



**Celebrating 40 Years on June 22, 2025!**

*Join us as we reflect upon God's faithfulness throughout our church's journey.*

# GRACE NOTES

July 2024  
Vol 42, Nbr 7

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.

11100 College Blvd.  
Overland Park, KS 66210  
913-345-1256  
[office@gcpc.org](mailto:office@gcpc.org)  
[gcpc.org](http://gcpc.org)

In-Person Worship and Online Worship every Sunday on Facebook and Zoom.

Visit [gcpc.org](http://gcpc.org) for links!

## The Power of Stories: Sharing and Connecting

In a world filled with noise and distractions, stories have a remarkable ability to cut through the chaos and touch our hearts. They have been a fundamental part of human communication since ancient times, passed down through generations to teach, inspire, and connect us with each other. As members of our church community, we understand the profound impact stories can have on our faith and fellowship.

Stories are not just narratives; they are vessels of wisdom and empathy. When we hear someone's story, we glimpse into their life, their struggles, and their triumphs. In doing so, we find common ground, understanding, and often, encouragement for our own journeys. The Bible is a testament to the power of stories, from parables that impart timeless lessons to the narratives of faith and redemption that resonate across cultures and centuries.

Each of us has a unique story shaped by our experiences, beliefs, and encounters with the divine. By sharing our stories within our church community, we create bonds of empathy and strengthen our collective faith. Whether it's a testimony of answered prayers, a reflection on a challenging life event, or a moment of spiritual clarity, these stories inspire and uplift us all.

Listening is equally important in the art of storytelling. When we listen to someone's story with an open heart and mind, we honor their journey and acknowledge the presence of God in their lives. Through active listening, we cultivate a community where every voice is valued and every story is cherished.

As we continue to gather and worship together, let us remember the importance of storytelling in our church community. Let us seek opportunities to share our stories, to listen with compassion, and to celebrate the richness of our collective experiences. In doing so, we strengthen our bonds as siblings in Christ.

Through storytelling, we connect not only with each other but also with the eternal truths that shape our faith. Let us continue to be storytellers, sharing the remarkable ways God works in our lives, and finding joy in the stories of others.

*Grace and Peace —Rev. Karen*

[karen.wright@gcpc.org](mailto:karen.wright@gcpc.org); 913-345-1256, ext. #10



## Transition Process

In June, the Session met with representatives from the Committee on Ministry (COM). We are going to begin working on assembling a transition team and gathering data for a mission study document. If you are interested in being a part of the Transition Team, please contact Pastor Karen at karen.wright@gcpc.org.

In the coming months, we will have a congregational survey to fill out as well as finding times to gather in small groups to gather information. This work helps define who Grace Covenant has been, who Grace Covenant is today, and how God is shaping Grace Covenant for the future.

## Clerk's Corner

The June Session meeting was exciting as we examined our new slate of Elders.

We also heard a presentation from Heartland Presbytery's Commission on Ministry about the Mission Study that will be conducted by our Transition Team. The guidelines are less prescriptive than they have been in the past. Karen is ready to start assembling a Transition Team — if you are interested in being a part of the team, please let Karen or a Session member know. Karen is already planning several activities during and around worship this summer which will kick off the work of the Transition Committee. *(Note: The Transition Team is NOT the group that will search for our next Pastor, although we may have one or two members of this team roll over into that search committee. The Pastor Nominating Committee will be called by the church nominating committee and elected by the congregation once we have completed our Mission study.)*

Work on the elevator repairs has started but is slowed by a wait for parts. Finance Team continues to try to move our funds into accounts that will be more lucrative and accessible to us.

A huge thanks goes out to Tara Hyder who has been working with JCCC and finally secured payments that they owed us for use of our building over the last few years! Arrangements have been made for them to start making those payments each semester.

We look forward to worshipping in the park on Sunday, August 4, followed by a potluck and fellowship.

The Session has given authorization to Rick Randolph to fundraise through the congregation for his upcoming medical aid trip to the Ukraine.

The Director of Christian Education search team continues its work; candidates are few and the interviews have not yielded an appropriate candidate yet. They continue to pursue new avenues for candidates.

Session will not have a stated meeting in July.

As always, if you have questions or concerns, please talk to any member of Session.

