS - Col Chandrashekar, Mrs Christine Samson

VOLUNTEERS

- B Sunil
- Rohan Michael
- Kapil Kavin
- K Edwin Moses
- Reuben David
- E Sheena Mrinalini
- Ankith
- Micah Mrinal
- Avinash Michael
- Benjamin James
- Jonathan Peter
- E William Prasad
- B Shalini
- Dennis Sehgal



DATE	EVENT
26-04-2007	PAINTING COMPETITION
28-04-2007	Fancy Dress
30-04-2007	POEM/SONG (About VBS) & LETTERS
01-05-2007	SINGING (class work)
02-05-2007	INSPECTION DAY
03-05-2007	POT LUCK
04-05-2007	LOVE FEAST DAY OF GIVING



SPONSORS	
① Ms & Mr Devadattam - 1000	⑩ Mrs & Mr Mark Siddanth & family Tuesday - Refreshments
② Mr & Me Daniel - 1000	⑪ Mrs & Mr Chandra Sekhar & family Wednesday - Refreshments
③ - Noel - 400	⑫ Mrs & Mr Martin David - 1000
④ - Desappa - 1000	⑬ Mrs & Mr Santosh - 1000
⑤ Mr M.I. Paul - 500	⑭ Mr Krupavathi Daniel - 500
⑥ Dr & Mrs Raj Kumar - 500	⑮ Mrs & Mr Sarath Kumar & fly - 1000
⑦ Ms & Me John Samuel Piyada - 1000	⑯ Mrs & Mr E.A. Jacob - 500
⑧ A Family - 1200	
⑨ Mrs & Mr Satish family - 1000	
⑩ Mrs Leelavathy Dimpul - 1200	



Thanks one and all !!

This year's theme is : "Sing unto the Lord a new song." The children who have participated in this VBS were able to experience the joy of singing a new song to the Lord. The 10 day programme was a great venture in the spiritual realm of the children. New lessons, memory verses, learning the theme song, dancing according to the tune are really of a great joy to the participants.

I would like to congratulate Mrs Lalitha Christian, the Director who made every effort to make the programme a success. I thank Mrs Usha Sagar, who was behind every arrangement and contributed her time and talent in conducting the VBS in an effective way.

The teachers punctual and dedicated, were able to inculcate new spiritual values into the lives of the children; I very much appreciate their dedication and commitment towards the children.

The volunteers were responsible in making arrangements for the snacks and the famous Rasna drink for the children. Mr Noel who was coordinating the daily programme of the physical arrangements, deserves all the appreciation.

The singing and music team is the backbone for the VBS Ministry. I would like to thank the singers, Ms Candita, Ms Sheba and Ms Maureen, who have shown keen interest in learning the theme song and teaching the children also leading every day the singing sessions in a meticulous way through actions. I would like to mention a word of appreciation and thanks to Mr Kapil and his team members for the accompaniment of instruments.

Mr & Mrs Bharath Kumar were taking care of the daily registrations and were a strength in all the activities of the VBS. Mr Devadattam was present every day and all felt his presence as a source of encouragement.

I'm also thankful to Mrs Jayamani Abhishekam for accepting to be the chief guest for the concluding session and inspiring the children and the parents who attended the closing function.

I would like to thank all the Office-bearers, Pastorate Committee Members, who were behind me in giving their valuable suggestions to make this programme a success and bring glory to God Almighty.

This bulletin is very unique in its appearance and form, because the participants are children, who are a great source of joy for everyone of us.

- Rev G Suresh Kumar
Resident Presbyter

Director's Musings

Vacation and School in the same breath ? One could start a revolution in Kid-dom ! Challenging the norm, the VBS movement took off in Tamil Nadu 55 years ago. VBS today, a household acronym, continues to impact children, youth and 'former youth' across the world.



