



**GRACE COVENANT**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## GRACE NOTES

SEPTEMBER 2019 | Vol 37, N9

*“Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.” – Hebrews 13:2*

### Visitors delight us.

Our goal is simple: make all people feel welcomed, not overwhelmed. We were all visitors once and remember how it feels to try a new place of worship. Attend as often as you want. Visitors are welcome at all GCPC events, classes and small groups as well as in worship. We will always be glad to see you!

Join us for coffee in between our two services or grab a cup of coffee in Heartland Hall on your way to Sunday School class. Heartland Hall is located next to the Sanctuary. There are always people to visit with or things to learn about if you want to just hang out.

### REAL FAITH

### REAL STORIES

### REAL GRACE

*For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but a spirit of power, love and a sound mind.*  
- 2 Timothy 1 v 7

11100 College Boulevard  
Overland Park, KS 66210  
913-345-1256  
office@gcpc.org  
gcpc.org



## We're going to wrap up the Season of Peace at Grace Covenant on Sunday, October 6, when we observe World Communion/Peace & Global Witness Sunday.

The following Sunday, October 13, begins something new – our Season of Thanks Giving, a time for us to give special consideration for all that we *are* thankful for in our lives – and we are very blessed. The theme for this year is “Thanks *Living*.”

It's not a new idea. In an essay called “The Art of Living,” Wilfred Peterson wrote:

*The art of thanksgiving is thanks-living. It is gratitude in action. . . .*

*It is thanking God for the gift of life by living it triumphantly. . . .*

*It is thanking God for opportunities by accepting them as a challenge to achievement. . . .*

*It is thanking God for inspiration by living to be an inspiration to others. . . .*

*It is adding to your prayers of thanksgiving, acts of thanks-living.*

[The Art of Living (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1961), pp. 44–45]

But in our hearts, is there sufficient thankfulness to really give praise to our generous God? Does this thankfulness result in showing any true gratitude?

Do we do any more than say a thanksgiving prayer over the traditional Thanksgiving feast? Or are some of our prayers and our lives like those described by the Scottish poet Robert Burns— “Three mile prayers and one-half mile graces”?

Have we learned to *say* thank you and to *show* thank you?

I like these words—they remind us that to be truly thankful calls for living out that thankfulness:

*If you hear a kind word spoken  
Of some worthy soul you know,  
It may fill his heart with sunshine  
If you'd only tell him so.*

*If a deed, however humble, helps you  
On your way to go,  
Seek the one whose hand has helped you.  
Seek her out and tell her so.*

*If your heart is touched and tender  
Toward a sinner lost and low,  
It might help him to do better  
If you would only tell him so.*  
[Anonymous]

- Sue & Mitch



# Grace Studies

## Adult Studies in Bible, Theology, Faith and Life, Christian Witness and Justice

### ► Bible Study: Engage: Gospel

We are called to share the ongoing ministry of Jesus Christ. This may not be the easiest thing you've been called to do, but it is by far the most rewarding. Come and explore how your story, our story and God's story connect. The class is being led by Revs. Sue and Mitch in Heartland Hall.

### ► Christian Living: *Twelve Lies That Hold Americans Captive* by Jonathan P. Walton

Walton exposes the cultural myths and misconceptions about America's identity. He identifies how American ideology has become a false religion and how orienting our lives around American nationalism is idolatry. Discover how the kingdom of God offers true freedom and justice for all. The class is being led by Dave Peck in room 4.

## Upcoming Young Adults and Families (YAFs) Events:

### YAFs annual Schaake's Pumpkin Patch Outing October 19 at 4pm

Bring the family for this fall tradition! Meet at the patch at 4pm, and then we'll head to McAlister's in Lawrence for dinner afterwards.

### Adults' Night Out at Pinstripes November 9 at 6pm

We will have dinner and then play some bocce. All skill levels welcome!

### Holiday Progressive Dinner December 7th at 4pm

We'll start with appetizers at Chris and Erin Frye's (10243 Nieman Pl., Overland Park, KS 66214), then move on to dinner at Hilary and Jake Schmidt's (14455 S. Summit St., Olathe, KS 66062), and end with dessert and hot chocolate at the church in Heartland Hall.



## "Blessing of the Animals"

Saturday, October 5, 10am-12pm

In honor of the special relationships we have with our pets, we will have a "Blessing of the Animals" outdoors under the front portico, on Saturday, October 5, from 10am-Noon.

