



Gruene UMC Kids September 2017

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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Labor Day Do something nice for someone who works hard for your community!	Gruene Tree Learning Center 1 st day of School			Grandparents Day Call or do something special with your grandparents!	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:40 a.m. Kids small groups: God creates Adam & Eve (Gen. 1-2:24)		Make "creation" trail mix & retell the story	Motherload Mom's Group Bible Study 7 p.m.	Read the book <i>Creation Sings</i> by Carine Mackenzie		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9:40 a.m. Kids small groups: God gives Adam and Eve a Choice to Stay Close to Him (Gen. 3) PUMPKINS ARRIVE!	Play the "Opposite Game" to practice making wise choices		Motherload Mom's Group Bible Study 7 p.m.		Have a family game night!	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9:40 a.m. Kids small groups: God Tells Noah to Build an Ark (Gen. 6:9-9:17)		Share one of your favorite things we get from the farm at dinner.	Motherload Mom's Group Bible Study 7 p.m.		Comal County Fair Holiday	

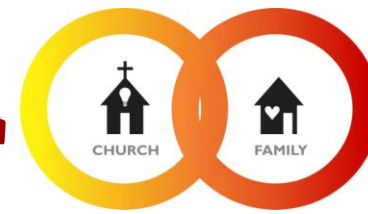
Notes: Hello Families! These calendars will inform you of all things kids and family at GUMC. We hope it will help you be more connected! Kids church small groups begin 9/10 @ 9:40 a.m. We will meet for children's time in the main sanctuary, then go to small groups in the upstairs classrooms. Pick up will be upstairs for K-5 students. Please let us know if you would like to be a part of our Gruene UMC Kids Facebook group!

Contact

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Gruene UMC Kids Newsletter



Why Small Groups?

As you may have heard, we are transitioning from Kid's Church to Kid's Small Groups this Fall! While both programs look similar, they have a distinct difference — relationships look different.

Educating children in the ways of the Bible is not the same thing as making disciples. Discipleship happens through relationships. That's why we are shifting to a model that makes relationships a priority. Our small groups will have consistent leaders who pour into the same kids and families, week after week.

We can teach Scripture most effectively through caring, consistent small group leaders who are personally involved with the kids they lead. Before anyone can wrestle with abstract concepts like faith, hope and the meaning of life, they simply need to know who loves them and where they belong. Before we can expect kids to believe, we need to give them someone who believes in them.

A small group is a consistent gathering of a few for the purpose of growing in their relationship with God and each other. A small group leader is someone who chooses to invest in the lives of a few to encourage authentic faith.

Our goal isn't to teach kids to be disciples. Our goal is to lead them to be disciples.

Part of this is an excerpt from Creating a Lead Small Culture by Reggie Joiner, Kristen Ivy and Elle Campbell.

Partnering with Parents

We are committed to partnering with parents to help raise kids spiritually. One way we do this is by positioning small group leaders to be the main connection between the church and families. Small group leaders will pour into kids and parents.

In a year, small group leaders will have around 40 hours with their kids. Parents will spend about 3,000 hours with their kids.

We believe parents have the most potential to influence a kid. We believe the church has the most potential to influence parents. And two combined influences are more powerful than two separate influences.

Where **yellow** represents the **LIGHT of the Church**, and **red** represents the **HEART of the family**, together we are **orange**!

Our church is excited to partner with parents to influence the next generation!



Please join our Gruene UMC Kids group on Facebook for updates, events, and instructions for fun family calendar activities!