—Melanie Townsend, Clerk of Session



**GRACE COVENANT**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## Save the Date!

40th Anniversary Celebration

*"Celebrating our Faithful Journey"*

**Sunday, June 22, 2025**

9:30am worship followed by lunch

# Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church

## Celebrating our Faithful Journey

As we commemorate the 40th anniversary of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, we will gather under the uplifting theme of "Celebrating Our Faithful Journey." Anchored by the timeless words of Psalm 100:5, *"For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations,"* this celebration reflects on our rich history, acknowledges our milestones, and rejoices in our growth over the years.

For four decades, Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church has been a beacon of God's enduring love and faithfulness. Our journey has been marked by countless moments of worship, community service, and spiritual growth, each contributing to the tapestry of our church's story. This anniversary invites us to pause and reflect on these moments, celebrating the unwavering faithfulness of God and the dedicated efforts of our congregation in nurturing and building our church community.

The 40th Anniversary Committee wants our anniversary celebrations to be vibrant and multifaceted, featuring worship services, gratitude-focused events, and heartfelt storytelling. Through these activities, we will honor the faithfulness of God and the transformative power of His presence in our lives. We will reminisce about significant moments, both challenging and triumphant, fostering a deep sense of gratitude for our past and an optimistic vision for our future.

This celebration is more than a look back; it's a reminder that our journey is ongoing. As we reflect on the past, we are also encouraged to look forward to the countless opportunities ahead. Opportunities to deepen our faith, impact lives, and spread God's love even further. Our 40th anniversary is a testament to the enduring faithfulness of God and the vibrant, dedicated community that is Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church.

Join us in this year of reflection and celebration as we honor the past, embrace the present, and look forward to a future filled with God's promises and possibilities. Let us come together to celebrate our faithful journey, remembering that with God's enduring love and faithfulness, our best days are still ahead. Throughout the upcoming year, there will be numerous ways in which you can contribute to this storytelling by sharing your memories and the impact the church has made in our community.

**40th Anniversary Committee Members:** Co-Chairs Kristy Shaw, Christy Soule, and Kim Krueger; Jenny Stromberg, Kathy Williams, Mary Ann Weyforth, Sarah Byrd, Ginny Wirtz, Liz Chandler, Julie Webb, Tim Hayden, Caroline Becher, Eileen Thompson, Jane Knoche, Vicki Peck, Cathy Nance, Chelly King, and Kevin Johnson. Volunteer to serve on the committee, or assist with activities throughout the year, by emailing Kristy Shaw at [kristinashaw@everestkc.net](mailto:kristinashaw@everestkc.net).



## 40th Anniversary Stories, Photos and Video

The 40th Anniversary Committee is in the process of gathering photos, stories, video and assistance in telling the history of Grace Covenant and we need your help!

### Printed photos

There will be a table at the August 11 Ministry Fair staffed by committee members who can scan your 4x6 (or other sized photos) on-the-spot to add to our digital library. All we ask is that you have them face-up, and sorted by the same size. We can scan them in seconds, and give them right back to you.

### Digital photos

If you have digital photos that you can share with us, upload them through the church's website at [www.gcpc.org/40](http://www.gcpc.org/40).

### What photos do we want?

We are looking for photos that tell the story of GCPC and show our members and families. Everything from current to years past!

Here is a "general" list: weddings, baptisms, VBS, bbqs, special events, Easter, Christmas Eve photos from all years, mission trips, Sunday School, mission projects, small groups, Star Sunday, choral and bell performances from all years, members wearing GCPC T-shirts, potluck dinners, pancake suppers, trunk or treat...etc.

# MUSIC NOTES

## MUSIC IN WORSHIP

**July 7th, 9:30am**

Organ led worship. Barbara Douglas, soprano soloist – “Children of the Heavenly Father” Swedish Tune arr. Oskar Ahnfelt. Bob Dover, clarinet

**July 14th, 9:30am**

Praise Team music leadership, Carrie DeVries, director

**July 21st, 9:30am**

Organ led worship. **This will be the first Sunday for “Summer Choir” to sing. Summer Choir is open to any singers from rising 6th graders through adults.**

Our anthem will be “O Come, Let Us Sing” by Cindy Berry. We will rehearse that morning at 8:50am in the Sanctuary. No Robes. Copies of music will be available on the Choir Room counter.

In addition, Beth Lilian, soprano soloist

**July 28th, 9:30am**

Organ led worship. This is another “Summer Choir” Sunday. See above for more details. Anthem: “I Love to Tell the Story” arr. John Leavitt

In addition, David Sutherland, tenor soloist

**August 18th, 9:30am**

Final Summer Choir Date.

