Vacation Bible School: Marianist Style

by Patti Gehred, NACMS VLC Coordinator

If you were paying close attention on the weekend of June 15-17, 2012, you may have noticed children returning to Mt. St. John on magic carpets, lead by Blessed Chaminade, Venerable Adèle or Marie Thérèse, after visiting India, Peru, or Congo. Well, if you have an active imagination . . .

This summer Maggie Atkinson, Religious Education Coordinator at Queen of Apostles Community (QAC) collaborated with Janine Scott, Danielle Weidner, and Patti Gehred (NACMS staff members) on a Vacation Bible School weekend for Marianist Family members and QAC parishioners.

Entitled, “Come Journey with Jesus” the Marianist founders acted as tour guides for 15 participants, aged 3-11, as they learned about Marianist presence in India, Peru, and Congo.

Danielle Weidner, NACMS intern, noted, “It was exciting to see a new way for the founders to come alive for the kids.”

The program included puppet shows, skits, crafts, snacks, and exhibits from the three selected countries. The children played an active role in the closing liturgy and the readings were pronounced in English, Hindi, Spanish, and French. A display of the children’s artwork decorated the vestibule for parishioners and parents to view on their way home.

During the program a four year old proclaimed, “We are like a Super Family!” which will be the theme for our 2013 program. Stay tuned!