

Oh what a lovely month was May!

The Lakeview Presbyterian Weekday School had a jam-packed end of term in May. We had a husband and wife team who own a business called Zoo to You come and visit. All of the age groups were able to go and had so much fun looking at and petting the animals. They were especially thrilled with the giant land turtle named Tank and the baby kangaroo named Captain. However, the bunnies, chickens, goats and pigs had their fair share of petting too. Do you know what sea creatures alive today date back to the age of the dinosaurs and are related to spiders and scorpions? Horseshoe crabs! New Orleans' local aquarium came for a visit as well and brought a variety of live crabs to show the kids. They saw hermit crabs, blue crabs and a horseshoe crab. A few of them were even brave enough to touch the



funny looking horseshoe crab! On our last day of school we held a picnic for the students and their parents in the Fellowship Hall of the church. I got to visit with most of my students for a few hours and witness them get hopped up on sugary Snoballs (Similar to a snow cone but larger and with amazing syrups). I was very sad to see them go, some of them for good and others for the summer.

[Left- Dayschool students enjoy their indoor picnic]

May brought a flurry of Vacation Bible School activity. I performed yet another skit for the amusement of the congregation as well as recruited teachers and supplies. My total is up to 30 kids right now though I'm short some staff. I'm very excited for June 22 though also nervous. I also came up with and began planning for the Summer Sunday School curriculum which has been dubbed The Community Connection due to the mission oriented nature of the program. You can imagine my surprise that I already have two months worth of teachers signed up! It's wonderful to see how the children's programs have flourished. Montreat is making a blip on my radar finally. I was accepted as a small group leader for the week the Lakeview kids are going. I'll have responsibilities outside of chaperoning but it cuts the cost for everyone involved so it's a good thing. God has certainly been calling me some places I never would have gone. I even offered to try and kick start the youth program! It feels like ages since my student teaching experience but I can hear all the advice bouncing through my head when the thought of working with youth pops up again. Maura had her last day on the 31<sup>st</sup>. I miss the teamwork as well as her presence. Being the CE Coordinator and myself is a lot of work!



[Right- Alligators and goats were just the beginning of the Zoo2You fun.]

Another activity that May brought was a dinner with the gathering of Presbyterian Women. A group of them were in the area to volunteer for rebuilding and the YAVs joined them for dinner. All four of us shared what we've been doing and what got us here. It was nice to have that time to express what has been happening. As it turns out, the Presbyterian Women were one of the largest financial contributors to the restoration of the Day school I've been working at! They were doubly excited to hear what was going on at Lakeview and their enthusiasm blessed me. It's always good to be reminded that there are others involved who aren't on the "front lines" so to speak.

Take care and enjoy your June!

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