



Service of Worship — April 28, 2024

“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: Barbara Douglas

HEAD USHERS: John & Mary Pat Gilbert

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

RECORD YOUR ATTENDANCE AT TODAY’S SERVICE WITH OUR VIRTUAL ATTENDANCE PAD: Click this link: <https://bit.ly/GCPCattendance>, or scan the QR Code below, and it will take you to the link.



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

- **Karen Wright (Interim Pastor):** karen.wright@gcpc.org
- **Rebecca Prater (Music Dir.):** rebecca.prater@gcpc.org
- **Lindsay Callender (Youth Coordinator):** lindsaymichelle0130@gmail.com
- **Patrick Bell (Office Admin.):** patrick.bell@gcpc.org
- **Tara Hyder (Finance Admin.):** finance@gcpc.org

“Pray for one another” — James 5:15

We encourage you to remember the following in prayer:

All Grieving the Death of a Loved One

Surgeries/Hospitalizations/Illnesses: Rosemary Gibson, Shirley Faulwell, Cathy Haun

Cancer Treatment: Harold Farren, Katie Rickley

Aging Challenges

Military Service: David Zak, C.J. Bradley, Seth Lorimer, Mary E. Johnson II, Alanna Funk, Shannon Lorimer, Clara Frye. **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, St. Joseph, MO; Maxwell Heights Presbyterian Church, St. Joseph, MO; 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, or send to gcpc.prayers@gmail.com.)

SPOTLIGHT

TODAY, WE WELCOME A GUEST MINISTER TO OUR PULPIT. Gracie Hellweg Payne is a Minister of Word and Sacrament currently serving on the pastoral staff at Second Presbyterian Church in Indianapolis. Gracie is a child of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church. She was baptized, received her first communion, and was confirmed within our community. In this church she witnessed the joy, courage, and friendship that comes with following Jesus. GCPC was present at her ordination through prayers of blessing written on Epiphany Stars and delivered by Rev. Jay McKell and Rev. Sara Hayden. Confetti flung in the air that day and she felt, and continues to feel, surrounded and upheld by the faithfulness of this church. Gracie is married to Christian Payne and they reside in Indianapolis with their dog, Xylo.

EAST HILLS SINGERS CONCERT — TODAY AT 4PM: East Hills Singers is a choir composed of about 40 Lansing prison inmates and community volunteers. The choir will present its spring concert at

Grace Covenant, followed by a dinner for choir members offered by GCPC. **An art sale of works made by the inmates opens at 3pm in the concourse.**

YOUTH SUNDAY IS MAY 12! There will be a reception in Heartland Hall after the service so that the congregation can congratulate the seniors and enjoy refreshments. If you can help with donations and/or volunteer for the reception, please contact Caroline Becher (913-904-8528, caroline.becher@yahoo.com) or sign up at this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0A45A4A722A4FC1-48981320-youth#/>

ADULT

THIS SUNDAY'S ADULT EDUCATION CLASS: Today we continue a three-week series, running through May 5, looking at the Jewish, Roman, historic, and geographic influences present in Jesus's day to better help us understand the Gospel stories and Jesus's parables. The class meets in Room 3 starting at 10:45 each Sunday, and you may also attend online via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83815237214?pwd=TVh4VWZldC9hbGJCL1k5dIVjWVlwUT09#success>

AS THE PAGE TURNS will meet May 1 at 1:30pm in Room 3 at the church. The book selection is *Horse* by Geraldine Brooks. Please join the group for discussion and fellowship.

PAGE TURNERS BOOK GROUP will discuss *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus on May 2, 7pm at Sarah Byrd's home: 7821 W. 115th St., Overland Park. Everyone is welcome! Contact Sarah at: Swbyrdks@gmail.com or 913-909-1559.

CHILDREN

TODAY, WE OFFER OUR REGULAR SUNDAY PROGRAMS with Awakening to Worship and Sunday school. If you need any further information about programs, please stop by the children's bookcase just outside the sanctuary.

