



Harper Chapel
August 2026

"Grace and Peace this August.
Join Us in Worship & Community."

"The Field of Dream"

Have you heard of "The Field of Dream" in Iowa? I'm sure many of you have. You may have even stopped to see this baseball field that was built in the middle of corn field. I personally have never been. I saw today that the Universities of Kansas and Iowa are going to have an exhibition game there in October for just \$12! Major League Baseball has a yearly game there now as well. That game will be in just a few week, August 13 between the Minnesota Twins and the Philadelphia Phillies.

Most of us were introduced this oddity of a ball field from the movie entitled "Field of Dreams" in 1989. You probably remember the phrase that was repeated throughout the movie "Build it and he will come." Most people have that phrase wrong in our minds thinking it says "they" instead of "he." Nonetheless, that phrase has been part of many decisions about building something for others.

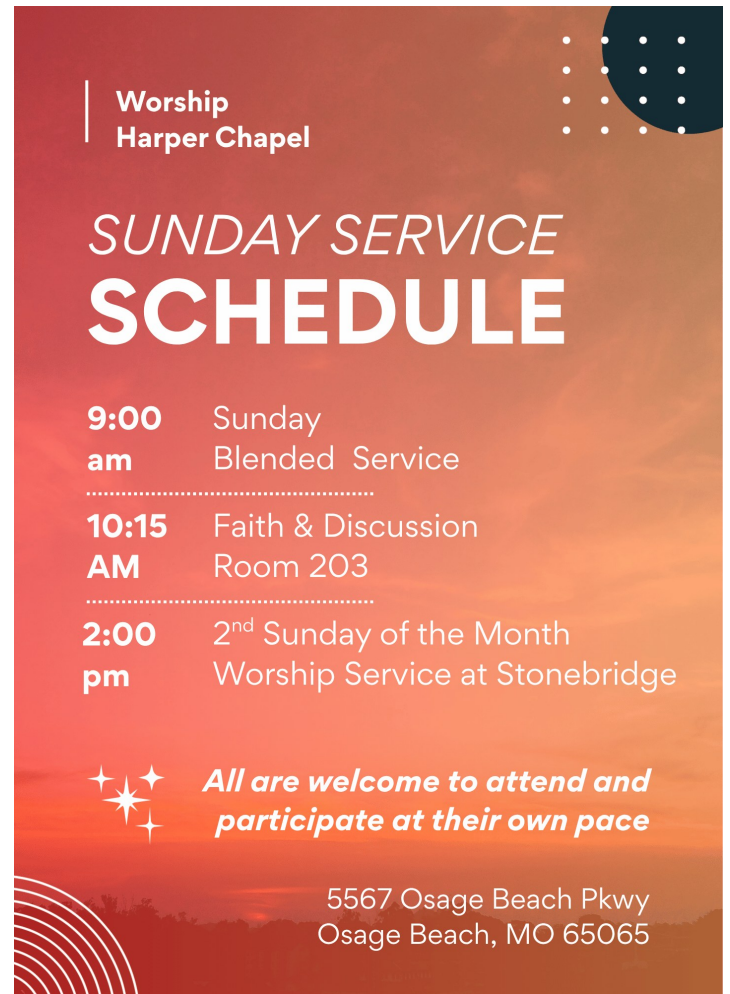
A lot of church buildings were built with that idea in mind that if we build a church, people will come to it. That concept may have been true for a certain period of history, but it no longer holds true. People just are flocking to church buildings because they exist. There has to be a reason for people to come to a church building. The reality is that it is not even the building that draws people in. It is the people who are already there that does that. The style of worship is important for some, but not the deciding factor. Not even the theology is the criteria. I know some people who attend a neighboring church who told me that they do not agree with the the-

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ology of the church completely, but they love their small group and the people they have connected with there.

That means that we need to think about who we are and who we are becoming. That is what will attract people to join us at Harper Chapel. You are the biggest reason for someone to come and worship with us and hopefully become involved. May we become more Christ like in our thoughts and our actions towards others. “If you become more like Christ, *they* will come!”

