



Vacation Bible School is **HERE!**

Anyone who works in a church will tell you that the WILDEST week in any church is the week of Vacation Bible School. Whether you have 30 kids or 3000 kids come, the only difference is the decibel at which the kids scream & giggle. They start getting excited about it weeks, if not months in advance. Some themes are wilder than others, but they all have a way of getting the kids hyped up!! I think it starts with the opening!

When we were kids, VBS was always from 9 am to noon, which, face it, is a calmer time of day. We had an opening session, but it consisted of stand-up sit-down chords, reciting the pledge to the American flag, a pledge to the Christian flag, & a pledge to the Bible. Each pledge was followed by the appropriate song. We practiced our memory verse for the week, had a Bible story, a song, and a craft for the day.

The week ended with a Friday evening event where we recited our memory verse, sang our songs, & parents went down the line of tables looking at all the crafts. Afterwards we had homemade ice cream and took home our pipe cleaner and popsicle stick creations.

That was then & this is now!!

Now it's let's see who can do VBS the biggest, the best, and the **loudest**. Most churches these days have VBS in the evenings—translation: supper time. I don't know about **your** kids, but mine were cranky by supper time. They had played all day & were hungry & tired. The last thing I wanted to do was take them out and get them excited before bedtime. Enter sugar & loud music...with dancing to keep them hyped up. Maybe that was just for the adults!

I've worked in VBS in various capacities since I aged out. I've led the music & trained leaders from other churches. I've been at churches that had 50 kids up to places with 3000. My favorite job at VBS was the 10 years I was in charge of security & parking lot & was on stage for the skit. (The two jobs overlapped since there was rarely time to change clothes between my parking duties & opening gatherings.) I was the crazy person in 100 degree heat driving a golf cart dressed as an aviator, or a knight in shining armor, or a panda! Most years I also played the organ the following Sunday in costume. Fun times!

Yes, VBS is a crazy, noisy week, but there's always that one kid who finally *gets* it, that one song that speaks to their young hearts, or that teacher who shares the love of Jesus and helps them to see that they are truly loved.

I agree, it's exhausting, but in the end, the hearts and souls of our precious children are worth it! I can always do the laundry next week.

Ok, now on to important stuff!

The Week of July 22-28 is:

- Garlic Week
- National Moth Week
- National Scrabble Week
- National Tequila Week

Some Celebrations only last a day.

22nd-National Pajama Day

Rat-Catchers Day

National Hammock Day

National Mango Day

23rd-Gorgeous Grandma Day

Hot Enough For Ya Day

National Vanilla Ice Cream Day

National Day of the Cowboy

24th-Cousins Day

Auntie's Day

National Drive-Thru Day

National Parents' Day

National Tequila Day

Tell An Old Joke Day

25th-Carousel Day

Red Shoe Day

Hot Fudge Sundae Day

National Wine & Cheese Day

26th-Aunts & Uncles' Day

National All or Nothing Day

National Coffee Milkshake Day

27th-Walk on Stilts Day

Crème Brûlée Day

28th-National Chili Dog Day

National Milk Chocolate Day

National Refreshment Day

National Waterpark Day

Have a great week & call if you need anything!

Serving Him & Loving it!

Carol 😊

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Extra padding & ice packs in this suit kept me cool while I was driving the golf cart. Water guns are FUN!! And yes, I played organ in this suit as well.