



Service of Worship — April 27, 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:** Jake Schmidt

**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/GCPCattendance>, or scan the QR Code below.



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

- **Rev. Karen Wright (Transitional 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 O'Halloran (Interim Dir. of Music Ministries):** [patrick.ohalloran@gcpc.org](mailto:patrick.ohalloran@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**

**Surgeries/Hospitalizations/Illnesses:** Kevin Johnson, Rick Randolph

**Cancer Treatment:** Harold Farren, David Schesser, Tom Jennings

**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, 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](mailto:office@gcpc.org), or send to [gcpc.prayers@gmail.com](mailto:gcpc.prayers@gmail.com).)

**SPOTLIGHT**

**CALLED MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION ON SUNDAY, MAY 11, immediately following worship:** There will be three items of business for the congregation to vote on:

1. Approval of the Slate of New Elders — We will vote to approve those who have been nominated and feel called to serve as elders in this next season of ministry.
2. Approval of Updates to the Church Bylaws — These changes have been carefully considered and recommended by Session.
3. Vote to Call Rev. Karen as Designated Pastor — Perhaps the most exciting item is the opportunity to formally call Pastor Karen to serve as Designated Pastor of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church. This is an installed position and will essentially create a contract between Pastor Karen and the Congregation of GCPC for the next 5 years.

More information about the Called Meeting will be e-mailed next week. We will go into more detail about the bylaw changes and what the Designated Pastor status entails as well as the Transitional Report. This is an important time in the life of our church, and your presence and voice matter.

**ENCORE KC CHORUS AND EKC! ACT II WILL PRESENT A SPRING CONCERT, “Spring Forth Into Joy”** TODAY, at Village Presbyterian Church on Antioch at 3pm. EKC! brass and other instrumentalists will also be performing. Come enjoy an afternoon of uplifting music and entertainment. There will also be a silent auction, so come early. (Parking is limited, so be sure to carpool.)

**WOULD YOU LIKE AN EASY, LOW-COST WAY TO LOWER YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT?** Consider joining GCPC’s composting program! We partner with KC Can Compost to offer our members the option to compost their household food scraps. For new participants, there’s a small sign-up fee to buy a bucket (between \$15-\$35 depending on what options you want), and the cost thereafter is \$13/month. Participating households get the code to unlock the orange bin at the west end of the parking lot and can dump their household compostable waste into it anytime, 24/7. Participants also get some educational materials on what is compostable and what isn’t. As long as we have enough participating households, GCPC gets to compost waste we produce at church for free! To learn more about KC Can Compost go to [kccancompost.com](http://kccancompost.com). You can contact Mikki Walker at [michala.walker@gmail.com](mailto:michala.walker@gmail.com) to participate, for more information or any questions you might have.

**THE FACILITIES TEAM OFTEN HAS SMALL PROJECTS**, one-time jobs, which could be done by a volunteer, eliminating the need for the church to hire outside vendors. If you have experience such as plumbing, drywall, etc., or any general handyman-type skills, please contact Liz Chandler, [11emchandler55@gmail.com](mailto:11emchandler55@gmail.com), and she will add your name to a list of volunteers that the Facilities Team can contact when the need arises. Thank you for your support!

**MAY THE 4TH BE WITH YOU at Bell Fest: A Galactic Celebration of Music!** In a sanctuary not so far, far away... the bells will ring, and the Force will sing! Join us for **Bell Fest on Sunday, May 4, at 6pm**, as we embark on an interstellar evening of music, harmony, and adventure.

**RSVP FOR THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY WORSHIP SERVICE & BRUNCH:** Sunday, June 22, 2025. Worship at 9:30am. Brunch to follow. Join us as we celebrate 40 years of God’s grace and faithfulness. For four decades, Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church has been a beacon of God’s enduring love, marked by worship, service, and spiritual growth. As we celebrate this milestone, we reflect with gratitude on God’s steadfast presence and the faithful efforts of all who have nurtured our church community. We warmly welcome family, friends, and community members to join us in this joyful celebration! **Kindly RSVP by June 12** so we can plan for food and seating. RSVP here: [gcpc.org/40th-rsvp](http://gcpc.org/40th-rsvp)

**VOLUNTEER TO HELP WITH THE 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!** Attend the 40th Anniversary Committee meeting on May 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30pm in Room 21 to learn about ways you can help us welcome and celebrate our 40 years of ministry with our guests on June 22 during worship and with the brunch afterwards. Contact Kristy Shaw if you'd like to volunteer.

**ARE YOU READY FOR IT?** GCPC 40th Anniversary Friendship Bracelet Making Party, Saturday, July 12, 1-3pm in Heartland Hall. RSVP at [gcpc.org/friendship](http://gcpc.org/friendship).

**VBS SIGNUPS AND VOLUNTEER INVITE:** *Road Trip — On the Go with God* Vacation Bible School, June 2–6, 9am-Noon, Ages 4 yrs–5th Grade. Embark on a fun journey with God through the Bible! Head here to register and sign up to volunteer: <https://gcpc.org/vbs/roadtrip.html>

**VBS DECORATION:** VBS planning is underway. We've set up these working sessions and welcome anyone to join us. Please RSVP to Kristy Shaw or Christy Soule, it will help ensure we have supplies and plans ready for all the helping hands.

