



CONNECTIONS

A Newsletter of Grand Lakes Presbyterian Church



"The Journey of Faith"

By Rev. Tyler Henderson

I love hiking. I should be more specific... I love hiking in the mountains where it is nice and cool and the grandeur of God's creation is on full display. You may be familiar with the famous quote by the 19th century conservationist John Muir, *"The mountains are calling and I must go..."*. This was a line that he penned in a letter to his sister in 1873, however, it is not his full sentence. The rest of the sentence goes, *"... and I will work on while I can, studying incessantly."* Muir loved the majesty of the mountains - primarily for him, the Sierra Nevada mountains. His love for the mountains inspired his work to promote and protect its natural beauty leading Muir to become instrumental in establishing Yosemite National Park in 1890.

We are in the midst of a sermon series on the life of Abraham. After a bit of family background, Abraham's story really begins in Genesis 12 with God's call for Abraham to leave his home and go to the place where God would show him. It was a call to go forward in faith. We see a similar sort of call when Jesus called his first disciples - Peter, Andrew, James, and John - to "follow me". And so it is for us, the first step that God calls us to take is the step of faith.

Abraham and Peter are examples of men who lived with great faith, but that does not mean that they had a perfect faith. Abraham faltered, Peter wavered... we, too, find our faith at times weaker than we would like to admit. The good news is that our salvation is not contingent upon the perfection of our faith, but upon the power of God who is perfectly faithful. God calls the imperfect, broken, and weak to be the one's through which His power is displayed. God calls each of us. His call carries weight and gives direction to our life's purpose. In faith, we rely upon God's strength, not our own. In faith, we set our sights to the building of God's Kingdom. In faith, we strive onward in our discipleship of Jesus Christ. *Friends, God is calling. We must go.*



Worship



Discipleship



Mission



Fellowship

WORSHIP

Kimber Hamilton
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August 10th - Back-to-School Blessings

We will offer a time of prayer and blessing for students, teachers, administrators, and parents too! Everyone is invited to wear their school shirts to church!



August 17th - Ordination & Installation Service

We hope all are able to join us when we ordain and install our next class of elders and deacons!



September 14th - Mission Sunday

See the Missions page for more information.



October 5th - World Communion Sunday

Join us after the service for a church-wide potluck!



October 26th - Reformation Sunday

November 2nd - All Saints Remembrance



November 9th - Commitment Sunday

This is our opportunity to recommit our hearts to God by offering our time, efforts, gifts to the service of God's will.



Worship Flowers

If you are interested in purchasing flowers for worship services in celebration, honor, or memory of someone or something, please sign up in the binder near the volunteer desk!

DOWNLOAD THE GLPC APP!

From our app you can:

- Watch our worship services
- Sign in to let us know you're joining us for worship
- Submit prayer requests
- Easily give financially to the ministry of the church
- Sign up for events & share events with others
- Explore info about the church & its various ministries
- Access the Bible
- & MORE!

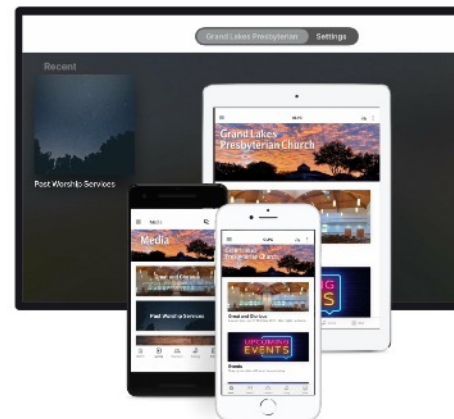


SCAN ME



Grand Lakes Presbyterian Church

Available in App Stores



GLPC KIDS

Jessica Henderson
jhenderson@grandlakespc.org

Bonnie Pankina
childrens@grandlakespc.org



Summer Recap!



Our 4th and 5th graders met several times this summer for Club 45! We had a great time growing closer to Christ together as we studied the book of James and learned what it means to have an authentic faith. We also had fun theme nights and spent time playing games with the youth in the youth room!