Friends and neighbors are encouraged to bring their personal or family pets to share God's blessing with them. This follows the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, who loved all God's creatures and followed God's example of kindness, mercy, compassion, and love for all creation.

While we love our pets and want to recognize God's love for all creation, and especially these creatures that make our lives special, a couple of reminders:

- All dogs must be on leashes and other pets (cats, rabbits, reptiles, etc.) should be in carriers.
- If your pet does not like large groups of people, show your pet some consideration and keep it home.
- Remember to pick up after your pet just as you would at any other time.
- We will have water stations for your pets.
- Children without pets may feel left out – they are encouraged to bring their stuffed animals to be blessed!



## Trunk or Treat October 27, 12:15-1:30pm

Come dressed in your favorite costume and get ready for fun! There will be games to play, and a parade for all to see your costumes and then it will be time to Trunk or Treat at the decorated vehicles full of delicious treats!

We still have room for a few more trunks. If you would like to join the fun and pass out treats to the trunk or treaters, please contact Rev. Sue at [sue.trigger@gcpc.org](mailto:sue.trigger@gcpc.org), or sign up on our website at: [www.gcpc.org/trunkortreat](http://www.gcpc.org/trunkortreat)



# Music Notes

Looking forward to November and December

## Youth Band

Youth Band has kicked-in with their rehearsals on Sundays from 8:50-9:50am in Room 19.

Contact Christopher Callender or Miles McDonald if you are interested in joining Youth Band.

## Wind Ensemble/Orchestra Straight Ahead

Play in worship: October 6

Rehearsals: Wednesday, October 2, 7:30-8:30pm and Saturday, October 5 10:30-11:30am

Play in worship: December 8

Rehearsals: Wednesday, December 4, 7:30-8:30pm and Saturday, December 7, 10:30-11:30am

## Sunday, December 8, is a BIG day!

It's time again for  
**A Christmas Exclamation!**

*Including...*

The M&M Holiday Silent Auction to support our 8th-12th graders' Mission & Music Trip during the summer of 2020.

Bidding takes place in Heartland Hall from 8:30am-12:30pm and again from 5:00-5:45pm

*Thank you for supporting our students!*



*Followed by...*

**A Christmas Exclamation!** music program at 6pm in the Sanctuary presented by our children's and youth choirs, Youth Band, and all of our handbell choirs.

## Would you like to join the Music Ministry on our Choral Tour to Italy May 27 – June 7, 2020?

We will be singing Mozart's *Solemn Vespers* in the Basilica di Santa Croce in Firenze (Florence), as well as touring Verona, Venice, and Lake Garda.

*Singers and non-singers alike are welcome to go on this fabulous trip.*

First payments are due by October 30, 2019. For more information, contact Rebecca Prater, [rebecca.prater@gcpc.org](mailto:rebecca.prater@gcpc.org).



## "Thank you!" Notes

The choral anthem, "Concertato on 'For the Beauty of the Earth'" arr. Mark Hayes with piano, violin, and handbells was donated by Bob and Linda Dover and Jim and Pam Kelly in memory of Connie Richards' mother, Miriam Richards.

The choral anthem, "O Little Town of Bethlehem" arr. Dan Forrest with piano, string quartet, and oboe was donated in memory of Mary Ann Wilson from the Choral Music Fund Endowment established in her name.

The choral anthem, "Wexford Carol" arr. Elaine Hagenberg with piano, string quintet, oboe, and percussion was donated by Jim and Pam Kelly in memory of Bob Bonney's mother, Sylvia Bonney.

The handbell piece, "Fantasy on 'Angels We Have Heard On High'" arr. Brian Childers was donated by Mike and Celia Nicholas in memory of Celia's father, Luther Smith.

In addition, Mike and Celia Nicholas donated "From Sorrow to Joy" arr. Brian Childers, "Rest Merry, Rejoice!" arr. Barbara Scheffter, and "What Star Is This?" arr. Brenda E. Austin in honor of GCPC's music ministry.

*"Thank you for giving."*

## Thank you, Grace Covenant

I want to thank you, **Grace Covenant**, for all the ways you cared for me following my rotator-cuff surgery. From meals, to rides to appointments, cards of encouragement, and of course, your prayers.

I also want to give an extra "thank you" to **Steve Becher** who added an extra step and railing to my conducting box so I don't have to conduct so high anymore. It is beautiful and I can finally fulfill my lifelong dream of being a drum major. The tenors & basses say they can actually see me now and more importantly - I can keep my eyes on them!

