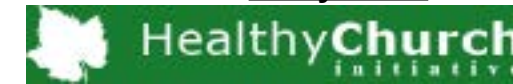


Thoughts From Pastor Jim

September is finally here. We have been preparing for over a year for all the things starting this month. This church has been talking about some of the things coming for many years. Other things will be very new. Either way, here they come!

- Sept. 8-10: Healthy Church Initiative Consultation Weekend.**
 Friday, Sept. 8 will be filled with interviews of staff followed by a Focus Group that evening.
Everyone is invited to a workshop from 10:15-3:00pm on Saturday, Sept 9. This is when the bulk of the work will be done by the consultants.
On Sunday Sept 10, during the Sunday School hour, the consultants will deliver their recommendations. **Everyone is encouraged to attend.**
- Sept. 17: BIG DAY:**
 - Town Hall meeting at 10:15 for those who missed the information presented on Sept. 10.
 - NEW! Journey in Faith Sunday School class begins. This is the first offering from the Membership to Discipleship effort.
 - Spaghetti Luncheon begins at 11:30.
 - NEW! Kids Power Hour 2:00-6:00pm. This is a VBS style event for your children.
 - NEW! Connections@Schertz Dinner 6:00pm. Everyone is invited to a simple meal together.
 - NEW! Connections@Schertz worship 6:45pm. This will be a more progressive style of worship than is currently offered.
 - NEW! Connections@ Schertz small groups 7:30pm
 - Grief Support: Aimed at supporting those who have lost a loved one to death or divorce.
 - Marriage Improvement: The Love & War Small Group DVD and Book Study by John and Stasi Eldredge shows you how to take your marriage to new levels by stepping into the great adventure God has waiting for you and your spouse.... together.
 - Support for Active Duty returning from deployment. PTSD family and veteran support groups. Existing AA group and Al-Anon groups.
- Sept. 22-24:** Women of Joy Conference Retreat to be held at Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center.
- Sept. 24:** Town Hall meeting for those who missed the information presented on Sept. 10 or 17.
- Oct. 8:** Church Conference to vote on recommendations from the Healthy Church Initiative Consultants to be held at 10:15. This will be a YES or NO vote.



SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:00 AM
Family Praise
Worship Service

10:15 - 11:00 AM
Sunday School &
Small Group Time

11:15 AM
Traditional Family
Worship Service

1:00 - 3:00 PM
Pre Youth Group
(5th & 6th Grades)

1:00 - 3:00 PM
Youth Group
(7th - 12th Grades)

Communion is
served on the first
Sunday of the month
at both services

For information
about Schertz United
Methodist Church
please call the office
at 210.658.3202 or
visit our website at
schertzumc.com

Newsletter Deadline
October 22nd

Schertz United Methodist Church
3460 Roy Richards Drive
Schertz, TX 78154

CHURCH STAFF LISTING



Senior Pastor
Rev. Jim Curran
pastorjim@schertzumc.com

Associate Pastor
Mike Vik
pastormike@schertzumc.com

Treasurer / Program Coordinator
Alice Sutherlun
asutherlun@schertzumc.com

Communications Coordinator
Jodi Gutierrez
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Children's Ministry Coordinator
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jgutierrez@schertzumc.com

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Grace Place Learning Center
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Nursery Supervisor
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Accompanist
Kimberly Campbell

Director of Music & Worship Arts
Leah Krenek
lkrenek@schertzumc.com



Church Office Hours
Monday - Thursday, 9 AM - 3:30 PM
P: 210.658.3202 F: 210.658.1280
schertzumc.com
email: secretary@schertzumc.com



Grace Place Learning Center
Hours: 7 AM - 6 PM
210.658.0846
gplc@schertzumc.com

Thoughts from Pastor Jim Con't from page 1

Additional Thoughts From Pastor Jim

If you read page 1, you will see what I am talking about. We are taking on a huge amount of ministry in September. While I did plan on almost all of this to happen at some point in the next year or two, never did I imagine it would all come about at the same time. But, that is how God works. People came to me wanting to start much of this, so I was not going to tell them NO. People came to me wanting to start much of this, so I was not going to tell them NO.