“River in Judea” arr. John Leavitt



## MUSIC ENSEMBLES RESUME IN AUGUST & SEPTEMBER

Mark the following tentative dates & times for our ensembles to resume & plan to join us!

**Tuesday, August 13th, 7:00-8:15pm**

**Praise Team (Youth & Adults)**

Vocals, Instruments, & Keys

Carrie DeVries, director

**Sunday, August 18th, 10:45am**

(at the beginning of Sunday School)

**Joy! Singers (4s-1st graders)**

Emily Hussey & Hilary Schmidt, co-directors  
and

**Celebration! Choir & Chimes (2nd-5th graders)**

Pam Kelly, director – Katie Hearn, assistant director

Angela Krug, accompanist

**Wednesday, August 28th, 7:05-8:30pm**

**Chancel Choir (Advanced Adults)**

Rebecca Prater, director

## RETURNING YOUTH MUSIC ENSEMBLES!

**Sunday, September 8th, Time TBD**

**First-Time Ringer's Rehearsal**

**Sunday, September 15th, Times TBD**

**Spirit! & Exaltation! Singers & Ringers (6th-12th graders),** Rebecca Prater, director

**Sunday, September 8th, Time TBD**

**Jubilation! Ringers (Intermediate Adults)**

Kathy Bures, director

**Wednesday, September 11th, 6:00-7:00pm**

**Charter Ringers (College – Adults)**

Chris Krug & Celia Nicholas, co-directors

**Dates TBD**

**GCPC Wind Ensemble – (8th graders – Adults)**

**Rehearsals Thursdays, 7:00-8:00pm &**

**Saturdays, 10:30-11:30am, as scheduled**

Pam Smith Kelly, director

Top photo: Choir on June 10

Bottom photo: EncoreKC! Ensemble, June 16



## Generosity on Display by Liam!

Check Out the Creativity on Display at the Generosity Bulletin Board! Liam Hussey plays Minecraft and wanted to build a zoo complete with animals. Crafting animals online wasn't working nor keeping up with his imagination. Liam went to paper and pencil and drew several never seen before seen animals. He then decided he could help Grace Covenant and offer them for purchase and placed them on the generosity board. When asked why he wanted to give the money to Grace Covenant, he said that *"he likes helping Grace Covenant and that this money can help."* Way to share your talents with us! Look them over and buy one yourself or for a gift! Rev. Karen has been gifted one already!



## Worship & Picnic August 4th

Join us for worship on Sunday, August 4 at 9:30am, at Meadowbrook Park, Shelter #1, located at 91st and Nall in Overland Park. Worship will be followed by a potluck picnic. The main dish and drinks will be provided. Everyone bring a side or dessert to share.

Come together with your church family for worship, share a meal with your covenant group, and savor the fellowship and beauty of the park. Remember to bring your own plate and silverware, and feel free to bring along camp chairs if extra seating is required.

## Generosity Team Update - What the Future Holds

As we come to mid-June the Generosity Team would like to praise the generosity and commitment of the members. Just as rousing, 49.0% of submitted pledges and 32.2% of rollover pledges have been received. Our June column numbers are the same as May's numbers. In taking a closer look, we pulled the information a bit earlier in the month to make the Newsletter deadline, so bracket movement is unchanged but monetary numbers have risen by 1% and 3%. We ask everyone to please keep up with summer giving and buck the summer slack off giving trend. We express our thanks for the members who pay all or most of their pledge at the beginning, middle, or quarter of the calendar year, but **we are appreciative of everyone who has contributed to Grace Covenant.**

Here is our giving progress shown by numbers of pledges:

Submitted Pledges (114)	March 31	May 21	June 17
0-25% fulfilled	76	37	37
26-50% fulfilled	20	56	56
51-75% fulfilled	1	4	4
76-100% fulfilled	17	17	17
\$599,410	\$214,344	\$287,477	\$293,452

Rollover Pledges (16)	March 31	May 21	June 17
0-25% fulfilled	10	6	6
26-50% fulfilled	5	8	8
51-75% fulfilled	0	1	1
76-100% fulfilled	1	1	1
\$34,662	\$6,668	\$10,019	\$11,175

Four groupings are used to show giving progress and calendar relationship. They are 0-25%, 26-50%, 51-75%, 76-100%. Each pledge falls into one of these groups.