With gratitude, Rebecca Prater

# Children's Ministries

## Take a Look at What's Happening in Sunday School!

October is going to be all about exploring our relationship with God through worship! Children will explore a series of Old Testament stories that will show how to give thanks to God with willing hearts, how to remember the things God has done in our lives, how we can dedicate ourselves to following God, and how to celebrate God's presence through worship.

One way you can help your child grow in their understanding of what the Bible teaches about worship is by bringing your child/ren to worship services. When we come to worship we gather with other believing Christians and enter into the presence of our creator, God! There are so many reasons why worship is an important part of our Christian practice, but an astonishing thing we sometimes forget is that God invites us into intimate communion in worship. If there was ever a cause for joy, no matter what the condition or circumstances of the rest of our life may be at the moment, such a God-given invitation should be it! Each Sunday is a new experience in worship, come and share the joy of being in the presence of God!



## Children and Worship

**Awakening to Worship** is our wonder and worship program for children ages 4-1st grade and meets following the children's sermon weekly. We invite children in elementary school to continue participating and experiencing worship as they move into the sanctuary for worship with the wider family of Grace Covenant.

**Worship Bags** are in place to help busy hands and hearts.

**Worship Bulletins** are available from the ushers every week and are on two age levels.

**Celebration choir** We are so excited to have Lara Schesser and Pam Smith Kelly leading the Celebration singers. The children are not only singing; they are ringing chimes! They will be joining us in worship on Sunday, October 27.

**Worship Leaders** are invited to light the candle weekly, read in worship, and assist in other ways. If you would like to be a worship leader, please contact Rev. Sue. She is looking for you.

## Explore God's Grace Each Day

When your children are at home, use these tools to explore God's grace and gratitude each day. Find these tools at: [www.pcusastore.com/GGGdownloads](http://www.pcusastore.com/GGGdownloads)

**Grace Sightings:** the weekly Bible story and age appropriate activities for your family to do at home.

**Audio Recordings:** the weekly Bible story brought to life by endearing readings and sound effects.

**E-books:** the quarter's colorful illustrations, Bible stories and Grace Sightings, in ibook and Kindle formats.



## JOB JAR!

### Cradle Roll Coordinator

When children are born an announcement card is made and posted outside the Nursery rooms. The cradle roll coordinator would create the card and post as well as send the card to families, as the children leave the nursery. The coordinator would be encouraged to stay in touch with the family the first two years by sending cards on the child's birthday, baptism anniversary and other appropriate times of year.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Rev. Sue at [sue.trigger@gcpc.org](mailto:sue.trigger@gcpc.org).

### Children's Worship Assistants

Are you interested in including our children more fully in worship? We are looking for Children's Worship Assistants who will help children to light the Christ candle weekly, read in worship, and assist in other ways.

If you would like to be a Children's Worship Assistant please contact Rev. Sue at [sue.trigger@gcpc.org](mailto:sue.trigger@gcpc.org).

## Come Explore the Bible!

On Sunday, November 3, all 3rd -5th grade children will be presented with a Bible during the worship services. They are invited to learn about their new book at a Bible Workshop with Rev. Sue. The workshop will be held during the Sunday school hour (10 a.m.) in the 3rd -5th grade Sunday school classroom, Room 10. (Children who attend the 11:05 a.m. service will receive their Bibles during worship after the workshop.)

# East Hill Singers - November 10, 4pm

## Concert on a Sunday at Grace Covenant

The East Hill Singers will perform at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church on Sunday, November 10, 2019 at 4pm. This article features information about that future event. This concert is one of four annual concerts presented in the Kansas City Metropolitan Area in 2019.

The East Hill Singers, from the Lansing State Correctional Facility, consists of inmates from the minimal correctional unit and community volunteers. Arts in Prison, the organization that sponsors the East Hill Singers, identifies them as one of its premiere programs. Offering classes and programs about the arts, serve as major strategies for Arts in Prison to achieve a stated purpose: "... provides life changing programs using art as a medium to inspire positive change in the incarcerated to reduce recidivism and to connect offenders to their communities." According to Arts in Prison, inmates frequently report that the programs help them find hope that they can grow, change, and live productively outside of prison. Examples of program classes include music, painting, photography, public speaking, and drama.



