



## GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship — March 9, 2025

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

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP!** Thank you for worshipping with us today.

**ELDER ON DUTY:** Lara Schesser

**HEAD USHERS:** John & Mary Pat Gilbert

**HEARING ASSIST DEVICES ARE AVAILABLE.** Please ask at the sound booth.

**NURSERY CARE** is available during worship, located in Room 22 in the east wing.

**RECORD YOUR ATTENDANCE AT TODAY’S WORSHIP SERVICE WITH OUR VIRTUAL ATTENDANCE**

**PAD:** Click this link: <https://bit.ly/GPCAttendance>, or scan the QR Code below.



**CONTACTING STAFF:** The office is open 8am to 4pm, M–F. To reach a staff member by e-mail:

- **Rev. Karen Wright (Interim Pastor):** [karen.wright@gcpc.org](mailto:karen.wright@gcpc.org)
- **Emily Nelson Dixon (Dir. of Christian Education):** [emily.dixon@gcpc.org](mailto:emily.dixon@gcpc.org)
- **Patrick Bell (Office Admin.):** [patrick.bell@gcpc.org](mailto:patrick.bell@gcpc.org)
- **Tara Hyder (Finance Admin.):** [finance@gcpc.org](mailto:finance@gcpc.org)
- **Jason Turner (Audio/Technical Dir.):** Please e-mail both [darktrainfilms@gmail.com](mailto:darktrainfilms@gmail.com) & [gcpc.media@gmail.com](mailto:gcpc.media@gmail.com). If you need a video or audio played in worship, please send the link to Jason on the Wednesday prior to Sunday's worship.

*“Pray for one another” — James 5:15*

We encourage you to remember the following in prayer:

**All Grieving the Death of a Loved One:** Cathy Haun and family in the death of Rick Haun.

**Surgeries/Hospitalizations/Illnesses:** Cindy Schendel, Dorothy Stalling, Dave Stalling, Linda Rosine, Lara Schesser, Kevin Johnson, Shirley Faulwell, Sue Mehl

**Cancer Treatment:** Harold Farren, Katie Rickley, David Schesser, Cindy Schendel

**Aging Challenges:** Lee Will, Stewart Nelson, Charlie Bogan

**Military Service:** David Zak, C.J. Bradley, Seth Lorimer, Mary E. Johnson II, Alanna Funk, Shannon Lorimer, Clara Frye, Eliana Wilson. **All veterans, deployed military, and reservists.**

**Our Mission Co-Workers:** Jeff and Christi Boyd in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Leslie Vogel, PC (USA) Regional Liaison for Guatemala and Mexico.

**Peace and Relief Workers; Unemployed and Underemployed; Families Struggling with Separation and Divorce; Individuals Struggling with Depression; Those Contemplating Suicide and Those Left Behind.**

**Heartland Presbytery Partnership of Prayer:** First Presbyterian Church, Pleasanton, KS; All the women of Heartland Presbytery; All the women of Maya Quiché Presbytery

(If you have a prayer request you would like to include in the bulletin, please contact the church office at [office@gcpc.org](mailto:office@gcpc.org), or send to [gcpc.prayers@gmail.com](mailto:gcpc.prayers@gmail.com).)

## SPOTLIGHT

**THE SEASON OF LENT:** Lent is a season of reflection, repentance, and renewal. It is a time to journey with Christ toward the cross, examining our hearts and drawing closer to God. This year our Lenten theme, *“Journey of Resistance: Overcoming Temptation in Luke,”* invites us to consider the struggles we all face — temptations that seek to pull us away from God’s purpose for our lives. As we resist the temptations of anger, greed, fear, power, or complacency, we also embrace something deeper: the grace, love, and transformation God offers. What might we need to surrender to follow Christ more faithfully? View all of our Lenten resources at [gcpc.org/lent](http://gcpc.org/lent)

**GARDENING ANGELS: OUR MISSION TO THE COMMUNITY** is to provide a pleasant and inviting presence at College Blvd. and Nieman Dr. In addition to our architecturally pleasing building, we have multiple flowerbeds and green spaces that require attention throughout the year. As we celebrate 40 years of answering God’s call to serve at this location, we look forward to re-establishing a tried and true method of caring for our garden at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church. We are asking for volunteers to choose a flower bed or garden area to care for during the upcoming year. Our plan is to have small groups — two to six individuals to pick an area to

care for, such as clean up from winter, spring planting, summer and fall care to clean up when season is done. Some of these seasons may not require weekly attention as most of the gardens do have automatic watering several times a week. You will be reminded of the needs of the various spaces throughout the seasons. **This Sunday a sign-up table will be in the concourse.** Please prayerfully consider this opportunity as your mission for the 40th Celebration of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church.

