

# Creekside Currents



Daily themes include:

- God's Word Comes Near in **Trusting**
- God's Word Comes Near in **Blessing**
- God's Word Comes Near in **Listening**
- God's Word Comes Near in **Serving**
- God's Word Comes Near in **Following**



## From the Program Director by Deacon Stephanie Engel



Confirmation Camp was not what I expected when I was 13. I felt God's presence in a way I'll never forget. God was in the songs we sang, the crafts we made, and the glow of the campfire. But what stands out the most is a moment on the team-building course.

My counselor pulled me aside and told me she saw how I stepped up to lead an activity. She said I'd make a great camp counselor someday—that I could help others just like she was helping me. In that moment, her encouragement felt like more than just kind words. I felt **God's Word coming near**.

Camp was where I truly felt free to be myself—and where I learned that was actually a good thing to be.

This summer, hundreds of young people and families will get to experience that same kind of growth. Your loved ones will be seen, encouraged, and challenged to try new things. And through scripture, friendships, and time in nature, they will discover the many ways **God's Word comes near**.

Campers won't just hear about God's love—they'll experience it through the fun we share: horseback riding, archery, canoe trips, and so much more. They'll make memories and hear affirmations that will stay with them for years to come.

From my own experience, that is what helps young people develop the life skills they need to be resilient and have healthy self-confidence. And when they return to their home communities—just like yours!—they'll carry a renewed sense of their own calling to love and serve.

So come to camp! Offer a personal invite to others. Let us sit in the Word of God together as it comes near to all people.

# Foresters Day Camp

For families with busy schedules, finding a meaningful and engaging summer option for children can be a challenge. That's why Sugar Creek Bible Camp is excited to expand the Foresters program, designed especially for campers whose parents are working during the day. This flexible, week-by-week program provides a fun-filled, faith-based alternative to traditional summer care.

Each week, incoming 5K through 6th graders are invited to experience the best of summer camp in a welcoming and nurturing environment. With a schedule running Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM – 5:30 PM, parents can have peace of mind knowing their children are spending their days making friends, exploring nature, and growing in faith. Campers will take part in a wide range of activities that encourage creativity, adventure, and teamwork! Enroll at [www.SugarCreekBibleCamp.org](http://www.SugarCreekBibleCamp.org).

## Weekly Dates and Themes:

- June 16–20, Trail Trekker – Finding God in the Journey
- June 23–27, Water Wonders – Splashing with God
- June 30–July 4, Superheroes of Faith – Bible Heroes & You
- July 7–11, Eco-Stewards – Taking Care of Creation
- July 14–18, Joyful Noise – Creative Expressions of Faith
- July 21–25, Neighbors of the World – Joining God's Mission
- July 28–Aug. 1, Holiday Extravaganza – Seasons' Meanings
- Aug. 4–8, Discovery Island – Exploring God and STEAM



## WHY CAMP?

An encouraging counselor, watching your child thrive, meeting your spouse, volunteering—everyone has a story about their connection to Sugar Creek Bible Camp.

As we soon celebrate 60 years of ministry, Sugar Creek is gathering stories of why you come, give, serve, and invite others. These stories will be shared through print, digital media, and video.

Would you like to share your “Why Camp” story? Contact the office!

### Ministry Partner Highlight: Sacred Playgrounds

Sacred Playgrounds helps camps by gathering information, sharing insights, supporting staff and leaders, and creating resources for outdoor and faith-based ministries.

One helpful resource is **Why Camp**, a collection of materials to help churches share the benefits of camp with their congregations. Learn more at [www.SacredPlaygrounds.com](http://www.SacredPlaygrounds.com).





# Summer 2025

Camp Enrollment & Staff Applications Now Open!

## 20 Unique Programs for K-12 Youth & Families



scan  
for  
more  
info

[www.SugarCreekBibleCamp.org/Summer-Camp](http://www.SugarCreekBibleCamp.org/Summer-Camp)



### *From the Sugar Creek Kitchen* Chocolate No Bake Lasagna

#### **Crust**

6 Tbs butter, melted

36 Oreos

#### **Layer 1**

1- 8 oz cream cheese, softened

1/4 cup sugar

2 Tbs milk

12 oz Cool Whip, divided

#### **Layer 2**

2 (3.9 oz) packages chocolate instant pudding

3 1/4 cups milk

#### **Topping**

mini chocolate chips

crushed Oreos (optional)

**Instructions:** Blend Oreos into fine crumbs. Add melted butter and mix until combined. Press into 9 X 13 pan and place in freezer for 5 minutes.

