

Good Shepherd VBS'ers learn love for all creatures

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Shopper News

The Church of the Good Shepherd recently hosted a late-summer Vacation Bible School and the theme was "Doers of the Word," loosely based on the StoryPath lesson plan "Doing the Word" written by Krista Lovell.

Each day began by reading a children's book that guided the group. One story dealt with kindness and the importance of showing kindness to others. Children painted "kindness rocks" to hide in a garden and be a happy surprise for others and listened to the parable of The Good Samaritan.

During one session, the group read the book "Wangari's Trees of Peace," written by Jeanette Winter, and discussed recycling as a way to care for the environment. They created recycling containers for participants to take home.

Lyn Bales from Ijams Nature Center helped wrap up the week. He brought a



Lyn Bales from Ijams Nature Center shows a tarantula to participants in Vacation Bible School at The Church of the Good Shepherd in Fountain City, June 2018. SUBMITTED

menagerie of animals both real and pretend to share with the children. In preparation for Bales' visit, the book "In the Beginning" was read to remind participants that God created and cares for all living things.

Bales developed a program that highlighted the ways animals recycle carbon in the environment to tie in to the focus on recycling and brought personal millipedes with him to demonstrate one of

the ways carbon recycling is accomplished.

He brought and taught about a tarantula, a snake and a screech owl. His programs were the highlight of the week, and the children were fascinated by both what he taught them and by the opportunity to observe some of God's creatures so closely.