Our GLPC Kids had an awesome summer! During VBS, we spent the week in Nazareth learning about Jesus' love, promises, and hope in Him! Not only did we sing and dance to fun songs, create amazing crafts, eat yummy snacks, and play exciting games, we enjoyed snow cones and a petting zoo! The kids learned all about Samaritan's Purse and the wonderful services they provide to those in need around the world. During the week, we collected items, and placed them in shoe boxes, for Samaritan's Purse's Operation Christmas Child.



CHILDREN'S Sunday School

SUNDAY SCHOOL is held each Sunday at 9:30am & then again during our worship service for Pre-K through 5th grade. Elementary aged children will begin the service with their family and be dismissed to Faith Express after the Children's Lesson. 4th & 5th graders meet upstairs in Room 210 in a room just their own! Childcare is available for our youngest kiddos. We would love to see your kids there!



CLUB 45 is a special time for 4th & 5th graders the 1st Sunday of each month from 4:00-5:30pm upstairs in Room 210! We will participate in fun activities, dig into God's Word, & have a little time to hang out with the youth!



CHILDREN'S CHOIR practices each Sunday morning at 10am in Faith Express starting August 17! Children will sing in the service once a month. Hope your kids can join the fun!

YOUTH

Marci Alldred
youth@grandlakespc.org



Summer Arkansas Trip - Recap!

This past summer we headed up to the beautiful Buffalo National River in northwest Arkansas! It was an awesome trip! Our retreat study focused on the biblical theme of holiness - God's holiness and our call to be holy as He is holy.

We also had a lot of fun enjoying the great outdoors! We spent a day rafting the Buffalo River, one day hiking (including a little spelunking), one day zip-lining, and one service project day. As always, it was a wonderful time of discipleship, fellowship, and fun!



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT THIS SUMMER!

We want to say a very sincere thank you to all who helped make our Talent Show fundraiser a wonderful event this past May!





Sunday Youth Bible Study 5:00-6:30pm

We hope all Middle & High School youth will join us throughout the year for Bible Study, fellowship, and fun! Our lessons this Fall will focus on the answers to the question, "Who is Jesus?". See our Fall Calendar for info about our theme nights. Friends are always welcome!

GLPC Student Ministry FALL 2025

AUG.

10 - Back-to-School Bingo
17 - Tailgate Kick-Off Cookout (rep your fav sports team!)
24 - Battle of the Brands
31 - Show & Tell

SEP.

7 - No Youth (Labor Day Weekend)
14 - Neon Night
21 - Duct Tape Games
28 - Hungry Hippies

OCT.

5 - ZaZerts & Mismatch Night
12 - Seriously Cereal Night
19 - World Series of KickBall
24-26 - FALL RETREAT WEEKEND!

NOV.

2 - ZaZerts Night
9 - Harry Potter Night
16 - The Great Youth Bake Off
23 - No Youth (Thanksgiving Holiday)
Saturday, 29 - Santa's Sleigh Shopping (Walmart)
- Deck the Halls at GLPC
30 - Fixer Upper: Gingerbread House Edition

DEC.

7 - The Great Gingerbread Man Chase!
14 - Christmas Party!
21 - No Youth (Christmas Break)
28 - No Youth (Christmas Break)



FALL KICK-OFF TAILGATE

We are excited to kick off Fall 2025! I want to invite all Jr High and High Students **AND their parents** to our Fall Kick-Off Tailgate! We will cookout on the grill, fellowship, preview the upcoming year, and play some games!

YOUTH FALL RETREAT

October 24 - 26

We are heading to Camp Lutherhill (located near La Grange, TX) for a weekend of Bible study, fellowship, and as always - fun! We will be looking at the the story of Joseph and talking about how God is with us even through what can be confusing and difficult times in life. We will also compete our annual Victors' Cup competition! Registration is open - sign up in the GLPC app, or by using the QR code.

Early registration: now - Sept 30 : \$150

Late registration: Oct 1 - 13 : \$200



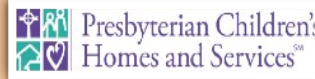
MISSIONS

Lee Ann Nuckles
missions@grandlakespc.org

Summer Mission Recap:

We had a number of Mission projects this summer. Thank you to everyone who helped contribute to any of these efforts!