When God called Nehemiah to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, it was a huge job. The walls were in ruins and still surrounded by enemies that did not want the walls rebuilt. But God called and Nehemiah answered. Now I imagine that Nehemiah's mind was boggled with the size of the project. I'm sure many thought they did not have enough people to accomplish this. I'm sure they did not think they had the resources. I imagine these are the reasons that the wall had not already been rebuilt. But after Nehemiah cast God's vision, people got behind it and the walls were rebuilt in 52 days. This was a job that experts would have expected to take years to accomplish, yet with God, it only took 52 days! Right now, this church is taking on a huge project. Some may say we do not have enough people, others will say that we do not have the money needed. Others do not believe this is what we should do. But the leadership believes that this is where God is calling this church and all is possible with God.



September Sermon Series "Ordinary Christians"

Due to the weather we are a week behind schedule. September sermon topics are:

9/3 - "Les Miserables"

9/10 - The Healthy Church Initiative

9/17 - The Art of Being a Hero

9/24 - Limits or Vision

Altar rail offering for September is The Backpack Ministry

All money given buys food that will be packed into backpacks and sent home with children for the weekend.

Backpack Food Ministry

For the past few years, Schertz UMC has supported Watts Elementary School by providing backpacks containing food and snack items for students from economically disadvantaged families. These backpacks are filled each week during the school year by volunteers from our church and are taken to the school each Friday. The students then return them to the school on Monday to be filled for the next weekend. You may help support this ministry by donating food items or by donating to the church and designating "Backpack Ministry" on your check.



There is a need for someone to lead this program because the current coordinator will be moving by the end of September. Please contact the church if you feel called to lead this ministry.

Suggested Backpack Food Items

- | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|---|-----------------|--------------|
| Cans of Tuna | Canned Vegetables | Mac & Cheese | Fruit Cups | Granola Bars |
| Peanut Butter & Jelly (no glass jars) | | Single serving such as Oatmeal or Cereal, | Raisins & Fruit | |
| Packs of Peanut Butter or Cheese Crackers | | Pretzels, Goldfish, Graham Crackers, etc. | | |



Hurricane Harvey

We will be taking a special collection for the victims of Hurricane Harvey. Remember that **100% of the money given to UMCOR goes to the victims.** All overhead is covered. Therefore, there is no better place to give. **Designate Disaster Relief or UMCOR.** Also, we will be looking at a Mission Trip to one of the affected areas.

Coffee Bar Volunteers

There's always a need for more volunteers at our Coffee Bar. Take a look at the sign-up sheet and choose a Sunday! **Contact Barbara Ricks at bjricks@gmail.com**

AmazonSmile

Here's an easy way to make an impact at Schertz UMC while living your day-to-day life. If you're shopping on-line, bookmark <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/74-1472945>. A portion of your qualifying Amazon purchases will go to the church! Just recently, we were issued a \$36.66 donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile program activity between April 1 and June 30, 2017.



Pine Cones Needed

If you have pine cones you don't need **KNOTS Craft group** will give them a good home! **Contact Vi Dries at 210-658-1730.**



Kids Power Hour



Who: Kids 5-12 years

What: Join the FUN!

Where: Schertz United Methodist Church

When: 2-6PM Sunday, Sept. 17, 2017

Cost: FREE!!

Register Here



Or call SUMC @ (210) 658-3202

RACAP

Each month, Schertz UMC collects and donates a single specific item to stock RACAP's pantry. In **September**, we are collecting **Peanut Butter and Jelly**. Please bring your donations to the designated baskets around the church.



Holiday Meal Basket Program

Please help RACAP fill their Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets with:

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Chicken broth | Flour | Granulated Sugar (4 lb. bag) | Brown Sugar (1 lb.) |
| Evaporated Milk | Yams | Canned Pumpkin | Stuffing Mix |
| Fruit Cocktail | Corn | Cranberry Sauce | Green Beans |



Donated funds will be used to purchase turkeys and perishable items for the baskets.