Pastor Eric

A vertical poster with a red-to-orange gradient background. In the top right corner, there is a dark blue semi-circle with white dots. The text "Worship Harper Chapel" is in the top left. The title "SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE" is in large white letters. Below it, three service times are listed: 9:00 am (Sunday Blended Service), 10:15 AM (Faith & Discussion Room 203), and 2:00 pm (2nd Sunday of the Month Worship Service at Stonebridge). A quote "All are welcome to attend and participate at their own pace" is accompanied by three white stars. The address "5567 Osage Beach Pkwy Osage Beach, MO 65065" is at the bottom right. A white concentric arc graphic is in the bottom left corner.

Worship
Harper Chapel

**SUNDAY SERVICE
SCHEDULE**

9:00 Sunday
am Blended Service

10:15 Faith & Discussion
AM Room 203

2:00 2nd Sunday of the Month
pm Worship Service at Stonebridge

✦ ✦ ✦ *All are welcome to attend and
participate at their own pace*

5567 Osage Beach Pkwy
Osage Beach, MO 65065

Brainstorming Sessions

I am so grateful for the brainstorming sessions that take place every two weeks on a Tuesday morning at Harper Chapel. Lots of thoughts and ideas are freely shared that are all about how to enhance and grow the ministry of Harper Chapel for the purpose of growing God’s Kingdom. Our recent pet blessing arose from these sessions. We will shortly have shirts for sale that promote Harper Chapel and we hope you buy one or more to share with the community that we are here. We also would love for you to come and join the discussion with us. Your voice and unique perspective are welcomed and needed! I hope to see you **August 4 and/or August 18** as we continue to dream about what we can do for God through Harper Chapel.

Pastor Eric

PRAYERS & CONCERNS

Pastor Eric tells us each Sunday we are a people of prayer. Did you know we have a prayer team that is here for you anytime you need us? The Harper Prayer Team has been in place for about two years.

- Fill out a prayer card in the pew and place it on the alter during communion or give it to Pastor Eric.
- Call or text Pastor Eric or Sue Fletcher (573) 480-2788
- Call the church office.



Unless you specify otherwise, your prayer request will remain confidential to the prayer team only. You can also ask that your request remain only with Pastor Eric. If you want church-wide prayer, you can ask that your request be placed in the newsletter. Typically either Pastor Eric or Sue Fletcher will be in touch with you regarding your request. I hope you will consider reaching out for prayer. It is not even necessary to state the details of your needs. God knows and we will pray for his comforting arms to hold you.

Harper Prayer Team:

Sue Pierce, Carol Weatherford, Carolyn Moore
Linda Craig, Beth Hargrave, Chris Poland
Robyn Roehl, Jannette Smith, Helen Schmidt
Eric Schmidt, Sue Fletcher

2 Corinthians 1

"He is the one who comforts us in all our trouble so we can comfort other people who are in every kind of trouble".

Back to School Time



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5th Sunday Carry-In

Sunday, August 30

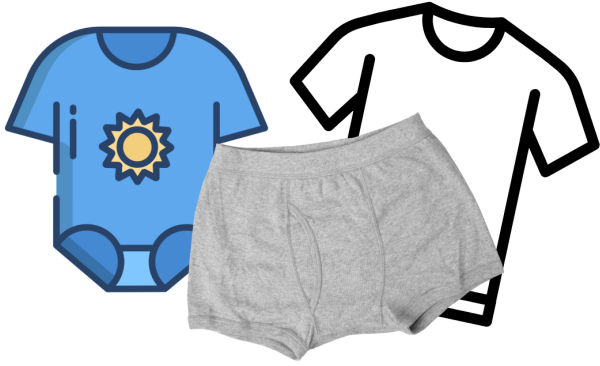
Immediately

Following Service

No Faith & Discussion

Bring your favorite
breakfast casserole,
fruit dish, or
sweetbread to share
with a bunch of
Church people!

August 16 Is Undie Sunday



Helping Area
School Students
with Emergency
Needs.

**Underwear
(Children to Adult Sizes)
Shorts - NO Socks
Sweatpants & T-Shirts**

Checks or cash will be accepted.
Please Note "Undie Sunday" on your envelope.

Monetary & Underwear Donations will
be collected August 2, 9, and 16. The Last
Sunday for collection will be August 16.