- Our Children's Ministry's VBS supported Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child.
- Our youth helped clean up Alexander Elementary's garden.
- We had a team of volunteers that assisted the Alexander Elementary library with preparing for the start of the school year.
- Back to School Drives for Presbyterian Children's Homes & Services AND Katy Christian Ministries
- Monthly Katy Christian Ministry Food Pantry Drive



Upcoming Mission Opportunities



KCM Food Pantry Update:

"The Houston Food Bank (HFB) underwent an \$11 million cut in federal funding, which equates to about 500 fewer truckloads of nutritious food for local communities facing food insecurity. Due to these recent funding cuts, the HFB notified KCM and other partners that food distributions to our Food Pantry would be reduced. Food contributions from the HFB constitute roughly 70% of the total food inventory that KCM receives."

We want to do our best to support one of our primary mission partners and we are asking for your help with regular food pantry donations!



GLPC Mission Sunday! Sunday, Sept 14

This is a special day where we bring a unique focus on the importance of mission and actively participate in various mission efforts. We hope everyone will join us on this! We will have a number of various mission projects - there will be something for *everyone* to participate in. Some projects will be completed inside the church building and others will out in the community. All projects will emphasize and support our efforts to take the gospel "beyond the doors" of the church!



Love & Serve Day! Sunday, Nov 2

Everyone is encouraged to wear their "Love & Serve" t-shirts, or the new "Come Grow With Us" t-shirt, to church on Sunday, Nov 2. If you do not have a shirt, we will have some available to pick up on the Sundays leading up to that day.

After the service concludes, we would love to have as many GLPC'ers as possible to drive over to H-E-B on Fry and 99 to purchase donations for KCM's Food Pantry.

A truck will be available right outside H-E-B to collect the donations.



Kerr County
Flood Relief
Fund



Presbyterian
Disaster
Assistance



Kerr County
Salvation
Army



KCM Flood
Relief Drive



ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

Carol Greene
education@grandlakespc.org

As we head into Fall we have several groups that meet weekly! We would love to invite you to join in and try a small group within our congregation. Small groups are a great way to build relationships and make connections as you study God's word. Being connected helps to build that community that makes a church a place where you feel at home. We hope you will join us!

Sunday School:

On Sunday mornings we have two adult classes:

- The Disciples Class has in-depth studies of Books of the Bible chosen by class consensus. Please join this class in Room 203.
- The Cultivators Class will cover the people, places, and promises of the Bible, tying them together into the greater story of Scripture. Please join us Sunday mornings in room 209.

Mid-week Bible Studies:

We have three Bible study groups that meet on weekdays:

- **Thursday Women's Bible Study** - starting back on September 4th! This is a very welcoming group of women of all ages. This group does various studies throughout the year including book and media studies. They meet in room 209 at 10am.
- **Friday Women's Bible Study - starting August 22nd.** This is a congenial group of mostly grandmas (some great grandmas) who love studying the Bible as well as enjoying wonderful fellowship! They meet in room 209 at 10am.
- **Friday Men's Bible Study** - Discusses books by renowned theologians along with pertinent Bible passages, always from a Reformed perspective. The men eat together, pray, and learn from each other's unique Christian experience. They meet in room 209 at noon.

FUN & FELLOWSHIP

Susan Maulding
fun@grandlakespc.org



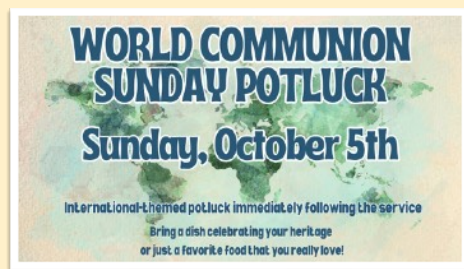
Table for 8-ish

Connect with a group of 8-10 people once a month for a meal and fellowship to create lasting friendships. Sign up at the church, through the website, or the GLPC app coming soon!



Back-to-School Bingo & Potluck

Sunday, August 10 at 5pm let's kick off the school year with a fun evening of bingo! All ages welcome! Please bring a side or dessert. Main dish and drinks provided.



