Sugar Creek Bible Camp Fall Newsletter, 2023



Letter from the Executive Director

By Jesse Klosterboer

These days, even at Bible camp, we see how the post-pandemic world brings hard new challenges for children and youth. But we also see God's love in action, making real connections for campers that are healing and empowering in ways that last a lifetime.

Thanks to you, as people connected to this ministry over the years, Sugar Creek keeps being built up into an ever more powerful space to offer these healing connections – to Jesus, with each other, in nature – all in a spirit of FUN among peers.

Here you and I get to witness so much good that God brings into this world. This summer we saw God continuing to "cultivate" your sacred valley into a safe place for real conversations, overcoming challenges together, finding new callings at any age, discovering ourselves anew in the light of our Creator, and exploring who and Whose we are in ways that empower campers in life and faith. God is good!

Rain or shine... in outdoor adventures together, campers and staff explored how we are "Wholly Loved" (our Bible study theme), and guided by the Holy Spirit who gives us life and guides us along the way.

2023 Summer Staff

In a world where youth and families seem ever less connected with communities of an inclusive, loving, Biblical, Christian faith, the 125 member churches of Sugar Creek worked together to commission 25 youth ministry staff who spent 11 weeks growing together and blessing 841 participants (overnight youth campers, Family Camp participants, and Explorers).

Moreover, 41 amazing volunteer trainers, nurses, pastors, and resource folks lent their hearts, hands, and expertise to the mission. Volunteers continue coming every week to your camp: maintaining, building, repairing, and encouraging – as God works in their own lives.

We hope you enjoy this newsletter, and a taste of the thousands of "God moments" we witnessed so far this year. By your faith, put in action through Bible camp support, you have a hand in uplifting and empowering thousands. But we can't stop here. Let's GROW this much-needed blessing that God brings to families, churches, and communities even more this year!





I am the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End. -Revelation 22:13

Our God is a God of expansiveness. God stretches beyond time and understanding, loving without boundaries. This sacred valley was filled with buzzing energy as campers got to live out this message all summer. Through dynamic programming, worship, and Bible studies campers were able to explore who they are and Whose they are under the care of the summer staff. This year's staff was filled with talented, passionate, and loving young people. It was a privilege to witness them foster life-long memories for campers of all ages. They walked alongside campers through some of life's greatest joys and hardest trials with the grace and love of God. This was most evident in the Thursday night worships when counselors prayed for each camper in their cabin. It is a beautiful ritual to watch as the prayers rose up to God; a representation of the life-changing, Christ-centered relationships being built this summer at Sugar Creek. This was all possible in no small part thanks to you who have prayed and supported Sugar Creek Bible Camp with your gifts and talents.





Because of your generosity, Sugar Creek Bible Camp was able to be part of a pilot program with Peer Ministry. A new curriculum of socio-emotional skills rooted in faith that enabled to have tools to build campers relationships, share God's love, and be leaders at home. Sugar Creek was also able to update the Counselor in Training program to LEAD--Leaders Engaged as Disciples. A new format of 4 weeks at camp, completely covered by scholarships, allowed high school students to have a deeper dive into spirit-led leadership. Sugar Creek will continue to be a sacred place for all next summer with the theme-Created to Be. See you Summer 2024!

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QUILT AUCTION 2023

\$1,940.50

\$1,974.00

\$1,100.00

\$125.00

\$25,394.00 Auction raised: **Country Store:** Sale of Food: **Trading Post** 5K Walk & Run

Grand Total: \$30,533.50

Sugar Creek Bible Camp wants to thank you for being so kind to donate to the annual auction, volunteer or make quilts! Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!!

VOLUNTEER NOW | VOLUNTEER NOW | VOLUNTEER NOW | VOLUNTEER NOW Get Involved!

Your gifts inspire and equip kids, families, and churches to love and serve a world in need!

VOLUNTEER

Every Tuesday, 9:00–3:00 pm, volunteers gather for maintaince projects. Sugar Creek also hosts Fall and Spring Volunteer Work Days. Individuals and groups can schedule service days with the camp office.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS & ACTION GRANTS



Designate Sugar Creek Bible Camp for your Thrivent Choice Dollars. Visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice. Thrivent also provides members with up to two "Action Team" cards worth \$250 each every year. Scan the QR code to submit your interest in applying for an Action Team Grant.

Or contact: program@sgrcreek.org for help.

PIONEER CLUB

The Pioneer Club is a group of people who give annually to the ministries of Sugar Creek Bible Camp. With a gift as low as \$100 annually, you can become a member of the Pioneer Club to sustain this gospel work. Thank you for helping to make our ministries effective, safe, and strong!

DONATE or SHOP the AMAZON WISH LIST



Can't join a team in person? Want to play another role in growing this good work? Donate to a specific project, or shop the Amazon Wish List (scan the QR Code). As a 501c3 nonprofit, your gifts to Sugar Creek can be 100% tax deductible.

Sugar Creek Bible Camp 2023-2024 Youth Retreats







What do you root your faith in? Explore spiritual practices to root your faith in and your favorite camp activities!