# Children's Team



## Volunteer Opportunities for 2024–25 School Year - Please help!

As summer continues, our Children's Team is hard at work in planning the new school year. **We are in need of volunteers in several areas:**

- Sunday school teachers for our youngest kiddos. We'll offer a class for ages 2–3 and 4–5. These kiddos are so darling; you'll be delighted to spend time with them.
- Our elementary kiddos will continue with our Workshop Rotation. These kiddos are full of energy and will remind you what it feels like to be a kid again. Our needs include:
  - Shepherds to accompany the kids to the rotation each week
  - Teachers to lead the rotation each week
- Our Awakening to Worship program requires a storyteller and two greeters each week. Our greeters can be youth. This is a special introduction for our children to our worship experience and you are helping them continue their spiritual journey of connecting with God in worship.

Training is provided for all roles and the rewards are endless as you develop relationships with our GCPC children. **Please consider if you are being called to help this coming year.** You'll be so glad you joined in the fun. If you feel called or have questions, please reach out to anyone on Children's Team or e-mail [gpcchildren@gmail.com](mailto:gpcchildren@gmail.com). Thank you!

## Children's Events at a Glance

We look forward to seeing our children and young families in worship. Happy summer everyone!

## If you are new to Children's Ministries at GCPC, Welcome!

We are glad you are here. Our programming takes a slight snooze during the summer but will be back up and running again in mid-August. To get an overview of our children's ministry program during our school year, please see our January 2024 newsletter or visit our web page: <https://gcpc.org/children-youth/children/>

## Camp Firelight Vacation Bible School

We had a blast at Camp Firelight in June! Our children and volunteers participated in a week-long Vacation Bible School where our Camp Callout was *"Whenever I'm afraid, I put my trust in you."* (Psalm 56:3)

Pastor Karen and Lu started and concluded each day at our all camp assemblies. Each day our campers and their group leaders visited our stations such as: Crafts, Recreation, Story Time, Music, Science and of course Snack!

Our station leaders were ready with some awesome activities. We can't forget our behind the scenes team that is as equally important to our camp. From our planning committee to our photographer, AV helpers, communications and our volunteer snack room coordinators.

Our congregation also helped with many donations and hands for decorating and set up. This event was a HUGE success because of all of you. Thank you.

# Summer Challenge

Hey kids! We have a July challenge for you.

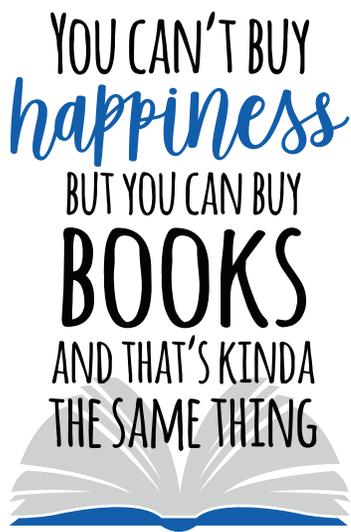
Do you remember our daily firelight focus from VBS? Stop by our Christian Education Office, located in the east wing, to drop off your answers and pick up a special treat. Don't forget to write your name on your responses. The Children's Team will draw a lucky winner for a special prize. Entries are due by July 31.



Trust God to \_\_\_\_\_ with us!  
Trust God to \_\_\_\_\_ the way!  
Trust God to Share \_\_\_\_\_ !  
Trust God to Give Us \_\_\_\_\_ !  
Trust God to Spark \_\_\_\_\_ !

Name: \_\_\_\_\_





## 82nd IHN Hosting August 4-11

We are planning and preparing for our 82nd IHN host week August 4-11th. On August 4th, we will welcome 2 families to stay overnight at Grace Covenant for the week. In the past 20 years our church has been blessed to lift up over 922 individuals, 529 of those have been children. As of June 2024, our network has worked together to provide 59,608 bednights and 178,824 meals!

Our downstairs will be converted to 2 bedrooms and one host bedroom. With our off-site worship on Sunday August 4th, we will be able to set up on Saturday August 3rd. Jane Knoche is the lead Primary Coordinator for this week. We are looking forward to having the elevator back in working condition by then. Look for the hosting, meals, laundry, and setup/teardown emails coming this month!!