**Your presence at the concert is one way of showing the incarcerated person that people do appreciate this time of each singer's expression of art.**

### **On the day of the concert, what should happen?**

**1pm** The singers will rehearse in the Sanctuary.

**3pm** The singers will have a refreshment break in Heartland Hall.

**3pm** The art display opens. You may purchase items such as paintings by inmates, art prints, note cards, and any item labeled for sale.

**4pm** The concert begins.

**About 5:30pm**, after the concert, the singers will stand in a receiving line to share greetings from family, friends, and concert attendees.

**About 6pm**, or before, the singers, prison officials, security personnel, and concert planners will eat dinner in Heartland Hall.

**After dinner**, the East Hill Singers will depart.

### **Please consider attending the concert. You may want to volunteer for an activity.**

All activities will help to make the concert operationally efficient, beautiful, and meaningful to the East Hill Singers, you, and concert participants. One of the ways that you can indicate your specific volunteer work request involves using the computer to "sign-up."

Watch for this sign-up.

Remember to invite your neighbors.

—The Kairos Team





# Clerk's Corner

Session met on September 16, 2019 in room 5, with Reverend Sue Trigger serving as moderator. In addition to the elders, Deacon Barb Brown, and Reverend Mitch Trigger were present. Consent agenda: The minutes of the August stated Session meeting, the motion to start a GCPC runners group, offering the pulpit to Kate Trigger Duffert on September 1 (voted on via e-mail beforehand) and holding a Blessing of the Animals on October 5 were approved.

**Team minutes:** Teams were encouraged to submit minutes from meetings to Patrick in time for him to send them out with the Session materials (the Thursday before Session). There was a discussion about the upcoming budget procedures. While we are trying to maintain the budget without increases, teams are encouraged to ask for the funds to fulfill their mission. If teams have questions about line items in their budget, they are asked to call Tara. Rev. Sue mentioned that we need to have procedures and policies stated in the Operations Manual. A revised manual will be sent to Session members soon so they can review it with their teams. The Operating Committee submitted a procedure to follow to update the membership rolls. Nelson Townsend asked that Session pray for people whose name appears on the list. Session approved the new procedure, as well as a letter to be sent to inactive members, and directed the church office to start the procedure.

**Clerk's report:** Our membership is stable at 487.

**Co-Pastors' report:** Mitch will be attending a stewardship conference at the end of the month. Patrick will be on vacation the end of October and has asked that bulletin announcements be submitted by September 24.

**Deacons' report:** Barb Brown reported that the deacons had a get-together in August. Rev. Sue pointed out that the Operating Committee discussed having the deacons develop procedures for meals and visits. Cheryl Johnson sent Barb a copy of the Operating Committee minutes.

**Old business:** Harold Frye reported that the Nominating Team is at work seeking deacon candidates. Rev. Sue pointed out that we still need another elder on the team.

**New business:** Session approved a motion to create a safety and security team to prepare procedures. Session approved hosting the September 19, 2020, Presbytery meeting. Nelson Townsend and Diane Schmit distributed graphs showing worship attendance. We need to talk to members who are not attending and get some feedback. Discussion highlighted several points to talk about during Visioning Day. Members are reminded that personal invitations are the best way to bring visitors to church. After sharing some joys and concerns of the congregation, the meeting was adjourned at 8:32pm, and Rev. Sue closed the meeting with a prayer.

# Mission Team

## October Communion and Donation Partner

The October communion offering will be directed to two organizations that provide health care to low-income and uninsured residents of Wyandotte and Johnson Counties.

**The Duschene Clinic** is a doctors' office in Wyandotte County that provides primary health care, medication assistance, and chronic disease management.

**The Health Partnership of Johnson County** is Johnson County's largest safety-net clinic for low-income and uninsured residents of Johnson County, and the only one providing care free of charge to this population. In addition to the communion offering, we are collecting over the counter medications to help stock both clinics, including large bottles of Tylenol, Aleve, Advil, aspirin and cold/cough type medications. Generic or store brands are fine and less expensive. Please place your donations in the bin in the Weekday Entrance.

## A little bit about Friends of JCDS...

**Our primary outward mission partner on "Workshop Sunday," October 20, is Friends of JCDS (Johnson County Developmental Supports).**

Friends of JCDS, Inc. ensures that individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities are successful in our communities. They remove barriers to affordable, accessible housing and help with basic needs for individuals who receive support from Johnson County Developmental Supports. By helping with these core obstacles, they ensure that individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Johnson County can be successful in our community as active and engaged members.