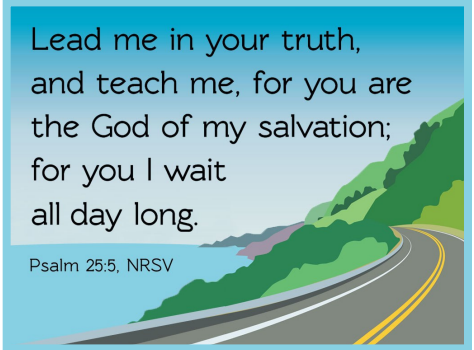
UMM Meet August 27, 6pm

Thompson Hall

It's True. But is it the Truth?

Steve Grass, UMM President

Much of my career was based on eyewitness events and finding the truth of a matter. The old saying of “there are two sides to every story” and then there is the “truth” or what really happened. Sometimes interviewing witnesses is not only time sensitive, but daunting at times as many say they “saw it all” only to find out they heard something, looked back and saw the middle or aftermath of the event. We try to find those who have experienced the event in “real time”. Now, in previous letters, I have talked about the past. Well, I can argue we are all witnessing the past. Everything we see is a reflection of natural or artificial light. If the speed of light is 186,000 miles per second, then in reality we are observing everything that has already ‘happened’. I know, it’s a stretch. But maybe a better example is the speed of sound. We have all experienced the echo or delayed sound of a blast, fireworks, or a crash when it’s off at a distance because the speed of sound is only 767 miles per hour. Back to my point of ‘real time’. When someone has a front row seat to an event and we rely on their recollection of the event, one would say that information is very valuable and undeniably the ‘truth’. However, what things can come into play that could alter the eyewitness testimony? Distractions, bias, angle, weather, time, other witness influence are some factors that may change the story. Now, many times we rely on video and audio coverage to confirm a story. Because the video is a true representation of what occurred. But is it the “truth”? Sports have proven to us that different angles show different results. And now, some sports allow a reversal of a call due to the multi-angle views of the play when the official call used to be the final call. So, each of these angles are true, but they may not be “the truth”. This is why it’s important for us to not make judgment based on one eyewitness when possible. The Bible is full of testimony. Some corroborate each other. Some vary. We must make our evaluation based on the totality of the writings. Psalm 25:5 “Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.” And above all, remember John 14:6: “Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’” When we search for answers, we need not look any further than His word...The Truth, the whole Truth and nothing but the Truth.....So help us, God.



Lead me in your truth,
and teach me, for you are
the God of my salvation;
for you I wait
all day long.

Psalm 25:5, NRSV

ALPHA-gal SYNDROME (AGS)

AGS is a serious, potentially life-threatening allergy to alpha-gal & is a type of food allergy that develops after getting bitten by a tick. Alpha-gal is a molecule found in most mammals, but not in humans, apes, & old-world monkeys. You can get it from many kinds of ticks, but the lone star tick bite is the most common cause. Not everyone bitten by a tick will develop AGS. It is most common in south, east and central parts of the U.S.

AGS is an allergy to red meat, meat products and dairy. Symptoms of alpha-gal can start right away or a few hours after ingesting something with alpha-gal in it. Products you might have a reaction to include:

- Meat from mammals (like beef, pork or lamb)
- Certain medications
- Cow's milk and products made with milk or gelatin

SYMPTOMS OF AGS:

- Symptoms range from mild to severe & can sometimes be life-threatening:
- Skin changes, like itching, hives or flushing
- Swelling of eyelids, lips, throat, tongue or face (angioedema)
- Respiratory symptoms, like cough, shortness of breath or wheezing
- Digestive symptoms, like belly pain, diarrhea, heartburn, nausea or vomiting. (Typically, Food poisoning symptoms occur immediately, while AGS symptoms occur 2-6 hours after eating).
- Dizziness or fainting
- Joint pain

COMPLICATIONS:

AGS can cause a serious allergic reaction called anaphylaxis. Symptoms can include:

- Tight, narrow airways
- Swelling of the throat that makes it hard to breathe
- Fast Pulse
- Feeling dizzy, lightheaded, or passing out

A prescription medicine called epinephrine treats anaphylaxis & most people who have been diagnosed with

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AGS keep an autoinjector with them (EpiPen, Auvi-Q) to self inject in case of a severe allergic reaction, followed by a trip to the emergency room. Healthcare professionals think that some people who get anaphylaxis is often and for no clear reason may be living with AGS that has not been diagnosed.