World Communion Sunday Potluck

Stick around after worship on Sunday, October 5th for an International Potluck in celebration of World Communion Sunday! Everyone is encouraged to bring a dish representing your heritage or just a food you love!



Family Bowling Night

Stay tuned for more information on Family Bowling Night! Details and date coming soon!

MEMBERSHIP

Debbie DeLuca
membership@grandlakespc.org

We celebrate our members who have joined the church triumphant:

Marjorie Buck
Elaine Laughrey

Carl MacDowell
Lock McLaurin

Linda Milligan
Janet Miller

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing."

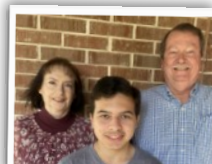
2 Timothy 4:7-8

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!

It is my honor to present the following new members to the Grand Lakes Presbyterian Church family!



Scott and his daughter, Sophia Scholten, have transferred from the Harvest Bible Church in Cypress, TX. We are honored you both chose us.



Gary, Kathy, and Michael Shapley who transferred from Heritage Presbyterian in Cypress, Texas. We are so glad you are with us.



Felicia Prah has transferred from the Presbyterian Church of the Redeemer in Houston, TX. Welcome!



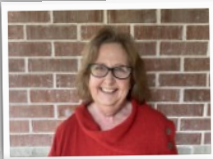
Kangsen Ekume who transferred from the Presbyterian Church in Cameroon. Welcome to the family!



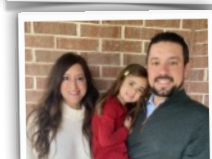
David, Courtney, and Charlotte Denton who joined by reaffirmation of faith. We are thrilled you are a part of our church family!



Portia Bell who transferred from Grace Presbyterian Church in Houston, TX. We are glad you are with us.



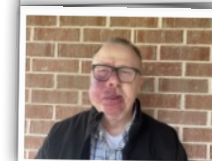
Donna King has transferred from The Gathering Methodist Church in Texas City, TX. Welcome to the family!



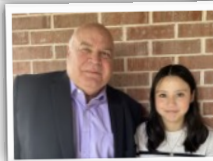
Nathan and Jennifer Seiler was joined by reaffirmation of faith. We feel blessed you are part of the family.



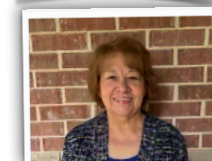
Christopher and Celine Valentine who joined by reaffirmation of faith. Welcome!



Aaron Hutchison who joined by profession of faith. Welcome to the neighborhood!



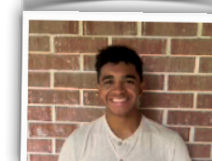
Bob Whitworth who joined by reaffirmation of faith. Glad you found us!



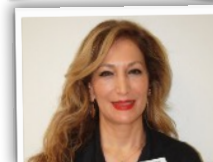
Sherry Ryan has transferred from Faith Global Methodist in Richmond, TX. Glad you found us!



Jim and Georgeanne Moore who transferred from Trinity Presbyterian Church in Cherry Hill, NJ. We are thrilled you are part of our church family!



Tyler Castillo who is joining by profession of faith. We are honored you choose us.



Neda Validi has joined by baptism. We are so glad you are here!



Jacob Aman Modika who joined by reaffirmation of faith. Glad you found us!

Outreach Ministry

Susan Hutson
outreach@grandlakespc.org



The **Communication and Outreach Ministry** is proud to present the second annual **Acorn Art Festival!** The neighborhoods are coming together as we feature a festival of artists and craft vendors, food trucks, music, face painting, gem mining, bounce houses, and an exhibit of our local artists.

What can you do?

- Register for a booth with a church member discount!
- Volunteer with your favorite church family members to help make this spectacular!
- Or just come for the fun!

For more information on a booth or to help out, contact Susan Hutson or contact us on social media.

Scan to QR code to find out more!



Email us at:
info@AcornArtFest.com

Follow us on Instagram:
[instagram.com/acornartfest](https://www.instagram.com/acornartfest)



GLPC COLLEGE CONNECTIONS



We want to continue to show our support for our college students,
and we are doing that in two great ways!