**RESCHEDULED IHN VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION LUNCH — MARCH 16:** The luncheon will celebrate the generous commitment GCPC has made to IHN over the past 20 years. A light lunch will begin after Sunday school of sandwiches, fruit and cookies. We are inviting not only GCPC but our support congregation volunteers. Please know how grateful we are to each and every volunteer and for GCPC itself for being a host church from the beginning of the program to being two of the last churches to be involved with the church model of the program. JOCO IHN is continuing through 2025 with the motel model and appreciates your prayers and monetary support. For more information contact Jane ([jeknoche@att.net](mailto:jeknoche@att.net)) or Christine ([crcaseres032@gmail.com](mailto:crcaseres032@gmail.com)). We express our gratitude to the Mission Team for their support and whose budget will pay for this event.

**LENTEN DEVOTIONAL BOOKLET:** Lent is a season of reflection, repentance, and renewal—a journey with Christ toward the cross. Our 2025 Lenten Devotional Booklet is a companion for your Lenten journey, offering reflections to pause, pray, and realign with God. May it encourage you to walk in faithfulness, trusting in God's strength. Thank you to Harold Frye, Stephen Wing, Sarah Evans, Nelson Townsend, Eileen Thomson, Nancy Kalesz, Dave Pack, Karen Wright, Kevin Johnson, and Kim Krueger, who contributed to the booklet. **DOWNLOAD the booklet at [gcpc.org/lent](http://gcpc.org/lent).**

**REDUCE, RECYCLE, RE-USE:** TODAY and March 16, we are having our fourth Reduce, Recycle, Reuse giveaway. Please gather after worship to peruse the tables in the concourse. Come see the goodies we are giving away!

**MAKE PLANS TO DONATE BLOOD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 25,** between 2–6pm, in Heartland Hall at GCPC! New donors are always welcome! Contact Sarah Byrd, 913-909-1559 or [swbyrdks@gmail.com](mailto:swbyrdks@gmail.com), with questions.  
Sign up here: <https://donate.savealifenow.org/donor/auth/signin>

**40TH ANNIVERSARY CRAFT FAIR — JOIN THE CELEBRATION!** Join us as we celebrate 40 years of faith and community with a special **Craft Fair on Saturday, March 29, from 9am to 2pm** in the concourse and Heartland Hall. Browse unique handmade goods from local artisans—home décor, jewelry, textiles, seasonal gifts, baked treats, and more! Enjoy refreshments, reconnect with friends, and support talented crafters. Let's come together to honor our "**Faithful Journey**" with creativity and fellowship. Bring a friend and don't miss out!

**CRAFT FAIR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** The 40th Anniversary Committee is looking for volunteers to assist in a variety of ways both before and during the Craft Fair on Saturday, March 29. Whether

you can lend a hand for a few hours or a few days, your help will be invaluable in making this event a success. Sign up to help at [gcpc.org/volunteer](http://gcpc.org/volunteer).

**YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS OUR ANNUAL TRIVIA NIGHT** on Saturday, April 5, 5:30–7:30pm. We will once again be led by our tremendous trivia master, Jake Schmidt. Pizza will be provided. **Check the concourse for the "Trivia Questions" box and submit your questions!** So put on your thinking caps and please join us!

**MARCH INTO THE LATEST GCPC NEWSLETTER!** Spring is on the horizon, and so is an exciting new issue of our Grace Notes Newsletter! Don't miss out—click below to read, download, and stay connected! View or download at [gcpc.org/newsletter](http://gcpc.org/newsletter).

## ADULT

**ADULT EDUCATION CLASS LENTEN SERIES:** Join us each Sunday at 10:45am for an Adult Education Class, led by Rev. Karen Wright, based on the Lenten Sermon Series, "*Journey of Resistance: Overcoming Temptation in Luke.*" She will engage us further in the text and challenge us to consider: What temptations do we face in our daily lives? How do we continually turn away from what pulls us from God and return to Him? Join us in Room 3.

**THE CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT IS LOOKING FOR HELP FROM THE WHOLE CHURCH** to pull off our summer VBS program! Would you like to help lead kiddos, organize, serve snacks, decorate, donate funds, or something else? Any help at all will be greatly appreciated! It takes a village to pull an event like this off! You can be an important part of this life-changing event at our church!



Sign up to help here: <https://gcpc.org/vbs/volunteer.html>

OR check with Emily—she will find a spot for you to help out: ([emily.dixon@gcpc.org](mailto:emily.dixon@gcpc.org))

## CHILDREN

**ROLLCALL! March 16 and 23 Sunday School:** We'll have two combined Sunday school classes: Toddler/Preschool and K–5<sup>th</sup> graders. Do you plan to be around for Spring Break? Let us know, so we can plan accordingly.

**SMASH:** Our monthly fellowship for March will be March 16, 4–6pm. If you are planning to attend, please let Emily know.