## Thursday Morning Bible Study Group - Summer

During the Summer, the Thursday Morning Bible Study Group will meet in members' homes for monthly book discussions. Everyone is welcome to join us — whether or not you have read the book. Dates and books are below. Contact Cheryl Johnson ([agathatoo@gmail.com](mailto:agathatoo@gmail.com)) if you have questions:

**July 18 at 9:30 am** - *Look for Me There: Grieving My Father, Finding Myself* by Luke Russert at Sarah Byrd's house (7821 W. 115th Street). RSVP to Sarah at [sbyrdks@gmail.com](mailto:sbyrdks@gmail.com).

**August 15 at 9:30 am** - *Sitting at the Feet of Rabbi Jesus* by Ann Spangler at Lee Mattix's house (11107 W. 132nd Court). RSVP to Lee at [lamattix@gmail.com](mailto:lamattix@gmail.com).

## IHN Transition Plan

This month we received an email from IHN Executive Director Vicki Dercher, titled IHN Transition Plan. 20 years ago, there was no community-based housing for the situationally homeless in Johnson County. That's when JOCO IHN started with 13 congregations rotating weekly hosting. We have faithfully participated in this undertaking for 20 years. The Transition plan will close the Family Center by July 31st when the lease ends, and will accept two families and no single women as guests. Staff will go down to about 1.5 and work remotely. The fundraising gala will not be held. Interviews will be scheduled for a public location like a library. Guests will be in churches for 5 weeks and hotels for 8 weeks. Your primary coordinators project having up to six more rotations at GCPC. We will still have our August 24, November 24, February 25, and May 25 host weeks. We'll see how the construction schedule works out and will be willing, as needed, for rotations for the balance of 2025. There will also be no more grant writing, so Vicki Dercher is counting on our generous monetary support to cover the hotel week costs. Some of the factors behind this decision is the fact that our volunteers are aging out that have been engaging with the program and that we've lost eight host congregations.

The need for IHN is much like our aluminum can collection efforts. There was no curbside recycling in place in Johnson County for beer or soda cans. We brought our aluminum cans here and the youth would get the benefit when they turned the aluminum in for money. Curbside recycling is easily available now. No need to bring cans to the church.

As you have heard through the Good Faith Network, the former La Quinta Hotel & Denny's restaurant at I-35 and 95th street are going to be repurposed for a no-barrier Johnson County homeless shelter and for transitional housing. Construction is targeted for Summer 2025 completion. Jane Knoche likens the IHN Transition Plan announcement "*to we have been running a marathon, and now we see our victory lap coming up in the next 12 months.*"

Thank you for your faithful and continued support of IHN. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jane Knoche or Christine Caseres.

# COOKED

## SURVIVAL BY ZIP CODE



## “Thank You”

I want to thank the dozens of you who have sent cards and messages to me as a result of my paralysis. It is an event I never thought happening, but now that it has, I have to accept it and move on doing the best I can with God’s help and the continued support from my church family.

—Shirley Faulwell

## “Cooked - Survival by Zip Code”

### Friday Night Movie Screening

*July 12th, 6:30 - 8:30pm, Choir Room*

KAIROS (GCPC’s peace, justice, and environment team), will host a community screening of the award-winning documentary “Cooked - Survival by Zip Code” based on the book “HEAT WAVE: A Social Autopsy of Disaster in Chicago” by Eric Klinenberg. The book and this documentary provide a social autopsy of the 1995 heat wave in Chicago. Join us on July 12th, at 6:30pm in the choir room for viewing with group discussion afterward.

■ **RSVP to let us know you are coming at [www.gcpc.org/rsvpcooked](http://www.gcpc.org/rsvpcooked).** NOTE: Please park in the western portion of our lot and enter the door at the end of that wing, not the main entrance to the church. People will be located at the entrance to guide you.

As we experience increased heat waves across the nation, the Chicago deadly heat wave of 1995 that killed over 700 people provides a precautionary tale. The Chicago disaster demonstrates that social isolation and poverty contributed to deaths making particular neighborhoods more deadly than others. While many are aware of the Great Chicago Fire in October of 1871 that killed over 300 people, they may have no memory of the 1995 Chicago heat wave that killed more than twice as many. According to a 2022 USA Today article, heat waves are the nation’s deadliest natural disaster, killing more people each year than hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, blizzards, or extreme cold combined. With climate change, it is predicted that the heat will only get worse making these types of disasters even more common.