- 1) **Care Packages:** We would love to hear what college students would be interested in being a part of our care package ministry. Also, any church members who are interested in support a student, please let us know!
- 2) **GLPC's Christian Growth & Leadership Scholarship:** Did you know that GLPC offers a scholarship for college students who continue to actively invest themselves in church and campus ministries while in college. For scholarship information, please contact Tyler.

FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP

Christianna Toler
Finance@grandlakespc.org

GROWING TOGETHER IN FAITH - Seven years ago, we took inspiration from Nehemiah's story to be faithful, persevere, and encourage each other to work together with our Hands United. (Remember that? Wasn't it fun?) As I recently reread the passages, I am reminded of the importance of prayer as the way to connect with God and seek His guidance. What is God asking you to do? Have you inquired lately?

Here we are again in 2025 asking ourselves what it means to be part of the Grand Lakes Presbyterian family. What happens when you hand it over to God? Have you tried it? Nehemiah did and was answered with great wisdom to do God's work in rebuilding the physical walls of Jerusalem. In doing so, he also created an opportunity for the people to rebuild and revive their spiritual lives.

As GLPC continues to grow in the coming year, will you help us build?
Will you **Come Grow with Us?**

FINAL BUDGET IN BRIEF as of 6/30/25 [unless 7/31 is available by press time]:

INCOME:	PLEDGED INCOME:
Contributions – \$ 387,995	\$534,557
Other Income – <u>18,940</u>	
Total All Income – \$406,935	
EXPENSES:	PLEDGES RECEIVED:
Op. Expenses – \$(400,948)	\$262,495 – 49% to date
NET TOTAL – \$5,987	



GIVING THANKS!

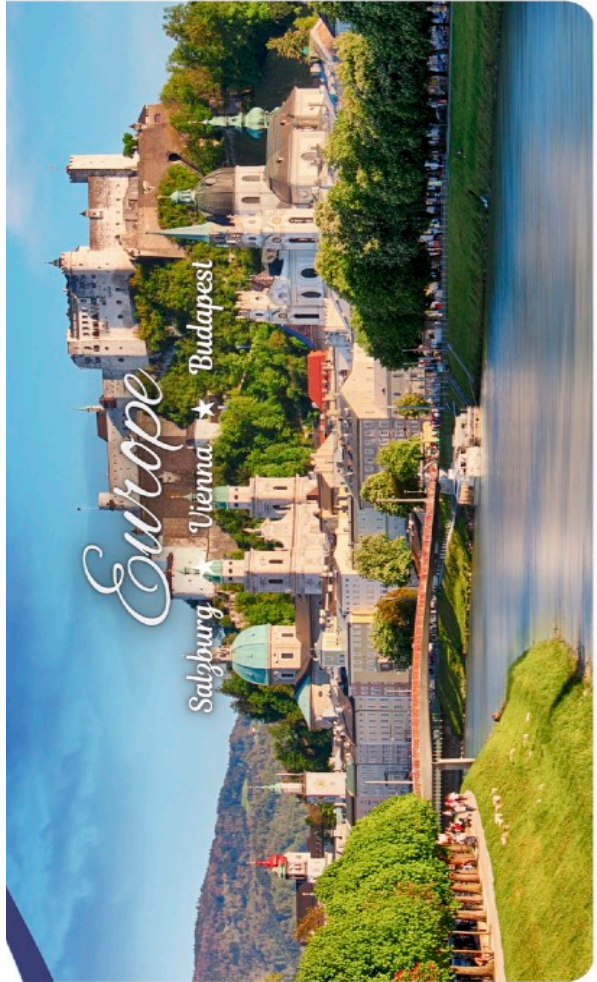


We also welcome on our newest elders and deacons who will be ordained and installed on Sunday, August 17th!