CAMP FIRE LIGHT VBS TO BE HELD JUNE 3 – 7. Our Camper and Volunteer registration is available at gcpc.org/vbs. We keep the cost low for VBS participants through generous donations. Please visit our donation board outside the sanctuary OR view our Amazon wishlist: <https://bit.ly/GCPCVBSDonations>. Contact any member of the Children's Team if you have any questions about VBS. Thank you!

MUSIC

AT THIS YEAR'S BELL FEST, we will be collecting items to support the P.E., music, library and art teachers at Rosehill Elementary School. Please consider purchasing an item from their wish list and bringing it with you the night of May 5.

<https://amzn.to/4au1daA>



MISSION

OUR APRIL DONATION PARTNER IS A GATHERING OF FRIENDS, a grassroots organization serving those experiencing homelessness and food insecurity in Johnson and Wyandotte counties. A Gathering of Friends relies on donations and volunteers for everything needed to make sure those they serve have a good, home cooked meal each week, along with sandwiches, snacks, and fresh fruits to eat later, as well as supplies to ensure their safety, health, and comfort. Please see the list below for what you can donate to support their mission. Donations can go in the Weekday Entrance bin anytime in April.

AAA batteries	hoodies (used but in good condition is okay)
back packs	men's jeans/sweats/cargo
reusable shopping bags	(used but in good condition is okay)
flashlights	tents
lighters	sleeping bags
men's large/XL T-shirts	insect repellent
(used but in good condition is okay)	

OUR APRIL COMMUNION OFFERING RECIPIENT IS INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK (IHN).

GCPC is a long-time host congregation for JoCo IHN, an interfaith community that provides assistance for homeless families in Johnson County using a network of religious affiliates. Assistance to homeless families includes housing, meals, life skills, and social interaction. IHN has a record of success — nearly 75% of IHN graduates attain permanent, sustainable housing. If you'd like to make a gift to IHN during April, just use the "Communion" option in the online portal or write "Communion Offering" on your check or envelope.

IHN THIS MAY: Grace Covenant and our support churches, Indian Heights United Methodist and Shawnee Mission Unitarian Universalist Church, will host Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) guests and two evening hosts from Sunday, May 5, until Sunday morning, May 12, at GCPC. We are asking you to sign up now to help with meals, and we will follow up by e-mail with the number of guests present in our host week. Please sign up here to help with food: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4EABAE28A1FF2-49157761-ihnfood#/>. Contact Jane Knoche or Christine Caseres for more information. You may also sign up to assist with set-up, tear-down, and laundry: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4EABAE28A1FF2-49266137-may2024/93830784?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_content=IHN%20Set%20Up%20Volunteer%20Link&utm_campaign=May%20IHN%2004.23.2024#/

GENEROSITY

AS WE COME TO THE END OF THE FIRST QUARTER, the Generosity Team would like to celebrate the generosity and commitment of the members of Grace Covenant! For 2024, we have seen an increase in submitted pledges from 103-114 and fewer rollover pledges (16 down from 27).

Just as exciting, 35.8% of submitted pledges and 19.2% of rollover pledges have been received. We give thanks for the members who pay all or most of their pledge at the beginning of the calendar year, but we are grateful for everyone who has contributed to Grace Covenant.

The Generosity Team is looking for three or four members who would like to be a part of this ministry. Please contact Jane Knoche if you are interested in being a part of the team that gets to celebrate the generosity of the Grace Covenant community.

Here is our giving progress shown by numbers of pledges:

Submitted Pledges (114)	March 31
0-25% fulfilled	76
26-50% fulfilled	20
51-75% fulfilled	1
76-100% fulfilled	17
\$599,410	\$214,344

Rollover Pledges (16)	March 31st
0-25% fulfilled	10
26-50% fulfilled	5
51-75% fulfilled	0
76-100% fulfilled	1
\$34,662	\$6,668

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.



GRACE COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11100 College Boulevard ♦ Overland Park, KS 66210
Phone (913) 345-1256 ♦ www.gcpc.org