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NOUVELLES DU CAMEROUN

EDITION N°13 // YEP-VBS 2023

Youth Engagement Program (YEP) / Vacation Bible School (VBS) is organized by Cameroon Mission Work (CAMWORK) in collaboration with the Churches of Christ and Reachout Cameroon. It is a one-month program for kids aged 5 to 15 every summer. This year, it was organized in 8 locations: June 26th to July 22nd in Bonaberi, Cité de la Paix, Kongwe, Mudeka, Tiko, Buea and Muea, and August 1st to 27th in Bangangte. A total of 779 kids attended. The theme was "I AM INCREDIBLE, I AM SPECIAL" from Psalms 139:14.



YEP VBS CLOSING IN MUEA

Cameroon greetings and blessings to God's people throughout the world! This program was facilitated by 55 volunteers: 43 natives and 12 short-term missionaries from the USA. This year was special with a team of 12 from Cloverdale Church of Christ and Harding University in Searcy AR USA who joined the 43 native facilitators to make YEP/VBS a success.

The team from USA worked in Cité de la Paix, Bonaberi, Kongwe and Mudeka mostly in crafts, games and songs. They did not visit the other 3 locations due to insecurity and distance.

Some of the team were able to visit with the Divisional Officer of Bonaberi and the representative of the head of state in Bonaberi.



Part of the USA Crew, Louis and Christopher

Activities included: Bible Studies, Arts and Crafts, Singing, Cooking, Sex Education and Personal Hygiene, Environmental Education, Children's Rights, Games, Memory Verses, and Skits. Every activity was centered on the theme.



Kongwe Class 3 Kids Bible Study



Bonaberi Class 1 Kids Bible Study

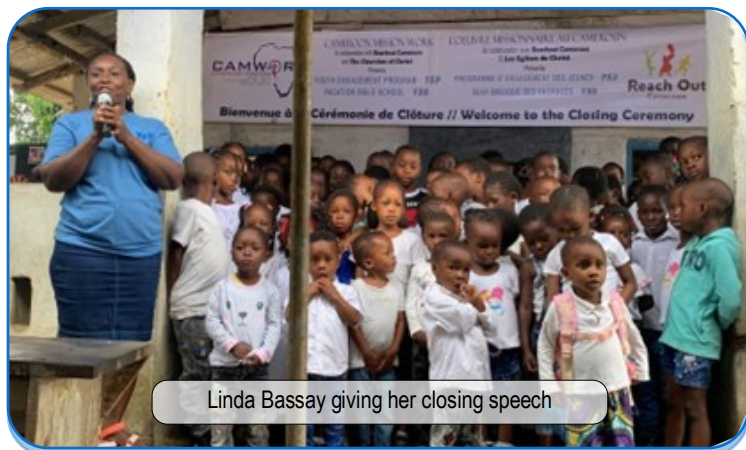


Working on craft: Paper Bag



Celebrating a Job Well Done in Kongwe

The program ended with a Closing ceremony where parents were invited, and kids showcased their arts works and presented activities learned throughout. Linda Bassay, the YEP-VBS general coordinator presented the welcome speeches. Gifts of school supplies (backpacks, exercise books, pens, pencils, erasers, rulers, sharpeners, lunch boxes, cups, umbrellas) were provided to each of the participants. Certificates of participation were given to all participants and special prizes were given out based on best crafts, scripture memorization, etc. The word of God was preached. Presentations were done by preachers of the different locations except for Dr. Robertson who preached in Kongwe, and Chris Lowe who preached in Mudeka. The program concluded with a meal provided to all those present, volunteers, children and their families.



Linda Bassay giving her closing speech



Dr. Robertson preaching in Kongwe

Kids learned how to love God more, to have consideration for themselves and others, and how to recognize and avoid sexual predators. The activities provided an opportunity for fellowship and bonding with other kids and a sense of empowerment. During the closing ceremony, parents gave testimonies of how the YEP/VBS program has

impacted their children positively and promised to send them every year and even send them to Sunday school classes in the local churches of Christ. Some congregations are already experiencing this impact as their Sunday school classes keep swelling after every YEP-VBS edition.

The budget for the YEP/VBS is around \$8000 (approximately \$10 per child), with over half of that going to providing school supplies to each child. We are thankful to all of our financial supporters for this program. We couldn't do this program without you. We were about \$1500 short of our budget this year and had to cut back in several areas. We are looking for additional partners to help us with this program in 2024 and beyond. Please let us know if that is something you can help with.

With each passing year, as the numbers of this program grow, transportation becomes more and more challenging. We transport large numbers of volunteers and children to and from these locations over the course of four weeks. With the other transportation challenges we have over the course of the year (Youth Forum, Youth Retreat, Kerusso Experience, Evangelism campaigns, etc.) we are hoping to raise funds to purchase a small 19 passenger bus

In spite of all the challenges, YEP/VBS 2023 was a great success. May the Almighty God bless all donors and facilitators who made this achievement possible.

To God be the glory!

More pictures have been uploaded to www.camwork.org

To view the video of Dr Robertson presentation at Cloverdale about the summer mission to Cameroon, go to the above website, under [Publications](#), scroll to [Activities](#) or click the following youtube link [2023 Camwork Summer Report](#)

One more thing: "let brotherly love continue!"