October 6-7: Rooted in Joy Middle School & High School Retreat

October 28: Rooted in *Creativity* Elementary Retreat **February 2-3: Rooted in** *Service* High School Retreat

March 15-16: Rooted in the Word Confirmation Retreat

April 20: Rooted in *Love* Elementary Retreat

Registration Opens: August 18, 2023

Payment and Registration is due 1 week before each retreat. 1 Night Retreats run Friday 7:00 pm - Saturday 7:00 pm & cost \$75/person 1 Day Retreats run Saturday 10:00 am - 7:00 pm & cost \$50/person

> Retreats include games, worship, team building, crafts, Bible studies, and so much more!

Campers and chaperones must register online with their church. For more information and to register visit: www.SugarCreekBibleCamp.org

RETREATS YOUR WAY

Sugar Creek Bible Camp is a year-round retreat destination for personal getaways or group events, offering fiber optic wifi and hospitable staff. With over 600 acres of woods and outdoor space, it's an ideal location for family gatherings and memorable experiences. Contact the camp office for facility availabilities or to plan a customized retreat.

WWW.SUGARCREEKBIBLECAMP.ORG

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SUGAR CREEK BIBLE CAMP SUMMER EMPLOYMENT & PAID INTERNSHIPS



A wide variety of Summer Staff Positions are available with many that can be turned into a custom academic internships. Spend summer in 660 acres of bluffs, streams, forests, and prairies. Grow in faith alongside 1,000 campers with exciting programs and trips. Contact Program Director with questions at program@sgrcreek.org or call (608)734-3113

Benefits

- Paid Training
- Lodging with Private Bathrooms and Rec Areas
- Meals Provided
- Time off on Weekends
- Concrete Leadership Experience for your Professional Resume
- Lifelong Friends and a Community of Support
- Grow in Faith, Confidence, and Resilience

APPLY TODAY

Application online at www.SugarCreekBibleCamp.org or scan the QR Code



INVITE SUGAR CREEK BIBLE CAMP

TO YOU!

Executive Director, Jesse Klosterboer, and Program Director, Deacon Stephanie Engel, would love to join your congregation or ministry for worship, adult forums, or intergenerational faith formation opportunities.

Sugar Creek Bible Camp staff are available to preach, lead camp songs, or present on topics like retreat ministry and team building. To schedule a visit contact the camp office at (608)734-3113 or office@sgrcreek.org.





Road to Bethlehem

Saturday, December 2, 2:00-5:00 pm An Advent Drive-Thru Event

YESTERDAY'S YOUTH MONDAY, DECEMBER 4

Fellowship begins at 9:00 am. Morning program, "Revisiting and Reconciling Marquette and Joliette's 1673 expedition to the Mississippi." Delicious lunch and afternoon music. MUSIC: SELECTIONS FROM \$15 per person includes meal. NORTH CRAWFORD SCHOOL **RSVPs** appreciated.

2024 CRAFT

RETREATS



MICHAEL DOUGLAS



WINTER FUN DAYS! JANUARY 14 & FEBRUARY 4, 2024, 1:00-4:00 PM

Snow or no, it's a go! Sledding, tubing, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, and all sorts of outdoor winter fun. Equipment is provided or you can bring your own. A lunch of hot dogs and chili provided along with cozy drinks. RSVPs appreciated to let us know you will be joining us. Cost: \$10/person, children 4 & under are free.

> Cost includes lodging, meals and work space.

Thursday - Sunday: \$250

Friday - Sunday: \$225 <u>February 8 - 11</u>

"Lydia, Dorcas, and Phoebe -Crafters of Faith" **October 10 - 13**

"Molded by Hand"

Please contact the camp office at 608-734-3113 to RSVP or check for more information at: WWW.SUGARCREEKBIBLECAMP.ORG

2023/2024 CALENDAR

October 2 Yesterday's Youth 6-7 MS/HS Youth Retreat 13-15 Women's Retreat 21 Trail Day & Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon 28 Elementary Youth Retreat

November

3 Fireside Dinner Theater Bus Trip: "Scrooge" the musical

6-10 Bus Trip, Branson Christmas Shows

December 2 Road to Bethlehem 4 Yesterday's Youth

January 14 Winter Fun Day 18 Fireside Dinner Theater Bus Trip: "Jersey Boys" the musical <u>February</u> 2-3 High School Youth Retreat 4 Winter Fun Day 8-11 Winter Craft Retreat 18 Annual Meeting

<u>March</u> 15-16 Confirmation Youth Retreat 30 Easter Brunch

<u>April</u> 8 Yesterday's Youth 20 Elementary Youth Retreat

<u>May</u> 3-5 Volunteer Work Weekend

June 9 First Day of Summer Camp!



Sugar Creek Bible Camp 13141 SCBC Road Ferryville, WI 54628

What's Inside

- Upcoming Events
- Summer Recap
- Quilt Auction Summary



WWW.SUGARCREEKBIBLECAMP.ORG