**CHILDREN'S EASTER EGG HUNT!** Join us for a morning of egg-citing fun on Saturday, April 12, 10-11am, in Heartland Hall & Outdoors. Bring your baskets and your best egg-hunting skills! Hop on over and celebrate the joy of Easter with us! **Help us make it sweet! We need candy donations!** Drop them off in the concourse area or at the church office. Thank you - from the GCPC Children's Team

**ROAD TRIP — On the Go with God** is the theme for the 2025 VBS, held June 2–6, 9am–Noon. **Registration is NOW OPEN!** Sign up your kiddos (*ages 4 years to 5th grade*) at [gpc.org/vbs](https://gpc.org/vbs). Volunteers needed! Volunteers can also sign up at the same link. Opportunities to help with decorating, planning, etc. are available and appreciated. Contact Kristy Shaw at [kshaw96@yahoo.com](mailto:kshaw96@yahoo.com).

**CHILDREN’S DEPT SERVICE PROJECT: Saturday, March 29, 9am-2pm**, Children’s service project: Hosting a lemonade and treat stand at the GCPC Craft Fair. Sign up for a time to host here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0A45A4A722A4FC1-55018258-lemonaide#/>



## MISSION

**COMMUNION OFFERING RECIPIENT IN MARCH — InterFaith Hospitality Network (IHN):** Although GCPC stopped participating as a host church with IHN in late 2024, IHN continues to serve clients, helping homeless families and single women gain stability. IHN provides clients with food and housing, and helps them learn to break the cycle of homelessness. During the day, IHN clients either work or stay in the JoCo IHN Family Center, learning essential life and financial skills. IHN guests receive budget counseling, case management, job search assistance, connections to community resources, and education on life, parenting, and coping skills. IHN’s program works — more than 70% of the clients who graduate from IHN’s program gain sustainable housing! If you’d like to support IHN’s important work with a donation, just write “Communion Offering” on your check and drop it in the offering plate, or check the “Communion Offering” box in the online giving portal. Thanks as always for your generous support!

**MARCH DONATION PARTNER — GCPC’s Little Free Pantry:** Our donation partner in March is our own Little Free Pantry. If you haven’t seen it, this pantry is found on the east end of our property along Nieman Road. We stock the pantry with nonperishable items and them being taken out of the pantry each week — sometimes the pantry is wiped clean. Volunteers check the pantry twice a week and restock it. On occasion, items are added to the pantry by members of the local community. If you’d like to donate to the pantry, please bring your donations to the Weekday Entrance anytime in March. Thanks as always for your generous support! The items most consumed are:

- *small jars of peanut butter*
- *noodle and pasta sauce*
- *box dinners*
- *individual drinks or snacks of any kind*

**START SAVING YOUR LOOSE CHANGE for a Noisy Offering on March 30!** Details on the recipient of the Noisy Offering are coming soon.

# Upcoming Events and Services

## **Reduce, Recycle, Reuse**

Concourse Hallway  
Sunday, March 9 and 16

## **IHN Volunteer Appreciation Lunch**

Sunday, March 16, Noon

*RSVP by March 10 at*

*<https://tinyurl.com/lunchIHN>*

## **Community Blood Drive**

Tuesday, March 25, 2-6pm

Sign up at [https://donate.savealifenow.org/.../drive\\_schedule/84835](https://donate.savealifenow.org/.../drive_schedule/84835)

## **GCPC 40th Anniversary Event**

### **40th Anniversary Craft Fair**

Saturday, March 29, 9am-2pm  
Heartland Hall and Concourse

## **Noisy Offering**

Sunday, March 30, 9:30am

## **Trivia Night!**

Saturday, April 5, 5:30-7:30pm  
Heartland Hall

Sign up after worship on March 23 & 31,  
or call the church office

## **Bible Workshop**

3rd graders and their parents  
April 6, Noon-2 pm

## **Easter Egg Hunt**

April 12, 10-11am  
Heartland Hall and Outdoors

## **Holy Week**

**Palm Sunday**, April 13, 9:30am

**Maundy Thursday**, April 17, 7:30pm

**Good Friday**, April 18, 7:30pm

**Easter Sunday**, April 20, 9am & 11am

## **Church Office Closed**

Easter Monday, April 21

## **Spring Clean-Up Day**

Saturday, April 26, 9am-3pm

## **Youth Sunday**

Sunday, April 27, 9:30pm

## **Bell Fest**

Sunday, May 4, 6-8pm

## **Church Office Closed**

Memorial Day, Monday, May 26

## **Vacation Bible School**

### **"Road Trip - On the Go with God!"**

June 2 - June 6, 9am-Noon

Children Ages 4 yrs – 5th Grade

*Volunteers register at link below*

Register children at [gcpc.org/vbs](http://gcpc.org/vbs)

## **Church Office Closed**

Juneteenth, Thursday, June 19

## **GCPC 40th Anniversary Celebration with Brunch Following Worship**

Sunday, June 22, 9:30am

## **GCPC 40th Anniversary Friendship Bracelet Making Party**

Saturday, July 12, 1-3pm  
Heartland Hall



**GRACE COVENANT**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Details on these events and services are shared in the midweek email, bulletin, newsletter, and Facebook and Instagram.

For an online church calendar,  
visit [gcpc.org/calendar](http://gcpc.org/calendar)

*Revised 3.3.25*