DIAGNOSIS:

- Healthcare providers diagnose AGS with allergy blood tests and skin tests. It can be tricky to diagnose for many reasons:
- Tick bites are painless & often don't leave a mark. Many people who develop tick-borne illnesses don't realize they've been bitten.
- Unlike other food allergies, delayed reactions to alpha-gal can make it hard to know what's causing your symptoms.
- Not everyone with AGS has the same symptoms or reactions to the same foods and products.

MANAGEMENT AND TREATMENT:

- AGS should be managed under the care of an allergist or other Healthcare provider.
- Stop eating meat from mammals, such as beef, pork, lamb, venison, or rabbit.
- Eliminate other sources of alpha-gal such as dairy, certain medications, products made from or cooked in mammal fat, food products that contain milk, gelatin.
- Read food product labels
- Prevent future tick bites
- Avoid vaccines that could be made with animal products.

OUTLOOK/PROGNOSIS:

Does AGS ever go away? Sometimes. Some people find they can reintroduce foods containing alpha-gal without symptoms after avoiding them for a year or two. Avoiding additional tick bites can make it more likely that AGS gets better.

Sources: Center for Disease Control, Mayo Clinic, Cleveland Clinic

Billye Bennett, RN,
Parish Nurse

Reading Buddies

We're excited to welcome new and returning Reading Buddies as we prepare for the upcoming school year! Our program works with the First Grade Classes at Osage Beach Elementary School on Nichols Road, offering one-on-one reading sessions with students once a week. Volunteers sign up for a specific week each month, and we currently need 12 volunteers to cover the entire month. In addition, we hope to have at least three to four substitutes available to step in when regular volunteers are unable to attend.



Each student typically has the opportunity to read at least three times a month or more, making a significant impact on their learning and confidence. Volunteering with Reading Buddies requires only about one hour of your time once a month, and it is both enjoyable and deeply rewarding. Your participation truly makes a difference in students' lives and helps foster a love of reading.

To volunteer, you will need to have Safe Gatherings Certification and complete a form for the school district. If you are interested in volunteering, or if you have any questions, please contact Geniece Tyler at 573-480-4847. Even if you travel for vacations or spend part of the year away, we welcome you to join us whenever you are in town and hope you'll become part of our Reading Buddies family.

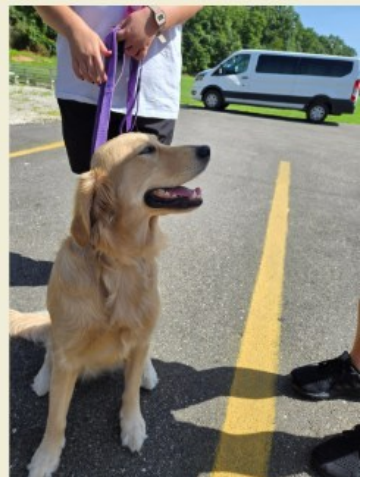
We deeply appreciate all our wonderful volunteers who contributed last year, including Selynn Barbour, Julia Clark, Kelly Fishbach, Georgiann Gustin, Janie Hamner, Beth Hargrave, Anita Hoyt, Bill Randall, Eric Schmidt, Jannette Smith, Geniece Tyler, Dave Tyler, and Carol Weatherford. Your dedication has made a lasting difference in the lives of the students.

Thank you for considering this meaningful opportunity. We look forward to welcoming you and working together to inspire young readers. Please let us know if you are able to join us this year or if you have any questions regarding the program or volunteer requirements.

Geniece Tyler

Pet Blessing—July 18, 2026

A “Pet Blessing” opportunity was held July 18th at the *Bark Park* in *Osage Beach City Park*. Approximately 15 dogs and owners were blessed by Pastor Eric. Those that participated enjoyed talking to pet owners from the community as well as some from Harper Chapel. Getting to pet some adorable dogs was a bonus! Come join us next time!