They assist individuals in a variety of ways, but one of the most important is housing. Friends of JCDS, Inc. owns 13 homes (*they will open a 14th in a couple of weeks*) that have been remodeled to meet universal design standards. What does that mean? A ramp that allows egress. Widened doorways and hallways. Bathrooms that are accessible. Their housing assistance for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities served by Johnson County Developmental Supports keeps their rent well below market value so individuals can afford to live in our community. We look forward to helping support, in some small way, such a wonderful endeavor.



## Peace at all times, in all ways.

—2 Thessalonians 3:16

### PCUSA has designated September 1–October 6 as The Season of Peace.

"Through the Peace & Global Witness Offering, we work together to share Christ's peace with one another. We seek peace in a chaotic world, finding strength in knowing that God is always near." Your donation to this PCUSA offering encourages and equips PCUSA and Grace Covenant to find and address the anxiety and discord that is prevalent throughout this broken and sinful world. Fifty percent of the funds is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence here and around the world; 25% is used by mid-councils for peace and reconciliation ministries; and our own congregation retains the remaining 25% designated by your KAIROS team to a local Kansas City organization that supports peace and justice for all God's creations. The agency this year will be listed in the bulletin and the mid-week announcements.

For more information on the PCUSA special offerings:  
<https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/offering/peace-global-witness/>

Thank you for following our discussions about the commitments Grace Covenant session has approved. We addressed last month **Hunger Alleviation, Development Assistance and Hunger Education**. Continuing the commitment GCPC made to become a certified Hunger Action Congregation this month we visit the last three actions:

- **Lifestyle Integrity:** adopting sustainable personal and corporate lifestyles to restore justice and protect all of God's creation. *Join us as we develop facility/congregational guidelines for GCPC.*
- **Corporate and Public Policy Witness:** advocating and campaigning for changes in policies and practices to end hunger and its causes, promote self-development, and care for creation. *We encourage members to write local, regional and national representatives advocating for policies that consider all of God's creation!*
- **Worship:** incorporating prayer, education, and preaching about ending hunger and its causes into worship. *Study, pray, and share with others the charge to care for the least of these.*

**Thanks to your session Grace Covenant was recognized as a PCUSA hunger Action Congregation 2018–2020 by demonstrating a commitment to follow Christ's example in helping to alleviate hunger and eliminate its causes.**

Grace Covenant, you can continue this commitment October 20 at Grace Covenant Workshop Sunday!

Join us in Heartland Hall as we join Bread for the World's 2019

**Offering of letters to our elected officials, encouraging them to increase funding to help alleviate hunger here and around the world. All children deserve the opportunity to live a healthy life and reach their full potential. Join us in making this opportunity a reality!**

In the November newsletter, KAIROS will begin visiting the Earth Care Congregations commitment — watch for the four-session Sunday classroom presentations announcement!

#### Events You Might Be Interested In:

**October 4, 7:30–9pm:** *King Hedley II* at KC Melting Pot Theater; Chronologically presented, this is the ninth play in August Wilson's ten-play cycle that, decade by decade, examines African-American life in the United States during the 20th century. Set in Pittsburgh, PA, in 1985, it tells the story of a man trying to rebuild his life after incarceration. Join MORE<sup>2</sup> friends at this play and part of your ticket purchase will go to our work removing public barriers for policy changes for people who return home after incarceration.

**October 8, 6pm:** The Safe and Welcoming Wyandotte Coalition invites you to join us for a Town Hall meeting at First Baptist Church (2900 Minnesota Ave).

**October 12, 10am–1pm:** Presbyterian Women in Heartland Presbytery 2019 fall gathering, **A Hand Up: Building Community.**

**October 28, 6:30pm:** Heartland Earthkeepers *Chasing Coral* documentary with NOAA scientist Dr. Mark Eakin available to answer questions following the presentation. Village Presbyterian Church, Prairie Village.

**October 13, 2pm:** Kansas City Heart of America CROP Hunger Walk at Central Methodist Church, KCMO.

**November 1, 12:30pm:** The trial of 17 persons who crossed the property line at the nuclear weapons parts plant in Kansas City, MO, on May 27. **At 12:30pm, an hour before the trial time,** all are invited to share reflections at the courthouse entry, 511 E. 11th St., in KC.