If you are sponsoring a family, the basket should also include eggs, margarine/butter, pie shells, celery, onions, potatoes, rolls/bread and the turkey.

**Coming in October – 2 New Monthly Fun Groups
“Ladies Bunco” & “Ladies Lunch Bunch”**

That's right! We are forming 2 new Christian fellowship groups to begin next month.

Ladies Bunco

When: Monday, October 16th at 6:30 to 8:30 PM

Where: Schertz UMC - Room 210

Co-Chairs - Darlene Runkle and Rachel VlK (See them soon in Lobby for Sign-ups)

Ladies Lunch Bunch

When: Friday, October 6th at 12:30 PM

Where: Sea Island Shrimp House at The Forum

(Or Meet at the church at noon to carpool)

No Rules, No Agenda – just good eating!

Co-Chairs – Bert Lynch and Linda Paxton (See them soon in Lobby for Sign-Ups)

So Ladies, mark your calendars for the 1st Friday of each month for the LADIES LUNCH BUNCH

And/Or – the 3rd Monday of each month for the LADIES BUNCO GROUP

Childcare provided if needed.

QUESTIONS? Please call Bert Lynch @ 659-5211

Love Packages

If you have Bibles, old Upper Room Devotionals, or other **Christian materials you no longer want or use**, you may send them to an organization called Love Packages. They send these materials to other countries to spread the word of Christ. They have two addresses:

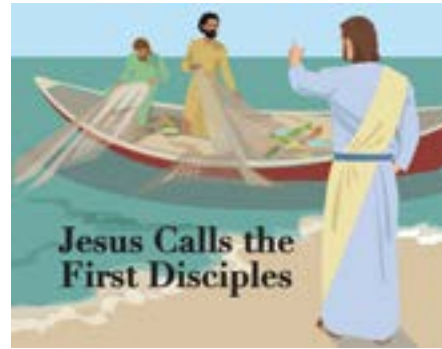
Love Packages
220 Union St. 60-D
Butler, IL 62015



Love Packages
South Mountain Dr.
Decatur, AL 35603

You may also go to their website, lovepackages.org, “Needed Materials” to see what items they accept.

Membership to Discipleship Coming



We will begin “**Membership to Discipleship**” in September. This is a way to help people deliberately grow into mature Christians. You will see both classes and service opportunities aimed at Beginning, Growing and Maturing Christians. You will be asked to take a survey that will help you determine where you are on the path to becoming a Mature Christian. The results can help you determine which classes or service opportunities fit you best. This will be discussed during worship and people will be available to help you with the survey. Some of the new classes will begin in September during the Sunday School hour, others will be on Sunday evenings, still others may be added during the week. So if you are still trying to figure out if God is real or you are a brand new Christian or if you are looking to deepen your relationship with God, a chance for you will be offered.

New Discipleship Class

Starting September 17th, “**Journey To Faith**” will meet in the Fellowship Hall.

All Are Invited.

Ladies Bible Study Group



Bible Study for Women

Calling all ladies! The Ladies Bible Study Group that meets on **Thursday morning** would love to have more ladies as we get ready to start a study of Revelations. We've spent the last few years working our way through the Bible from Genesis on. We are a caring group and would like more women to come and pray, laugh and learn with us. We promise lively discussions. Try us out, bring a friend, and see if it appeals to you. We meet Thursday mornings, 9-10am all year long.



