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## Stewards of God's Possibilities

Luke 1:26 – 38



**July 18, 2010**

*Sugar Creek exists to reach the unchurched  
in our community with God's love and  
develop devoted disciples of Jesus Christ.*

## NEWS, EVENTS & HAPPENINGS

### Today—Christmas in July Services

#### Sunday evening softball at Sugar Creek

Sugar Creek vs. Chatham UMC at 6:30 p.m. (north diamond)

**Vacation Bible School** (*Preschool—5th Grade*) - **The fun begins tomorrow (6:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.)**. New friends, amazing crafts, wild games, lip-smacking snacks, swashbuckling Bible adventures and incredible music are what you can expect at our **HIGH SEAS EXPEDITION!** Ready yourself for the voyage of a lifetime where kids will explore the mighty love of God.

**HIGH SEAS EXPEDITION DECORATING PARTY—TODAY** from 1:00 p.m.—3:00 p.m. Please come and help us get ready for VBS. We will also meet on Monday morning at 10:00 a.m.

**NO MEETINGS THIS WEEK DUE TO VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**  
**Please contact your team chairperson with questions.**

**CHURCH FELLOWSHIP**—Come join the fun and excitement of High Seas Expedition/Kumler Mission Project Potluck **Sunday, July 25th** following third service (12:30 p.m.) Hot dogs, and drinks provided, please bring a side dish to share. If you plan on joining us make sure to sign up on the back of the connection card.

Don't forget to bring in sizes 4 & 5 diapers for Kumler. Look for the drop box in the church foyer, you won't be able to miss it!

**TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME**—The United Methodist Men of Sugar Creek are sponsoring a trip to a St. Louis baseball game. We will purchase tickets through the Chatham Chamber of Commerce. Tickets are just \$15 (Chatham Pride T-shirt included). The deadline to purchase tickets is July 31st. Sign up on the enclosed connection card if you are wanting to purchase tickets and we will contact you. You may also contact Jay Davis (483-2778). Transportation arrangements will be announced at a later date.

**Date: Saturday, September 18, 4:15 p.m.**  
**St. Louis Cardinals vs. San Diego Padres**

*The flower arrangement in the Worship Center  
provided by Mike & Deb Henry in honor  
of their 32nd wedding anniversary*

“It was a Friday evening several years ago and I was taking care of our monthly bills. My husband had been out of work for some time by then.

At the beginning, not knowing how long my husband would be without a job, I had prayed to God that we would change what we needed to about our finances - we'd stop eating out, I'd start taking my lunch, we'd sell our land and give up our dream of building a new house, whatever - but I didn't want to stop tithing or change what I was giving back to God each month. I had taken a number of years to work up to tithing and I didn't want to take a step back. More importantly, I didn't want to start feeling differently about what I was giving or receiving, just because we had only 1/2 of our income. It meant too much to me. God meant too much to me.

So on that Friday night, as I was paying bills, I was writing them in the checkbook and running the balance as I went along. I had paid several bills, but still had 2 or 3 monthly checks plus my tithe to write when I realized that I was going to be short by several hundred dollars. I just sat there staring into space for several moments when I realized that what I needed to do was to just start praying. So I did. I prayed to God that I thought we had enough money, I asked what I had done wrong that we didn't have enough, I prayed that I couldn't be late on these bills and that I didn't want to stop giving back to Him. I didn't know when or if ever I would be able to make up my tithe if I stopped giving now.

Now, I must tell you that throughout my life God has spoken to me very loudly and very clearly at times. It's never really anything profound, but it's always what I've absolutely needed at the time to get me through - whether it's a car accident (that's a story for another time) or how to pay my bills. This time was no exception. He spoke to me very clearly and told me to go back 1 month in my checkbook and re-view my addition and subtraction again. So, I did.

One month earlier, we had received our tax refund and at that time, I was able to pay extra bills and do some other things with the money that we had received to help keep our finances on track. As I reviewed my subtraction, I realized that I had not carried some numbers correctly and that my totals were off. In correcting the totals, I found that they were wrong by the exact amount that I needed. I praised God. I thanked Him with all of my being and wrote the last few checks - with my tithe check being the first one. It took our checking account down to a very few dollars, but I didn't care. My prayers had been answered and my faith in such small things increased that night by leaps and bounds.

Ever since that time, I always make it a point to write my tithe check first and to trust in God that he will provide what I need. He **ALWAYS** has.

Philippians 4:6-7 Do not be anxious for anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, when transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Matthew 6:25-27 Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?”

Crystal Matthiesen

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY!**

No person was ever honored for what he received.  
He was honored for what he gave.”