If peace, social justice, earth care or any combination of them appeals to you as a member of Grace Covenant, please join us and walk with the Kairos Team. We welcome anyone to contact moderator: Rick Randolph, [rrandolphiii@gmail.com](mailto:rrandolphiii@gmail.com), or Rev. Mitch Trigger, [mitch.trigger@gcpc.org](mailto:mitch.trigger@gcpc.org).



# Youth Page

## From Janae:

I am so thankful to be a part of Grace Covenant as the school year intern! I am originally from Mississippi, but entered into this internship through Heartland Camp in Parkville, MO, to find direction in my ministry calling. I grew up in the church, having a pastor as a father means I was in the church more than anywhere else, and I loved it. I still love being in the church and experiencing the way that people around me worship God. I love having the opportunity to work with youth and watch them grow in their relationship with Christ. I am so excited to see where this year takes me and how it will help me in my journey into ministry!

## Event With Pine Ridge

On September 22, we hosted a game night and invited Pine Ridge Presbyterian whose youth leader is Christina Rees, one of our past interns. It was a lot of fun getting to know new people and catching up with old friends! We connected with Christina's group at Triennium and it was so much fun to spend time with them again. We will be hosting more youth groups on November 17!

## Hayride and Bonfire

Our annual hayride and bonfire is coming up! It is always a big hit so make sure you mark your calendar and invite all of your friends. This year our hayride and bonfire will be on November 3 at Shawnee Mission Park. We can already start to smell the hay and taste the toasty marshmallows! Make sure you come hangout with us and enjoy the fall!

## Homeless Night Event

GCPC youth will be having our annual Homeless Night Event on November 9 and 10. Students will get to experience what it like to be homeless for a night. We will be spending the night outside in boxes, no matter what the weather brings and will reflect on how blessed we are and the impact we can make!

## Upcoming Events

- **Connect** — October 6 & 13
- **CROP Walk** — October 13
- **Trunk or Treat** — October 27
- **Hayride and Bonfire** — November 4
- **Homeless Night Event** – November 9–10
- **Red Bag Shopping** — December 1
- **M&M Silent Auction** — December 8





# Life of the Church

## Reggie Reynolds Memorial Golf Scramble Wrap

**Sunday, September 8, turned out to be a great day for golf!**

We had 30 golfers participate in our rescheduled event. One of the highlights of this year's event was a special toast with each team at the 2nd hole to commemorate Reggie and what she meant to the church.

**There were prizes given out for:**

- Closest to the pin on the 2nd hole – Brian Hearn
- Closest to the pin on the 5th hole – Devon Mason
- Longest Drive on the 8th hole – Ryan Peck
- Longest Putt made on the 9th hole – Andrew Sellers

We received donations from all of the golfers, as well as a number of people who wanted to contribute but didn't (or couldn't) golf with us and raised more than \$1,300 for the Reggie Reynolds Scholarship Fund. If there is anyone who would still like to make a donation, you can use this link to donate directly to the fund: [www.gcpc.org/reynolds](http://www.gcpc.org/reynolds)

A sincere thank you to all the golfers and all who made a contribution to the fund. With the award planned for this year, the Scholarship Fund will have donated \$45,000 to Grace Covenant Seniors as they head off for college. What a great legacy to Reggie!

(Photos to the right are from the 2nd hole Toast in remembrance of Reggie Reynolds)

## Thank you Church Family!

Thank you for the notes of compassion and kindness following the recent passing of my uncle. I truly appreciate the care and concern of my GCPC family. —Nancy Taylor



Visit our website under "About Us" for a great story about our Sanctuary's Stained and Etched Glass! [gcpc.org](http://gcpc.org)





# Life of the Church

## Workshop Sunday

**SIGN UP by October 13 at  
[www.gcpc.org/workshop](http://www.gcpc.org/workshop)**

### Sign Up for Workshop Sunday, October 20

On this special Sunday, we'll spend the time we would normally devote to worship and Sunday school doing a variety of service projects! ALL PARTICIPANTS need to sign up for a service project by October 13 at [www.gcpc.org/workshop](http://www.gcpc.org/workshop).

You may also sign up on the sheets on the bulletin board outside the kitchen. Also, be sure to indicate on your sign-up sheet whether you'll be eating lunch at church. Finally, everyone who participates in a service project will get a free T-shirt! Please indicate your T-shirt size on your sign-up sheet.