- Pastor Jim Curran 09/02
- Zachariah Gibson Allsop 09/02
- Jennifer Barron 09/03
- Chuck Flick 09/03
- Sampie Fuller 09/04
- Jerry Martin 09/05
- Maureen Strange 09/05
- Edd Dries 09/06
- Matthew Little 09/06
- Derek Charette 09/07
- Liam Beck 09/09
- Randy Funk 09/09
- Mario Giuttari 09/09
- Aquiles Alonso 09/12

- J.C. Wollslager 09/09
- Elsie Demeritt 09/14
- Tino Giuttari 09/14
- Austin McGillivray 09/14
- Phyllis Spitzmesser 09/14
- Heather Alonso 09/15
- Mary Prince 09/15
- Kristin Zuniga 09/16
- Haylie Doty 09/17
- Matthew Downey 09/17
- Anthony Reyes 09/17
- Sharon Schirmer 09/17
- Emma Grace Browne 09/18
- Kathy Creel 09/18

- Lisa Downey 09/18
- Jerry Hennig 09/20
- Janie Snyder 09/20
- Mary Stepro 09/20
- Joe Armstong 09/21
- Timothy Kuhlmann 09/21
- Susan Thomas 09/21
- Steven Pester 09/23
- Sonny Schirmer 09/23
- Lon Wright 09/23
- Zee Zuniga 09/23
- TJ Hudson 09/25
- Melissa Hudson 09/27
- Linda Harris 09/29

Grace Place Playground Update



Groundbreaking for the new playground was set for August 28. However, weather has affected this timing. Construction should begin on September 5th, and will last approximately 3-4 weeks, again depending on weather. Fund raising has been terrific. We have collected over **\$57,000** of the needed \$72,000. (The original estimate was \$67,000 but was later amended to upgrade the play surface from wood mulch material to rubber pellets which will last much longer and are a much safer alternative.)

In addition we have a \$7,500 grant and a \$15,000 grant pending. Pastor Jim announced that if we are awarded both grants we will have collected more than what is needed for the playground. Therefore if people want their contributions back, we will give it to them. What leadership would rather do is use the rest of the collected money to make much needed and long overdue improvements to Grace Place such as a new fence around the playground, a bigger more visible sign, perhaps more advertising to help enrollment, replace outdoor toys and many furniture replacements. Remember that Grace Place was furnished 5 years ago with leftovers from the Mother's Day Out equipment that has never been replaced. One teacher's chair depends on duct tape to remain in service! When the numbers are all in place we can make decisions about how to use the money. So the bottom line is that if we get both grants, all of the money will still be used for Grace Place Learning Center. However, if we do not get either grant, we will still be short of completing the playground without borrowing money. What a generous church!



We at RACAP thank you for your generous donation of more than 120 cans of tomato products in August and more than 100 school supply packets! The generosity at Schertz UMC never fails to amaze me. Thank you, Jessie Fisher, RACAP Program Director.

The Goodwill Truck

Goodwill Partners for Goodwill be here again on **September 16th!**

The church makes \$1000 from each truck filled which supports Faith in Action and Adult Mission. So tell your family, your friends, and strangers you meet to plan on bringing their items to give on September 16th.



Music and Worship Arts



As Fall approaches, the Music and Worship Arts ministries are looking forward to Advent and Christmas. This special season in the Christian year requires special efforts on our parts. Here are some beautiful ways to seek Christ in Christmas:



*** Visual Arts**—Are you moved by the impact of symbolism and visual beauty? Do you have a gift for art or design? Do you think “outside the box”? The Worship Team has been praying to bring in new members to enhance weekly and seasonal sermons and help bring people to Christ through visual art—including altar settings, visual media, and participatory creative arts. The Advent/Christmas season is a great time to start! Worship Team meets on the first Thursday of the month (September 7) at 6:00 pm.



***Christmas Choral Cantata**—A cantata is a long-form choral piece that tells a story. Through songs, carols, and narration, the Chancel Choir has a tradition of bringing the Christmas story to life. We would love to have additional members sing with us for this year's performance of “Christmas Seekers” by John Purifoy. The Cantata Kick-off Rehearsal is Saturday, September 30 from 11am-1pm. All are welcome! In the choir, we are greater than the sum of our parts. While music reading and singing experience are helpful, they are not necessary! One of the best parts about choral singing is hearing average voices make extraordinary, beautiful, heavenly music in praise of our God.