Vacation Bible School—VBS 2026

Harper Chapel's Vacation Bible School 2026 was held July 20-23. We had an excellent turnout, with 26 children ages 2 1/2 to 11. This year we tried an evening time with a meal beforehand, which worked well. The children had a great time learning about Love, Faith, and Hope through stories from the Bible with

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Dinner



Science with Kristi



Dinner



Crafts



God Time



Science with Kristi



God Time



Coloring Dream Catchers & Making Volcanoes



God Time



God Time



God Time



Science with Kristi

Miss Nancy. They were fascinated with Kristi's Science Time, enjoyed Crafts with Geniece and Pat, and of course loved Recreation with Haleigh. The children were thrilled with the appearance of Beacon the Puffin puppet (Zoe). Carol and the meal preparers were especially appreciated and did a great job of helping us stay on schedule! We were blessed by the presence of these children and succeeded in our goal of sharing God's love with children from the community. Thank you to all who contributed in any way!

Deb Larson



Thursday, August 13, 2026
2PM
Thompson Hall

Hosted by: Chris Reth & Donna Brouillette

Devotion: Carolyn Moore

Presentation by Chris Reth "Information on the Great
Passion Play"

The Harper Ladies group met July 9th in Thompson Hall for Christian fellowship and afternoon tea. Our special guest was Mike Clayton (Director of Fund Development and Communications) from Wonderland Camp. We heard some great stories about how Wonderland Camp is making a difference in the lives of people with disabilities. Harper Ladies has made a monetary donation to the camp. We learned that the campers have a "dress up" dance every session. If you have costume jewelry or fancy dresses you no longer need, you can donate the items to the campers. Just put donations in the Parish Nurse office.

Deb Larson

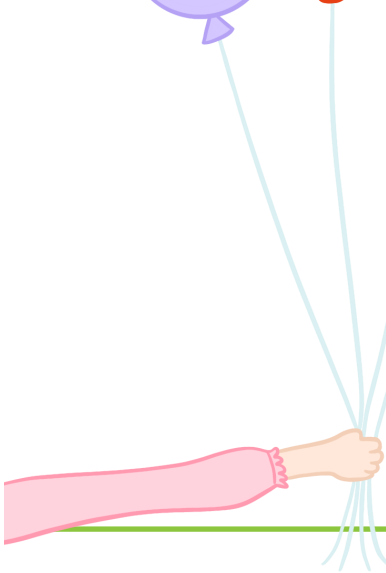




Crown Sunday July 19, 2026



UPcoming EVENTS



Marilyn Goswick.	1	Trish Hall	18
Kamden Cox	5	Jan Berry	18
Anita Hoyt	6	Rosalie Christiansen	27
Judy Knudson	7	Susan Akscin	27
Susan Buckingham	11	John Buckingham	29

God's CLOSET
Sharing God's love one person at a time.

Harper CHAPEL
A United Methodist Congregation

Shopping events are open to anyone in need of gently used clothing.
Available in sizes for men, women, and children.
Items are provided at no cost to you.

2nd Friday & Saturday
August 14 & 15
11AM - 2PM



August Lunch Monday, August 17 at 11:30AM
Location JJ Twigs Pizza & BBQ
1815 Bagnell Dam Blvd., Lake Ozark

Please RSVP to Robin Roehl at rlroehl@icloud.com

August

2026

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

						1
2 Scholarship Sunday Worship 9AM Faith & Discussion 10:15	3	4 Brainstorming with Pastor Eric 9AM	5	6	7	8 Men's Breakfast Pancake House 8AM
9 Worship 9AM Faith & Discussion 10:15 Stonebridge Worship 2PM	10	11	12	13 Harper Ladies Thompson Hall 2PM	14	15 God's Closet 11AM-2PM
16 Undie Sunday Worship 9AM Faith & Discussion 10:15	17 JOY Group JJ Twigs 11:30AM	18 Brainstorming with Pastor Eric 9AM	19	20	21	22
23 Worship 9AM Faith & Discussion 10:15	24	25 Leadership Committee 6:30PM	26	27 UMM Men Thompson Hall 6PM	28	29
30 Worship 9AM 5 th Sunday Carry-In	31					

For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible - Colossians 1:16



Attendance during July 2026

July 5	53
July 12	76
July 19	70
July 26	89
Ave:	72