**Layer 1:** In mixing bowl, whip cream cheese with mixer until fluffy. Add sugar and milk. Mix until combined. Stir in 1 cup Cool Whip, then spread over crust and freeze for 5-10 minutes more.

**Layer 2:** In a separate bowl, whisk pudding and milk until thick. Once it is thick spread over cream cheese layer. Freeze another 5-10 minutes.

**Topping:** Once pudding sets, spread the rest of the Cool Whip on top and sprinkle with mini chocolate chips or crushed Oreos. Refrigerate. Slice just before serving.





# Engaging Children Initiative

Excerpts from *Engaging Children*, by Pr. Anna Sorenson & Kendra Wieser  
Originally Published by Sacred Playgrounds, January 2025

## Aligned

Congregations and Camps have a significant amount of mission alignment – gospel proclamation, building community, ensuring safety for those who enter our sacred spaces, and strengthening families for faithful living. One of our greatest areas of mission overlap is engaging children in worship.

The Engaging Children Initiative leaders are excited to share the work we'll be doing for the next 4.5 years through the Engaging Children Initiative of the La Crosse Area Synod (ELCA). We are both congregational ministers who believe that children are not just the future of the church, but are the church now – and one of our convictions is that children should be integrated into all aspects of worship. We know that there are places of worship that do this invitation and integration well and attend to the unique needs of children. And no one engages children in worship better than our camps.

So... Sugar Creek Bible Camp has been invited to partner in learning deeply, engaging in important self-reflection and assessment, and creating networks of camp and congregational leaders who learn from one another, support one another, and work to ensure that all God's children feel welcome and are able to bring their whole selves to Christian worship. (Read more...)

## What is the Engaging Children Initiative?

ECI adds connectivity, intentionality & supportive resources to the La Crosse Area Synod's on-going mission

 cultivating life-giving relationships rooted in God's love.

We are here to help equip ministry leaders to creatively engage children in prayer & worshipful experiences through



the arts



movement



curiosity



story



**Scan the QR Code to read the full article and find out more.**

Sugar Creek is thrilled to be part of the Engaging Children Initiative. This will allow camp to continue and build our ability to be both a place of engaging worship and a resource hub of children, youth, and family ministry for our partners in ministry!



## ADULT HORSE RETREAT

### *Saddle & Soul*

May 16-18, 2025

Cost: \$379

Theme: Stable Ground

U Care & Grooming

U Ground Work Exercises

U Horse Yoga

U Skill Building Arena Time

U Trail Rides

U Workshops

Beyond the barn, immerse yourself in community and relaxation with a soothing sauna, creative crafts, and meaningful devotions.

Lodging and meals are included.

**Space is limited—sign up today!**

online at: [www.SugarCreekBibleCamp.org](http://www.SugarCreekBibleCamp.org)

\$50 Deposit due May 1.



### “Adopt” a SCBC Horse

By adopting a horse with an annual gift of \$100+, you sponsor the care of one of the camp horses. Each adoption tier level comes with a photo of the horse and a certificate of participation. More benefits of each level can be found online.

Your support helps ensure the herd continues to create cherished memories for campers year after year.

- Friend \$100+
- Caregiver \$250+
- Advocate \$500+
- Champion \$800+



Visit the website at:  
[www.SugarCreekBibleCamp.org/horse/](http://www.SugarCreekBibleCamp.org/horse/)  
to meet the herd.

### Coming Soon!

Sugar Creek is excited to expand its horse programming to include offerings for home school students and youth. Watch our social media for more opportunities.

#### EYES

- Horses have great night vision.
- Horses have the largest eyes of any land mammal.
- Horses are farsighted.

#### TEETH

- Horse teeth take up more space in their head than their brains.
- Horse teeth give you an idea of how old the horse is.
- Adult horses have 36-44 teeth.
- Horses have their teeth checked yearly. This process is called “floating.”