***Drama**—The SUMC Drama Team will reconvene in mid-September to plan the third annual Christmas play. Children and adults are invited to take part in a fun season of rehearsal and fellowship through theatre arts. Families that have participated together in previous plays have made special family memories through which they grew closer to each other and to God. Be sure to follow bulletin and worship announcements and emails to be alerted to Drama Team's start date.

***Praise Band**— If you have ever wanted to sing or play your instrument in the Praise Band, but have been unable to commit to singing every week, consider joining for the season! Praise Band will begin rehearsing Advent and Christmas music in October.



If you are ready to participate in any of the above ministries, **please contact lkrenek@schertzumc.com**. If you are not ready, please pray for our Music and Worship Arts ministry groups.





5K run & 1 Mile FUN RUN

Moo've it with your friends and family at the Chick-fil-A Connect Race Series of Schertz, TX on **September 23, 2017**. Our church is setting up a sponsor table to promote the SUMC to all our neighbors. Also and most importantly, we are beginning a **FUN RUN** team, family approved and fun required.

Sign up for the event on the web at: <http://cfaraceseries.com/races/219/>

Contact Lydia Murray or Lucy McCann for more information, your community connections team. We're in the book !

Spaghetti Lunch Silent Auction September 17, 2017

Christmas Poinsettia & Ribbons Fine China
8 piece place setting
(dinner & dessert plates, cups & saucers)
plus 1 each serving platter, large & small serving bowl
& dip & chip platter

Bidding to start at \$25
increments of \$5

Place setting will be on display in Hospitality Center in the Narthex starting September 3
Containers for bids will be located in the Fellowship Hall & Narthex during the lunch

ALL PROCEEDS TO GO TO SCHERTZ UMC



Chick-fil-A of Schertz is excited to host a family friendly community event!

1. Interact with hundreds of runners and families
2. Build relationships & show God's love within your community

volunteer positions

- SETUP - strong volunteers who help unload the truck and work with Staff to get the day started
- PARKING & TRAFFIC - directing participants where to park and monitor parking capacity
- GREETER - outgoing volunteers who greet, direct, and build relationships with participants
- REGISTRATION & PACKET PICK-UP - friendly volunteers assist in registrations and distributing bags
- FAMILY FUN ZONE - fun-loving volunteers who hang out with children (& parents)
- COURSE ATTENDANT - excited individuals who protect, direct, and cheer on runners
- HYDRATION STATION - friendly folks who hand out water to participants along the course route
- HOSPITALITY - loving volunteers who assist participants at the finish line with food and water

To sign up for a volunteer position, please visit www.cfaraceseries.com/races/206/ and select the VOLUNTEER tab at the top of the page. You will be contacted prior to the event with race-day details.

*Minimum age for volunteers is 15.

Thank you for your ministry!

Happy Birthday, Grace Place!

Construction on the new Grace Place playground should soon be underway, or perhaps is already in progress. What a blessing! Everyone at Grace Place is in awe of God's goodness, not to mention the congregation's generosity.

Plans are to have a church-wide and community celebration once the playground is complete, as well as to commemorate Grace Place's 5th birthday. Grace Place started serving families with young children in mid-August 2012.

So, what's a birthday party without presents? Two gift registries have been set up for Grace Place to help replace some well-loved and well used classroom toys and other teaching items. Most items range from under \$20 up to about \$250. You may choose items from the lists or donate gift cards or cash to purchase items for the center.

Lakeshore: www.lakeshorelearning.com

- scroll to bottom of page & click on wish-list.
- right hand side: find a wish-list
- search email: sbehun@schertzumc.com
- list name: Grace Place



Walmart: www.walmart.com

- top of page click Registry & Lists
- click Lists & Special Occasions
- find someone's list
- first name: Grace
- last name: Place
- state: Texas
- list name: Grace Place



Keep an eye out for the celebration date!

Note: There is a Lakeshore Learning location in San Antonio on Loop 410, across from North Star Mall. You may check to see if items are available there before incurring shipping charges. Some items on the Walmart list are also available in-store.



