



N.C. MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT: JUNE 7, 2020

JANET SMITH

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL | NORTH CAROLINA

Like clockwork every summer, signs pop up on church landscapes across North Carolina that say, “Register for Vacation Bible School!” Even after 100-plus years, this week-long tradition remains an effective evangelism strategy that brings children in the community together to play, learn and seek biblical truths.

But is there a way to extend the reach of VBS once the week has come to a close? Janet Smith leads the preschool and children’s ministry at First Baptist Church in Asheboro, and she thinks so. She says that every year, a couple of weeks after the church’s VBS, they reuse the materials at the Growing Place Childcare Center managed by the church. The preschool teachers lead their age groups, while Janet and other church members teach school-age children.

When a child from the church demonstrated how to find books throughout the Bible, Janet noticed that the child’s eyes grew wide and their jaws were slacked. So, she offered to teach them. Other children started to pick it up, and one girl learned all the Bible books and divisions in two-and-a-half weeks.

While our church prepares for its VBS or other summer outreach, pray not only for our church’s volunteers, but others in the community as we all seek the common goal of introducing our community’s children to Jesus. Let’s thank God for the opportunity to serve Him by teaching the next generation, and ask Him to show our church how to extend the outreach of our program beyond the week of VBS.