**Kids are welcome at all the projects, and families are encouraged to volunteer together.** Another option for kids is the Kids' Room, where they can go for a service project of their own, as well as fun activities and games. Be sure to sign up kids who will be going to the Kids' Room, even if they may be there just part of the morning, so we can be sure to have enough adults there as well. Contact Mikki Walker, [michala.walker@gmail.com](mailto:michala.walker@gmail.com), for more information. The nursery will be open as usual.

### Quilt Materials Needed!

Search Your Closets! Mission Team is seeking donations of materials for the mission quilt project on Workshop Sunday. All items donated need to be in good condition (no obvious stains or tears) and recently washed and dried on a hot setting. Desired items include:

- large pieces of sturdy fabrics at least in ¼ yard increments — cotton, cotton blends, twill, fleece
- used queen or king sheets
- used queen or king size mattress pads
- used flannel or lightweight fleece blankets
- T-shirts (large youth and adult sizes)
- queen size quilt batting
- embroidery floss or crochet cord

Please place donated items in the gray bin in the Weekday Entrance before October 6.  
Contact Mikki Walker, [michala.walker@gmail.com](mailto:michala.walker@gmail.com), or Donna Heer, [taxdheer@gmail.com](mailto:taxdheer@gmail.com).

## Great GCPC Smoke-Off Is October 5!

The competition is open to everyone!

Folks will be smoking and grilling in the West parking lot; if you **need help getting your grill or smoker** to church, please contact Steve Becher, [sbecher72@gmail.com](mailto:sbecher72@gmail.com).

And the best part is that you get to eat - and vote with your wallets - the food that has been smoking all day. **Dinner will be at 5:30 in Heartland Hall.**

!!!! Please bring a side dish to share.

### Wanted: Grillers & Smokers for the GCPC Smoke-Off

We have a lot of interest in the barbeque sauce/rub class and eating but need more folks who are willing to grill or smoke food. Please contact Tom Stroud at [thomas.w.stroud@gmail.com](mailto:thomas.w.stroud@gmail.com), for more details.





# This Is Grace

Inquire and discover more  
about Grace Covenant



## Ready to go further?

**Starting Sunday, October 27**, we will host **This Is Grace** for anyone interested in learning more about Grace Covenant.

The class is open to all guests and visitors and is the best way to get an overview of the church. There is no assumption on our part that you will join when you attend the class. First time visitors and long-time friends are encouraged to attend to get questions answered and to discover more than you can learn from attending worship each week.

**This Is Grace** will meet on Sundays from 10am to 10:45am in Room 5, and continue for four consecutive weeks 10/27-11/17.

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| October 27  | Introductions/discussion about what Presbyterians believe  |
| November 3  | Discussion on the history of Grace Covenant and its ministries.  |
| November 10 | Discussion on the meaning of membership and <i>"Everything you've wanted to ask a pastor but have been unable to ask!"</i> |
| November 17 | We will attend <i>"A Conversation about Worship"</i> in Heartland Hall with other church members.                          |

After the final session, if you want to join Grace Covenant, you will be invited to meet with the Session (the governing body that oversees the ministry of the church). They will welcome you into our faith family in official Presbyterian style on Sunday, November 24.

If you decide you are not interested in joining, or not quite ready to join, we hope you will have a much better sense of Grace Covenant and we will continue to delight in your presence with us as a visitor and friend.

**For questions and to RSVP – please contact:**

**Pastor Sue** at [sue.trigger@gcpc.org](mailto:sue.trigger@gcpc.org) or  
**Pastor Mitch** at [mitch.trigger@gcpc.org](mailto:mitch.trigger@gcpc.org)  
or by phone at 913-345-1256.



## Life of the Church

SAVE A LIFE. RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW.

### GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN BLOOD DRIVE

Tuesday, Oct. 15 | 2 PM - 6:30 PM



## Fall Blood Drive

New blood donors keep this vital supply ready! **The CBC mobile team will be in Heartland Hall Tuesday, October 15, from 2pm until 6pm.** You may ask questions or signup in Heartland Hall between services on October 6 and 13, or contact Sarah Byrd at [sbyrdks@gmail.com](mailto:sbyrdks@gmail.com) or 913-909-1559.

Online signup is at [esavealifenow.org](https://esavealifenow.org); sponsor code is "gracecovenant." You may access this link easily by clicking the graphic at the bottom of this page.

## Advent ... Already?

It's time to begin planning for the Advent Fair which will be held on Sunday, December 1, at 10am in Heartland Hall.