Spread the news
Submit articles and church news to share by emailing
news@schertzumc.com

Regular Sunday Schedule

9:00 AM - Contemporary Service



10:15 AM - Sunday School

11:15 AM - Traditional Service

SEPTEMBER**Regular Sunday Afternoon Schedule**

1 PM - Pre Youth Group (5th & 6th Grades)

1 PM - Youth Group (7th - 12th Grades)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 10am - Round Tuits	2 7am - 8am Men's Bible Study 6pm Movie Night: "Les Miserables"
3 8am - 12:30pm Knots Craft Sale 6:30pm - Men's Purity Group 7:30pm - AA Group	4 6pm - Connections Praise Band 7:30pm - Full Circle Group 7:30pm - Paths to Recovery AA Group	5 6pm - Worship Visual Arts Team 9pm - Sonrise Emmaus 6:30pm - Finance Team 7pm - AA Group 7:30pm - Faith Builders	6 10am - KNOTS Craft Group 6:30pm - UMW 7pm - Praise Band 7:30pm - Full Circle Narcotics Anonymous	7 9am - Doers 10am - Thurs Morning Bible Study 6pm - Pass It ON AFG & Aliteen 6pm - Worship Team 7pm - Chancel Choir	8 10am - Round Tuits 10am - HCI Staff Interviews	9 7am - 8am Men's Bible Study 9am - HCI Focus Group 10:15am - HCI All-Church Workshop
10 10am - "HCI Presentation" 6:30pm - Men's Purity Group 7:30pm - AA Group	11 6pm - Connections Praise Band 6:30pm - Community Connections 7:30pm - Full Circle Group 7:30pm - Paths to Recovery AA Group	12 9:30am - MOPS 6:30pm - Finance Team 7pm - AA Group 7:30pm - Faith Builders	13 10am - KNOTS Craft Group 7pm - Praise Band 7:30pm - Full Circle Narcotics Anonymous	14 9am - Doers 9am - Ladies Bible Study 10am - Thurs Morning Bible Study 6pm - Pass It ON AFG & Aliteen 7pm - Chancel Choir	15 10am - Round Tuits	16 7am - Men's Bible Study 9am - 3pm - Goodwill Truck
17 10am - 1pm - Searcher's Spaghetti Dinner & China Auction 10:15am - Town-hall Meeting HCI Recommendation 2pm - Kids Power Hour 6pm - Connections Dinner 6:30pm - Men's Purity Group 6:45pm - Connections Worship 7:30pm - Connections Small Groups	18 6pm - Connections Praise Band 7:30pm - Full Circle Group 7:30pm - Paths to Recovery AA Group	19 9:30am - MOPS Steering Comm. 7pm - AA Group 7:30pm - Faith Builders	20 10am - Wuest Circle 10am - Brown's Hearing Screening 10am - KNOTS Craft Group 6:30pm - Church Council 7pm - Praise Band 7:30pm - Full Circle Narcotics Anonymous	21 9am - Doers 9am - Ladies Bible Study 10am - Morning Bible Study 6pm - Pass It ON AFG & Aliteen 7pm - Chancel Choir 7:30pm - AA Group	22 10am - Round Tuits	23 7am - Men's Bible Study
24 8am - 1pm - UMW Bake Sale 12:15 - Town-hall Meeting "HCI Review" 6pm - Connections Dinner 6:30pm - Men's Purity Group 6:45pm - Connections Worship 7:30pm - Connections Small Groups	25 11am - Diamond Club 6pm - Connections Praise Band 6:30pm - Mission Team Meeting 7:30pm - Full Circle Group 7:30pm - Paths to Recovery AA Group	26 9:30am - MOPS 7pm - AA Group 7:30pm - Faith Builders	27 10am - KNOTS Craft Group 6pm - UMM 7pm - Praise Band 7:30pm - Full Circle Narcotics Anonymous	28 9am - Doers 9am - Ladies Bible Study 10am - Morning Bible Study 6pm - Pass It ON AFG & Aliteen 7pm - Chancel Choir 7:30pm - AA Group	29 10am - Round Tuits	30 7am - Men's Bible Study 10am - Cantata Practice