### Horse Facts



## Yesterday's Youth Monday, April 7



### Speaker:

Sue Swanson, Ph. D.  
*An overview of Geology  
in Wisconsin.*



### YESTERDAY'S YOUTH SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

- 9:00 AM – COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP
- 9:45 AM – WELCOME & DEVOTION
- 10:00 AM – PRESENTATION WITH BREAK
- NOON – LUNCH
- 1:00 PM – SUGAR CREEK UPDATES
- 1:15-2:30 PM – MUSIC

\$15 PER PERSON INCLUDES MEAL.

Registration is helpful for lunch count.

### Music: Kickapoo Joy Juice

*A mix of Old Time, Country, Blues,  
Polka, Square Dance and originals.*

## Easter Egg Hunt and Brunch Saturday, April 19



Egg Hunt and Activities – \$5/child  
Brunch (ages 5 and up) – \$10/person  
Brunch (ages 4 and under) – Free

Brunch and activities will be  
held at Manna Center.

Family friendly activities and  
fun for everyone!

Please RSVP to [office@sgrcreek.org](mailto:office@sgrcreek.org) by Friday, April 11.



Brunch: 10 AM  
Egg Hunt: 11 AM

## Sugar Creek Volunteer Work Weekend

Saturday, May 3, 2025

9:00 am – 7:00 pm

FREE Lodging Friday Night



- Help prepare camp facilities and trails for Summer Camp!
- Projects available for all skill levels.
- Invite your church, friends, youth groups, and family.
- Enjoy Sugar Creek's hospitality and hearty meals.

**RSVP FOR YOUR GROUP TODAY!**



# 2025 Bus Trips

Join Sugar Creek host Sheila Champlin for two trips in 2025.

Trips include lodging at camp the night before trip leaves, luxury coach bus, hotel accommodations and some meals.

**September 15-19, 2025**

**Lake Superior, North Shore, Duluth, MN**

Registration Deadline: July 1

- North Shore Scenic Railroad
- Split Rock Lighthouse
- Gooseberry Falls State Park
- and much more

**November 10-14, 2025**

**Branson Missouri Christmas Shows**

Registration Deadline: September 15

- Daniel O'Donnell Show
- Presley's Country Jubilee
- Dutton Family Christmas
- and much more

## *Fireside Dinner Theater Day Trip*

June 5, 2025

Church Basement Ladies in the  
"Last Potluck Supper"

October 30, 2025

Christmas Show  
"It's a Wonderful Life"



Contact the camp office at 608-734-3113 or [camp@sgrcreek.org](mailto:camp@sgrcreek.org) for detailed flyers.

## 2025 Calendar

### **March**

7-8 Confirmation Retreat

22 Elementary Retreat

### **April**

7 Yesterday's Youth

19 Easter Egg Hunt & Brunch

### **May**

3 Volunteer Work Weekend

16-19 Adult Horse Retreat

### **June**

4 Pioneer Dinner

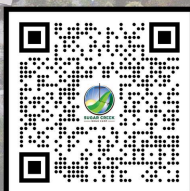
5 Fireside Dinner Theater:  
Church Basement Ladies in  
"The Last Potluck Supper"

15 Summer Camp Begins

### **August**

18 Golf Fundraiser

Learn more & see updates.  
Scan QR code.



### **September**

8-11 Lake Superior, North Shore,  
Duluth Bus Trip

13 Quilt Auction & Fall Festival

### **October**

6 Yesterday's Youth

9-12 Fall Craft Retreat

24-26 Women's Retreat

30 Fireside Dinner Theater:  
"It's a Wonderful Life"

### **November**

1 Elementary Youth Retreat

10-14 Branson Christmas Shows Bus  
Trip

14-15 Middle & High School Youth  
Retreat

18 Volunteer Lunch

### **December**

6 Road to Bethlehem

8 Yesterday's Youth

More information and promotional materials to share with your congregation can be found on the  
Congregational Resources page: [www.SugarCreekBibleCamp.org/congregation-resources/](http://www.SugarCreekBibleCamp.org/congregation-resources/)





Sugar Creek Bible Camp  
13141 SCBC Road  
Ferryville, WI 54628

## What's Inside

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- Upcoming Events



Mission Statement: *"Where all generations encounter Christ, experience God's grace, and are empowered by the Holy Spirit to go forth in faith."*

Please contact the camp office at 608-734-3113 or [office@sgrcreek.org](mailto:office@sgrcreek.org)

**[WWW.SUGARCREEKBIBLECAMP.ORG](http://WWW.SUGARCREEKBIBLECAMP.ORG)**