VBS at St. John's the banner blazoned ! The Aim..... Teach Them Deut 6:7 The Theme... Sing A New Song Ps 98:1

With this in mind, Rev G Suresh Kumar, the Resident Presbyterian, garnered a work force of active youth and adult volunteers from the Church. So what do grown-ups do when outnumbered by pristine neurons, unfettered minds, piercing curiosity and loads of energy !!! There are no quick answers !! We prayed and moved forward. Armed with the VBS manual, the teachers drew up a course of study and related activities, to help children identify with the theme and the VBS experience. The children were inspired not to isolate themselves behind the fences of personal interest and selfish concern, but to be sensitive to the needs of others, and endeavour to be more Christ like.

The devotional messages dealt with clarity the reason why we sing. We sing to remember, for music predates language. Our new song does not have to be only based on Ps 98:1. It can be just about anything that can take us back to our best times with God and the joy of knowing that He will never abandon us no matter what ! No VBS is complete without the inspirational worship and praise time, which kick-starts each day's programme. The hall reverberates with the exuberant sounds of music. The radiance on the stage has little to do with lighting. It emanates from the confluence of enthusiastic, accomplished song leaders and talented young musicians, better known as "GLOW" The children shed their inhibitions and sing with great mirth. With Praise and Thanksgiving, they rejoice, proclaiming that the joy of the Lord is their strength.

VBS at St. John's is a unique experience of togetherness. It is bonhomie and camaraderie. It is a synergistic blend of teachers, volunteers and parents, investing their time to introduce kids to Christ centred patterns of living. Come !! Sing to the Lord a New Song. For He has done marvellous things. Ps 98:1

- Lalitha Christian
Director, VBS

Toddlers to Teens ...



Beginners

Primary



Juniors



...Teens

Inter



Seniors

Children tasting the joy of
'Love Feast Fellowship'



Opportunities galore for displaying their talents...



Sing ... a new song !



Song Leaders



Lady with the Lamp



The forerunner. John the Baptist acknowledges Jesus, but in the modern way !



The sound of Music : Our young musicians called 'GLOW' can shine as stars

Connoisseur's Delight !



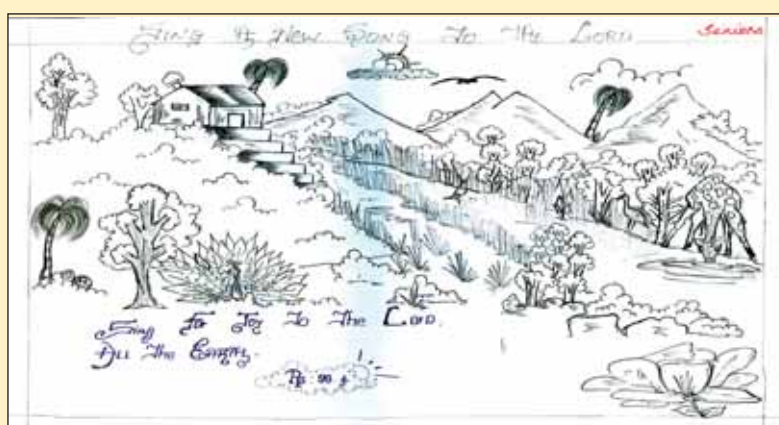
Nadia
Beginners - I Prize



P. Nicole
Primary - I Prize



J. Kenneth
Juniors - I Prize



Stephen
Inters - I Prize

Prizes all the way...



Students and teachers receive prizes / gifts from elders of the church

VBS 2007 : A Report

I bring greetings to you all in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

The Vacation Bible School was conducted from 24th April to 4th May, 2007. The VBS theme outline for the year 2007 is "Sing a New Song" Ps 98:1.

DAILY SCHEDULE :

The following are the sub-titles for the devotions all the ten days :

Day	Sub-title	Leader
1	Sing to the Lord a new song	Rev G Suresh Kumar
2	Sing a lamenting song	Mrs Rinku Peters
3	Sing a jubilant song	Mr I P P Prabhakar Rao
4	Sing a confident song	Dr (Mrs) M Sravanthi Kumar
5	Sing a victorious song	Dr M Anthony David
6	Sing a magnificent Song	Mrs Yashodhra Desappa
7	Sing an adoration song	Mrs Krupavathi Daniel
8	Sing a thankful song	Mrs Vasantha Purushotham
9	sing a testimonial song	Rev B Joseph
10	Sing a glorious song	Mrs N Usha Sagar



After all these 10 days, children's hearts were filled with a new song which was given to the Lord.