Contact Christine Caseres at [crcaseres032@gmail.com](mailto:crcaseres032@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

## Join us for the Ministry Fair on August 11th!

Plan ahead for the Ministry Fair on Sunday, August 11, after church in Heartland Hall. Learn about interest groups or teams at Grace Covenant and sign up for the ones that interest you. The Ministry Fair is a GCPC special event that everyone looks forward to!

Moderators or team leaders contact Mary Ann Weyforth ([maweyforth@gmail.com](mailto:maweyforth@gmail.com)) if your group or team wants a table to showcase your group or team. Team signage and sign-up sheets will be provided, but your group will have to provide a description of the team goals, activities and meeting times.



## Help Grace Covenant Stride into Its Future

The Generosity Team meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 8:30pm via Zoom. This engaging team is vital to the health of the church and would love to have some new members on the team as we enter our 40th year! We review pledge fulfillment, meet quarterly with the Finance Team and dream big. Come share your ideas and talents with us!

Our pledge drive planning begins in July and culminates in November. Contact Rev. Karen Wright or Jane Knoche at [jeknoche@att.net](mailto:jeknoche@att.net) for more information.

## July Communion Offering Recipient

The Communion Offering for July will be directed to the Pentecost Offering. A gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and also address the needs of at-risk children. 40% of the Pentecost offering can be retained by individual congregations wanting to make an impact in the lives of young people within their own community. The remaining 60% is used to support children-at-risk, youth, and young adults through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

Astute observers will note that the 2024 Mission Calendar indicates that Pentecost Offering would be collected in June, and the July Communion Offering would be directed to the Presbyterian Mission agency. But the publicity in June accidentally indicated that the Communion Offering that month would go to Presbyterian Mission, so the Pentecost Offering is being collected in July.

As always, thanks for GCPC's generosity and commitment to being the hands of Christ in the world!

### We're Hiring!

We're seeking a creative, talented, and passionate Director of Christian Education (DCE) to inspire and engage our dynamic, intergenerational church family! At GCPC, we provide a nurturing environment for children to discover the wonders of God's creation and build a lifelong foundation of faith. The DCE plays a crucial role in this journey.

This position supports the spiritual growth of all ages through our education, fellowship, and service/outreach programs. LISTEN to the June 10th podcast by our Interim Pastor Rev. Karen Wright, to get a glimpse into the importance of children's ministry at GCPC. <https://www.buzzsprout.com/2120769/15222144-kids>

SHARE the job description link that gives full details at [www.gcpc.org/careers](http://www.gcpc.org/careers)



## July Donation Partner

**Safehome, a domestic violence shelter in Overland Park, is our July donation partner.** Their core purpose is to provide a healing atmosphere where survivors of domestic violence can gain inner strength, explore options, and be empowered to live a life free of abuse. As the only domestic violence shelter in Johnson County, and the largest in the state of Kansas, Safehome strives to break the cycle of domestic violence and partner abuse for victims and their children in our community. Besides providing safe housing, Safehome also provides mental health counseling and legal services for shelter residents.

Operating the shelter requires all the necessity of daily life for the women and children housed in it, many of whom leave their abusers with nothing but the clothes on their backs.

You can help Safehome execute their important mission by donating an item from the list below; just leave donations in the weekday entrance bin anytime during July. **Please note all items must be new, and toiletries must be full-sized.**

- New Hand & Body Towels
- Toilet Paper
- Paper Towels
- New Pillows
- New Twin Sized Comforters
- New Twin Sized Sheet Sets
- Shower Curtains + Rings
- Diapers (Size 5 & 6)
- Small Laundry Baskets
- Full Sized Shampoo, Conditioner, Body Wash & Hand Soap
- Deodorant
- Hair Brushes
- Small Trash Cans
- Plastic Cutlery
- Disposable Plates/Bowls

# New Red Bag Coordinator Needed

One of GCPC's holiday traditions is sponsoring 25-30 children with Christmas gifts and stockings through the Red Bag Project. Every year we need a coordinator to organize the collection and delivery of the gifts. Angela Krug has been our coordinator for a number of years - if you get a chance, tell her thanks! But Angela is ready to hand this project over to a new coordinator, so we need to find that person!

The coordinator's work starts in October and is complete by the first Saturday in December. Angela is willing to help the new coordinator learn the ropes! **Please let Mikki Walker know if you are interested in serving as the coordinator** and helping this GCPC tradition continue ([michala.walker@gmail.com](mailto:michala.walker@gmail.com)).