This year's theme is "Why Advent?" We will be learning about the symbols and stories of Advent; some we will carry with us right into worship. There will be activities for all ages. Rev. Sue is looking for volunteers to serve on a planning team.

If you would like to help, please contact Rev. Sue at [sue.trigger@gcpc.org](mailto:sue.trigger@gcpc.org).

## Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church celebrates God's unbounded grace and all-inclusive love.

God gathers us in a welcoming community with our curiosity and questions to worship creatively, learn from God's Word, share our gifts, and deepen our faith. With grateful hearts and a spirit of adventure, we go to serve Christ in the world, sharing kindness with everyone and working for justice rooted in God's love.

**Inclusive. Family Oriented. Welcoming.**

11100 College Boulevard  
Overland Park, KS 66210  
Phone: 913-345-1256  
Fax: 913-345-1198

[gcpc.org](http://gcpc.org)



**Follow us on Social Media!**

Facebook: [facebook.com/GraceCovenantPresbyterian](https://facebook.com/GraceCovenantPresbyterian)

Twitter: @GraceCovPres

Instagram: @gcpc\_overlandpark

## CELEBRATING GOD'S ALL ENCOMPASSING LOVE!

### CHURCH STAFF

#### Co Pastors

- Office hours: Monday-Thursday  
Mitch Trigger, [mitch.trigger@gcpc.org](mailto:mitch.trigger@gcpc.org).....ext.18  
Sue Trigger, [sue.trigger@gcpc.org](mailto:sue.trigger@gcpc.org).....ext.15

#### Director of Music Ministries

- Office hours: Monday-Wednesday, Friday  
Rebecca Prater, [rebecca.prater@gcpc.org](mailto:rebecca.prater@gcpc.org)... ext. 13

#### Church Administrator

- Office hours: Monday-Friday  
Patrick Bell, [patrick.bell@gcpc.org](mailto:patrick.bell@gcpc.org)..... ext. 10

#### Director of Youth Ministries

- Office hours: Monday-Thursday  
Miles McDonald, [miles.mcdonald@gcpc.org](mailto:miles.mcdonald@gcpc.org).. ext. 17

**Finance Administrator**..... Tara Hyder

- Mon. 8-4; Tues./Weds. 8-12; /Thurs./Fri. by Appt.

**Organist**..... Linda Dover

**Contemporary Music Coord.**..... Donna Goeckler

**Contemporary Music Accomp.**... Denice Trawicki

**Contemporary Music Drummer**..... Daniel Cole

**Technical Director for Worship**.. Miles McDonald

**Child Care Coordinator**..... Carolyn Chaffin

**Kid's Day Out Director** ..... Kathy Connor

**Wedding Coordinator**..... Lara Schesser

**Funeral Coordinator** ..... Mary Sue Thomas

### ELDERS

Harold Frye	Diane Schmit
Tim Hayden	Aaron Soule
Cheryl Johnson	Dave Stalling
Terry Kolich	Josh Sutherland
Lynn Long	Susan Sutherland
Kat Mason	Nelson Townsend
David Minaschek	Marcia Turner
Julie Passett	

### SUPPORT STAFF

Deacon Moderator ..... Kathy Williams  
Operating Committee..... Tim Hayden,  
Cheryl Johnson, Julie Passett, Diane Schmit  
Nelson Townsend  
Newsletter Editor ..... Kim Krueger  
Prayer Chain..... Cheryl Johnson  
Website Administrators .. Kim Krueger/Patrick Bell

### MINISTRY UNITS

#### Congregational Nurture Unit Moderators

Connections and Care..... Lisa Feyh  
Worship and Music..... Sarah Evans, Barb Purvis,  
Katie Hearn

#### Education Ministry Unit Moderators

Adult ..... Maggie Blankers  
Children ..... Erin Frye, Angela Krug  
Youth..... Jody Mason

#### Reach Out Ministry Unit Moderators

Kairos ..... Rick Randolph  
Mission ..... Mikki Walker  
Welcoming and Marketing ..... Rosemary Gibson,  
Kim Krueger

#### Supportive Ministry Unit Moderators

Facility ..... Marc Feyh  
Generosity and Finance..... Matt McBride  
Personnel ..... Linda Bridges

### Worship Schedule

8:50am - Praise Team Led Worship  
10am - Church School All Ages  
11:05am - Choral Led Worship  
Childcare is provided during Worship.

### Upcoming Newsletter Article Deadlines

**November Issue** - Deadline, October 15  
**December Issue** - Deadline, November 19