ACTIVITIES

We conducted various competitions - Fancy Dress, Singing, Painting, Poem, Song and Essay writing and prizes were given.

One day we had "A day of cleanliness and inspection" where children kept their classrooms and surroundings clean and displayed various charts and work books that they have made during these 10 days. Another day we observed "A day of love feast and giving" where children were encouraged to bring food from home and share with others. They are also encouraged to help the poor either in cash or kind. On the last day all the children, teachers and volunteers enjoyed the lunch hosted by the church.

The same evening we had a grand successful closing ceremony where children from each class presented an item from the lessons they have learnt all these 10 days. Teachers presented a choreo. Prizes were distributed to winners of various competitions. Mrs Jayamani Abhishekam was the Chief Guest and the memorable occasion came to a close with prayer and benediction from Rev Suresh. The Master of Ceremony was Ms Candita.

GRATITUDE

I am thankful to the Bishop, Resident Pastor, Pastorate Committee Members, Teachers, Volunteers, Sponsors, Sexton Philip and Rani. My special thanks to Mrs Lalitha Christian for her able leadership as the Director.

I am confident our efforts at the VBS 2007 will bear fruit and will be a great blessing to our children and their families.

- N. Usha Sagar
Superintendent,
St John's Sunday School

Feedback

One-liners on VBS 2007

BEGINNERS

- ◆ VBS is a nice school. - Nadia
- ◆ I like stories about Jesus. - Carol Paul
- ◆ I like singing and learning new songs. - Suchitra

PRIMARY

- ◆ We learn more about Jesus at VBS. - Thomas
- ◆ We can learn many memory verses. - Chris Olivia
- ◆ We learn to share. - Rachel

JUNIORS

- ◆ Fun with God. - Bryan
- ◆ Fun school in holiday time. - Kenneth

INTERMEDIATES

- ◆ VBS Rocks !! - Jacinth Akhila
- ◆ VBS is cool and amazing. - Beulah
- ◆ VBS is time of worship. - Raunak

MUSICIANS

- ◆ It is the best place to exhibit my talents in music and put a smile on God's face. - Kapil Kevin

VOLUNTEERS

- VBS is a time of helping and service to God. - Rohan Michael
- VBS is a place of spending and giving time to God. - Benjamin James

TEACHERS

- Wonderful time of learning, both for the teachers and the students. - Anna George
- Fun filled sun soaked days with naughty, yet nice children and as teachers, we enjoyed excellent VBS classroom learning material. - Sunitha David
- It's fun, enjoyment and we learn more about Jesus and share God's love to children. - Subhashini Noel
- Great and wonderful time of sharing love and enjoyment. - Vinolia Pauline

- For a new comer like me, it was a fabulous experience. - Gladys Paul
- Vision to believe, strengthen and encourage. - Col Chandra Shaker
- Foundation of knowing God and experiencing thrill and excitement and growing in the Lord. - Vijaya Lakshmi
- Learning values of Bible in the season. - Shanthi
- Chilling out with God, in summer's scorching heat. - M Candita

PARENTS

- Time for play and praise. - Anitha
- Good to see children coming enthusiastically to VBS and enjoying it. - Devadattham

Compiled by
- M Candita Hephzibah

Sing unto the Lord ...

Sing unto the Lord a new song
Sing unto the Lord a new song

Two little coins that were precious
To the old woman made her joyous
which did Jesus the Saviour our wondrous accept



One side of the coin is the contrite heart
And other side of the coin is the joyous heart
This is what the first coin says
Which give value to the coin
Which give value to the life

Be still in His presence with praise
Be active in His love, faith, hope and peace
This is what the second coin says
Which makes us sign and dance
Which makes us forget the dreary desert.

Sing unto the Lord a new song
Sing unto the Lord a new song

- Nicole Saatvika (Twinkle)
Primary, VBS
(Daughter of Mrs & Mr P Noel)