

Summer Program Closes for Another Year

This year's Summer Enrichment Program Closing Ceremony was a fitting ending to a record-breaking



A day trip to Bass River begins with prayer.

summer of fun activities, Bible studies, day trips, and crafts lessons. During the ceremony, which was held in our newly air-conditioned gym, nearly

all 115 children who attended our camp ministered to their parents and friends with their heartfelt songs, recitations of Scripture and praise dances. A skit entitled "Chair" was performed by some of the 11- to 14-year-old children who then took turns explaining that it represents the dangerous effect sin has on the lives of the people around us. Each class



Break time at the Philadelphia Zoo.

sang songs such as "Awesome God" and "Lord I Lift Your Name on High."

One of the most memorable moments was a testimony given by one of the older teen girls. She held the stage with confidence and shared how the program has deepened her relationship with Christ and that the summer has provided memories that will stay with her a lifetime. She shared that the evening's performances were not only meant to entertain the parents but also to honor God. In their willingness to declare the gospel publicly, the children gave evidence of their desire to honor the Lord. The ceremony ended as it had begun, in a prayer of thanksgiving for all the ways the Lord has shown favor to the Center.

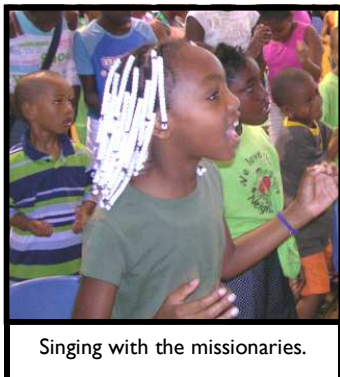


Ms. Debra's 9 & 10 year olds performing "Turn Your Pressure into Praise."

Putting the Neighborhood Center in your will is a gift that keeps on giving.

Irish and Local Volunteers Donate a Week to Center Programs

A group of over fifty volunteers and youth missionaries from Tenth Presbyterian Church and Edenderry CE dedicated a week this summer to helping wherever needed at the Center. They beautified our grounds, served in the soup line, and conducted Bible studies. On their last day, they taught the children a parable using a skit. Four of the missionaries represented seeds being dropped in various locations. The children were taught that God's word is like a seed planted in our hearts and that his seeds



Singing with the missionaries.

need to be watered by reading Scripture and praying. The seeds also need to be protected from threats around them such as birds trying to steal them and weeds overtaking them. In the same way, God's truth needs to be sheltered from those who would try to rob us of His promises and from being overtaken by lack of attention. On the last day, the children were asked to lay hands on the missionaries and pray for them. Everyone was reluctant to see them go.



Missionaries take the stage during Summer Enrichment Program.

Praise from an NCI Employee

In an age when people around the world are being persecuted for their faith, the Neighborhood Center has opened its doors to be a place where praising God is as spontaneous as the laughter that you will hear within these walls. We are so blessed here to have a staff that truly cares not only for the people that come through our doors but for each other. I have had the privilege of praying for my coworkers

when they were in a place of need and of being ministered to by them when I was in need of prayer. Praise the Lord for the freedoms that we still have to worship God at any time.

—Pauly Biesecker



Staff member Pauly Biesecker.

Save These Dates!

THANKSGIVING

Food Giveaway:
 Monday Nov 19 - Sort/Pack Day
 Tuesday Nov 20 - Distribution Day

Ain't Misbehaving

The gospel is offered to Center kids in a variety of ways. When children make mistakes, they are taken aside by their teacher. Together they pray for honesty and courage. Once the facts come to light and a confession is made, another prayer follows. This is the prayer all believers are blessed to be able to utter. It is a prayer of thanksgiving that, despite our sin, we are forgiven when we acknowledge what we have done.

July 4th Preschool Parade

There are a few traditions at the Center that can be relied on to take place from year to year. The 4th of July Parade of Independence is one of these traditions. The children created flags and waved them proudly as they marched throughout the building. Those who didn't carry flags played instruments to add music to the event.



Preschool July 4th parade marches on despite stormy weather.

Paving the Way to Renovations

The week between the end of the Summer Enrichment Program and the beginning of Preschool is usually a quiet one, but this year the welcome sound of jackhammers and bulldozers filled the Center's parking area. The result is a prominent sidewalk down the length of the main building and a new driveway where potholes and gravel used to be. This is the first of many such plans to improve the Center's aging facility.



Brand new sidewalk and driveway.

THANK YOU

...to some of the companies that gave time or donations this past summer: **Campbell Soup Foundation Cati-Com Systems MAFCO Worldwide Corporation Professional Printing PSE&G St. Lawrence Cement Swisco, Inc.**

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