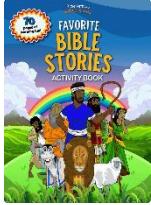


Wrapping up the Summer at Hilltop!

By the time you read this missive, school will have started for the kids at the Hilltop Lutheran Neighborhood Center. But before they returned to the classroom, Hilltop students spent the summer involved in the Hilltop Summer Camp and our Vacation Bible School (VBS). Center Deputy Director, Brandon Furrowh, says about 20 kids attended the VBS.



“During the week the students learned about Daniel and the Lion’s Den, the Parable of the Good Samaritan, the Story of Joseph, and the Parable of the Talents. The theme for this year was Trusting God, and worksheets were derived from www.biblepathwayadventures.com. Each night,” Brandon continues, “the students participated in large group discussions, watched videos containing the Bible passage, and worked with a group of volunteers (mostly from Bancroft Elementary School) to work through their packets to gain further understanding of the scriptures in context.”

As for summer camp, Center Youth Services Coordinator, Teresa Allen, says the kids had a blast while learning concepts that will help them in school.



“Our partners at Summer Collab and United Way helped us begin our summer literacy series. Campers received a pre assessment (STAR testing) in math and reading. The assessment,” according to Teresa, “helps us to put all youth on a targeted path to learning.” Teresa says the kids had recreational time too. “Some of the great field trips the campers went on were Dutch Wonderland, Dorney Park, and the Philadelphia Zoo.”

In addition, Teresa says “UD Cooperative Extension hosted fun cooking-based activities for a week. Campers learned how to make nutritious snacks and meals. Other fun nutrition-based activities included grocery store bingo and a health food scavenger hunt.”

Finally, Center Deputy Director Furrowh says the Hilltop Center put the recent Prevent Child Abuse Delaware Grant to work “to promote education and family wellness through workshops and family engagement activities. In the month of July,” Brandon reports, “our families and community members participated in a Trauma and Informed Care Workshop on July 10th, a Family Skate Night at Christiana Skating Rink on July 22nd, and a Financial Literacy Workshop on July 25th.”

So, after a busy summer, the kids and staff of Hilltop are ready for another successful school year. We’ll continue to report on their activities. Stay tuned!

*Eric F. Mease
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Hilltop Lutheran Neighborhood Center*