*Deacons: Frankline Awasom
Vicki George
Martha Kveton*

*Elders: Susan Maulding, elder for Fellowship
Jim Noblitt, elder for Personnel*





Grand Lakes Presbyterian Church

June 5 to June 14, 2026

- ★ Embark on a spectacular journey through the heart of Europe, where history, music, and breathtaking landscapes come together for an unforgettable experience. From Salzburg's rich musical heritage to Vienna's imperial grandeur and Budapest's vibrant charm, this tour offers a perfect blend of culture, history, and performance opportunities.
- ★ Explore the birthplace of Mozart, stroll through the picturesque Old Town, and enjoy a concert in this city renowned for its musical heritage.
- ★ Experience the grandeur of Schönbrunn Palace, savor a dinner with live music, and attend a concert in the stunning St. Peter's Basilica.
- ★ Discover the city's architectural beauty, shop for local treasures, and experience Hungary's rich equestrian traditions with a folklore show and horse performance.



10-Day Tour Includes:

- Roundtrip international airfare
- 8 Nights' accommodation
- Breakfast daily
- Welcome Dinner
- Motorcoach and Tour
- Manager as per program
- Meals, activities and admissions as per itinerary
- Performances for the group

Tour Cost

\$4,579	\$5,205
per person in DBL	per person in SGL

Based on 50 participants

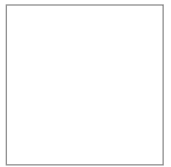


Scan this QR code for more information or contact
Christian De la Cruz at msuic@grandlakespc.org

DAY 1	FRIDAY, JUNE 05, 2026: DEPARTURE FROM THE US
DAY 2	SATURDAY, JUNE 06, 2026: MUNICH – NEUSCHWANSTEIN – SALZBURG (D) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Arrive in Munich.• Neuschwanstein Castle - Discover the fairy-tale masterpiece that inspired Disney's castles, perched high in the Bavarian Alps.• Overnight in Salzburg.
DAY 3	SUNDAY, JUNE 07, 2026: SALZBURG, PERFORMANCE I (B, D) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• City tour of Salzburg.• Potential performance opportunity in Salzburg.• Mozart Geburtshaus - Step into the birthplace of Mozart and uncover the life of a musical genius.
DAY 4	MONDAY, JUNE 08, 2026: SALZBURG – BERCHTESGADEN – SALZBURG (B) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Berchtesgaden - Excursion into Bavaria's breathtaking alpine landscapes.• Boat Trip - Enjoy a scenic glide across crystal-clear waters.• Salt Mine - Venture underground for a fascinating tour of centuries-old mining traditions.
DAY 5	TUESDAY, JUNE 09, 2026: SALZBURG – VIENNA (B, D) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Check out of the hotel.• Melk Benedictine Monastery - Marvel at this stunning Baroque masterpiece overlooking the Danube.• Monsee - Visit the iconic Wedding Church, famed for its role in The Sound of Music.• Dinner and overnight in Vienna.
DAY 6	WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2026: VIENNA, PERFORMANCE II (B, D) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• City tour of Vienna.• Potential performance in St. Peter's Basilica.• Schönbrunn Palace - Walk the opulent halls of this former Habsburg summer residence.• Dinner with live music in the evening.• Overnight in Vienna.
DAY 7	THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2026: VIENNA (B) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• House of Music - Dive into Vienna's musical heritage with interactive exhibits and sound experiences.• Volksoper Performance - Enjoy a world-class opera or operetta in this renowned Viennese theater.• Overnight in Vienna.
DAY 8	FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 2026: VIENNA – BUDAPEST, PERFORMANCE III (B, D) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Budapest - Discover the city's rich history and stunning architecture on a guided tour.• Potential performance in Budapest.• Dinner and overnight in Budapest.
DAY 9	SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 2026: BUDAPEST (B, L) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shopping Tour• Horse-drawn carriage ride.• Tanya Csarda Excursion - Experience Hungary's rural charm with a traditional countryside visit.• Lunch with live gypsy music and a Hungarian folklore show.• Welcome Drink upon arrival.• Horse Show
DAY 10	SUNDAY, JUNE 14, 2026: RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES (B)



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PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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KATY, TEXAS 77450



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GLPC Highlights

SUNDAYS

Disciple Groups:
9:30am

Worship:
10:30am

Live-Streaming On:
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inside this
issue of
Connections!