*(Photos: Red Bag Project throughout GCPC's history)*

## Communion Offering Totals for January-May 2024

Each month, GCPC designates an organization as the Communion Offering Partner - members can donate to the designated organization in each month through the church office. The totals received for January through May appear below. A few explanatory notes:

- 1) There are line items in the Mission budget for ReNewed Hope and RoseHill Elementary - some of the money we've directed to those to organizations this year came from the Mission team budget, not the communion offering.
- 2) Donations indicated for the One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering, and donations indicated for PCUSA Mission Coworkers both go to PCUSA, so one check was sent totaling all the donations for both causes.

Thanks as always for GCPC's continued generosity and commitment to being the hands of Christ in the world!

January	ReNewed Hope Food Pantry - \$1,520 (\$400 from Mission budget)
February	Rosehill Elementary - \$859 (\$400 from Mission budget)
March	One Great Hour of Sharing and Mission Coworkers - \$3,040.01
April	IHN - \$5,770
May	CROP Walk - \$190





# GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**Inclusive. Family Oriented. Welcoming.**

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### CHURCH STAFF

**Interim Pastor, Rev. Karen Wright**  
[karen.wright@gcpc.org](mailto:karen.wright@gcpc.org) ..... ext. 10  
**Director of Music Ministries.....Rebecca Prater**  
Mon.-Wed., Fri.; [rebecca.prater@gcpc.org](mailto:rebecca.prater@gcpc.org) .... ext. 13  
**Church Administrator.....Patrick Bell**  
Mon.-Fri.; [patrick.bell@gcpc.org](mailto:patrick.bell@gcpc.org) ..... ext. 10  
**Youth Coordinator** ..... Lindsay Callender  
[lindsaymichelle0130@gmail.com](mailto:lindsaymichelle0130@gmail.com)  
**Finance Administrator**.....Tara Hyder  
[finance@gcpc.org](mailto:finance@gcpc.org)  
**Organist**.....Linda Dover  
**Audio/Visual Director**.....Jason Turner  
Email both addresses if you need a video or audio  
played in worship. Send on the Wednesday prior  
to Sunday's worship. [darktrainfilms@gmail.com](mailto:darktrainfilms@gmail.com);  
[gcpc.media@gmail.com](mailto:gcpc.media@gmail.com)  
**Praise Team Coord.**.....Carrie DeVries  
**Praise Team Drummer** ..... Jill Endaya-Allen  
**Child Care Coordinator**.....Carolyn Chaffin  
**Wedding Coordinator** ..... Kristy Shaw  
**Funeral Coordinator** ..... Mary Sue Thomas

### ELDERS

Johnnie Baker	Jaylee Soule
Paul Bruns	Tom Stroud
Joy Circo	Eileen Thomson
Barbara Douglas	Melanie Townsend Session Clerk
Lara Schesser	Michala Walker
Jake Schmidt	Mary Ann Weyforth
Andrew Sellers	
Kristy Shaw	

### SUPPORT STAFF

Deacon Moderator .....Jean Hampton  
Operating Committee..... Angela Krug,  
Lara Schesser, Katie Hearn, Tom Stroud  
Newsletter Editor/Marketing..... Kim Krueger  
Prayer Chain ..... Cheryl Johnson  
Website Administrators .....Kim Krueger,  
Patrick Bell, Christy Soule

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Instagram: @gcpc\_overlandpark

### MINISTRY UNITS

#### Congregational Nurture Unit Moderators

Care and Connections....Mary Ann Weyforth  
Worship and Music..... Kathy Bures,  
Katie Hearn

#### Education Ministry Unit Moderators

Adult .....Tom Stroud  
Children ..... Angela Krug  
Youth..... Lara Schesser

#### Reach Out Ministry Unit Moderators

Kairos ..... Rick Randolph  
Mission .....Mikki Walker  
Welcoming ..... Kathy Williams

#### Supportive Ministry Unit Moderators

Facility ..... Liz Chandler  
Generosity .....Jane Knoche  
Finance..... Beth Lillian  
Personnel ..... Kevin Mason

### Worship Schedule

9:30am Worship

In-Person, Facebook & Zoom  
Visit [gcpc.org/online](http://gcpc.org/online) for links

### Upcoming Newsletter Article Deadlines

August 2024 issue - Deadline, July 19  
September 2024 issue - Deadline, August 20