– Calvin Coolidge

**SUGAR CREEK STAFF**

- Wesley L. Osborn .....*Pastor*
- Matthew Woodcock ..... *Director of Discipleship Ministries*
- Mike Barnard .....*Director of Traditional Music*
- Andy Hite.....*Director of Contemporary Music*
- Sheila Wilson.....*Administrative Secretary*
- Cheri Hoots .....*Nursery Director*
- Sherry Carrigan ..... *Nursery Attendant*
- Bradley Rickman..... *Custodian*

*(Please contact the church office for an updated list of our elected team members)*

**CHURCH OFFICE INFORMATION**

Monday—Friday 9:00 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

(217) 483-2270 Voice (217) 483-7022 Fax (217) 725-0813 Emergency

www.sugarcreek.org office@sugarcreek.org

**SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Water’s Edge	8:15 a.m.
Cookie, Coffee & Conversation	9:15 a.m.
Living Waters	9:45 a.m.
Christian Education	9:45 a.m.
Cookie, Coffee & Conversation	10:35 a.m.
The Odyssey	11:00 a.m.

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*Information for the church bulletin needs to be received by the office no later than 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday. Deadline for the monthly newsletter is the 15th of the month. Please contact the church office with questions.*

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

July 18, 8:15 a.m.

Christmas In July

	<i>"O Come, All Ye Faithful"</i>	234
* <b>Welcome &amp; Greeting</b>		
* <b>Opening Praise</b>	<i>"Good Christian Friends Rejoice"</i>	224
	<i>"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"</i>	240
	<i>"Joy to the World"</i>	246
<b>Pastoral Prayer and Prayer for Others</b>		
	<i>(Silently remember those with special needs)</i>	
<b>The Lord's Prayer</b>		
	<i>Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.</i>	
<b>Small Talk</b>		Pastor Wes Osborn
<b>Offering</b>	<i>"While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks"</i>	236
	<i>"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"</i>	218
	<i>"Silent Night"</i>	239
<b>Doxology</b>	<i>"Angels from the Realms of Glory" (chorus only)</i>	220
<b>Scripture Lesson</b>	Luke 1:26-38	
<b>Response</b>		Kate Perko
<b>Message</b>	<i>"Stewards of God's Possibilities"</i>	Pastor Wes Osborn
<b>Service of Baptism</b>		Charlene Smith Julias Smith Devin Smith Adam Smith
<b>March to the Manger</b>		
* <b>Hymn of Response</b>	<i>"What Child Is this"</i>	219
* <b>Dismissal with Blessing</b>		
	<i>"Go Tell It on the Mountain"</i>	251



## *We Believe in the Power of Prayer*

Please use this list as a tool during your prayer time throughout the week. If you are in need of prayer, or have a prayer concern please let us know on the Sunday Stub. For respect & privacy, we will not print details of concerns. Due to the Privacy Act, it is very important that you or a family member call the church and tell us when you are in the hospital. Our pastoral staff wants to visit you!



## *Tuesday Morning Prayer*

We believe that prayer is one of the main foundations of Sugar Creek. Each Tuesday morning at 6:30 a.m. a group of people meet in the Worship Center to pray for the needs of individuals, our church, our community, our nation and our world. We invite anyone who would like to join with us as we pray.

## *Nursing Home Residents*



**Connie Athey**  
**Betty Dickerson**  
**Kathy Loffland**  
**Pat Martin**  
**Norma Miller**

## *Homebound*

**Mary Clark**  
**Jerry Garrison**  
**Frances Mottar**  
**Jane Stephenson**

**Fannie Curby**  
**Jim Marvin**  
**Ken & Susie Seibert**  
**Opal Tuxhorn**



*Pray for  
Our  
Military*

**Aron Balance**

**Tommy Crenshaw**

**B.J. Leathers**

**Dave Oller**

**Brian Satterlee**

**Robert Willis**

**Brenden Birch**

**Marty Durbin**

**Jerry Mayes**

**Jeff Palmisano**

**Stuart Scheller**

**Mike Yagle**

**Chip Cormier**

**Brandon Eby**

**Matt Mikos**

**Dana M. Post**

**Greg Vaughn**



*Give God quality time!*



- Jessie Ayers** ..... *Sugar Creek Family*  
**Chad Brendan \*** ..... *Sugar Creek Family*  
**Ellen Clark**..... *Sugar Creek Family*  
**Helen Cole \*\*\***..... *Sugar Creek Family*  
**Lane Cole** ..... *nephew of Mary Bruun*  
**Randy Cooke & family**..... *Sugar Creek Family*  
**Ryley Dudley**..... *Lewis Family*  
**Jerry Garrison \*\*** ..... *Sugar Creek Family*  
**Jim Gray \*\*** ..... *Germann Family*  
**Ed Gregory \***..... *Sugar Creek Family*  
**Dave & Sharon Jones \***..... *Pawnee Residents*  
**Katie Ledferd** ..... *Sugar Creek Family*  
**Cheri Maxey \***..... *Friend of Jay & Linda Davis*  
**Rhett McCrady \***..... *Family of Ken & Joan McCrady*  
**Will Siewert**..... *Friend of Marcia Mackay*  
**Justin & Stephanie Smith & Baby \*\*\***.....  
**Reann Zimmerman**.....*Neighbor of Adrian Chism*

*Please note: prayer requests are listed for three weeks unless requested otherwise.*