**Decoration Prep:**

Wed., May 14: 9–11:30am

Tues., May 20: 6–8pm

**Decorating the week before VBS:**

Tues., May 27: 9–11:30am & 6–8pm

Wed., May 28: 9–11:30am & 1–3pm

Thurs., May 29: 9–11:30am & 1–3 pm

Friday, May 30: 9–11:30am & 1–3pm

Sat., May 31: 9–11:30am and 1–3pm

Sunday, June 1: 12–2pm

<b>ADULT</b>
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**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL** meets today at 10:45am in Room 3. Don Wilson leads the discussion of resurrection encounters in Amy-Jill Levine's *The Gospel of John Session 6: Mary Magdalene and Doubting Thomas*.

**PAGE TURNERS BOOK GROUP** invites you to a discussion of their May book selection *Salt to the Sea* by Ruta Sepetys on Thursday, May 1, 7pm. We will meet at the home of Eileen Thomson, 14223 Eby, Overland Park, KS 66221. RSVP to [esthompson@gmail.com](mailto:esthompson@gmail.com) or text to 913-461-3430.

**AS THE PAGE TURNS** book group will meet May 7 at 1:30pm in Room 3 at the church. The book selection is *The Women* by Kristin Hannah. Please join the group for discussion and fellowship.

**ALL WOMEN OF GRACE COVENANT ARE INVITED.** Plan to attend the Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering; Saturday, May 3, 9:30am–Noon; Southminster Presbyterian Church, 6306 Roe Ave., Prairie Village, KS 66208. The PW Bible study this year focused on creation care and climate. Our own Grace Covenant member Brandon Hearn, Environmental Health Specialist with Johnson County Department of Health and Environment, is the keynote speaker. Contact Ginny Wirtz, 913-851-8797, about carpooling or other information.

**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? 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))



<b>CHILDREN</b>
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**AWAKENING TO WORSHIP** will take a break this morning.

## MUSIC

**SHARE YOUR MUSICAL GIFT — MAKE OUR WORSHIP EVEN MORE SPECIAL!** Do you have a hidden musical talent? Soloists are needed for summer services, and your gift can bring joy, inspiration, and deeper connection to our worship. We'd love to welcome you! If you're interested, please see Patrick O'Halloran or email [patrick.ohalloran@gcpc.org](mailto:patrick.ohalloran@gcpc.org). Not able to commit to CHEX during the school calendar year? Consider singing in our Summer Choir! No Wednesday commitments — just a chance to share your voice and make our worship moments even more meaningful.

**EMBELLISH HANDBELL ENSEMBLE — JULY 6:** We are thrilled to welcome Embellish, a premier handbell ensemble from Western Michigan, for a special concert on the evening of July 6 at 7pm in the GCPC Sanctuary! There is no cost to attend, but a love offering is appreciated to help offset the cost of the ensemble's travel. Join us for an unforgettable night of inspiring music. You won't want to miss this!

## MISSION

**APRIL DONATION PARTNER: A Gathering of Friends:** A Gathering of Friends is a grassroots organization serving those experiencing homelessness and food insecurity in Johnson and Wyandotte counties. Donations can go in the Weekday Entrance bin anytime in April.

AA and AAA batteries

backpacks\*

reusable shopping bags\*

flashlights

lighters

men's large/XL T-shirts\*

hoodies\*

men's jeans/sweats/cargo\*

tents\*

sleeping bags\*

insect repellent

\*gently used items are ok!

**APRIL COMMUNION OFFERING PARTNER — One Great Hour of Sharing.** The One Great Hour of Sharing Offering benefits: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People.

**THE GOOD FAITH NETWORK INVITES EVERYONE** to join us at the Nehemiah Action Event on Tuesday May 6, 6pm at Resurrection United Methodist Church 13720 Roe Ave., Leawood. For any questions or for more information please contact one of the following:

Dave Pack: [dipack.12645@gmail.com](mailto:dipack.12645@gmail.com); Don or Joy Wilson: [donjoywilson@gmail.com](mailto:donjoywilson@gmail.com);

Eileen Thomson: [esthompson@gmail.com](mailto:esthompson@gmail.com)

**MISSION NEEDS SOME NEW TEAM MEMBERS!** Are you interested in joining the team that organizes GCPC's mission opportunities and giving? Mission team's work is important but not difficult! We meet the first Monday of each month, by Zoom; we're usually done in about 30 minutes. Then work is mainly administrative and very flexible — sending e-mails, making the

budget, researching mission opportunities. We only organize one big event per year — Workshop Sunday in October. Mission team is also going to need a new moderator in summer 2026. Let Mikki know if you are interested in joining us, [michala.walker@gmail.com](mailto:michala.walker@gmail.com)!



**GRACE COVENANT**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

# Upcoming Events and Services

*(Save these dates)*

## **Bell Fest XXXV**

### **"May The Fourth Be With You"**

Featuring all Bell Choirs  
Sunday, May 4, 6-8pm

## **Congregational Meeting**

May 11 *(following worship)*

## **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 can also 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**

### **Brunch Following Worship**

Sunday, June 22, 9:30am  
(Please RSVP your attendance)  
**\*\*RSVP at [gcpc.org/40th-rsvp](http://gcpc.org/40th-rsvp)**

## **"Embellish Handbell Choir" of Grand Rapids, Michigan Concert**

Tuesday, July 8

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

Saturday, July 12, 1-3pm  
Heartland Hall  
**\*\*RSVP at [gcpc.org/friendship](http://gcpc.org/friendship)**

## **Ministry Fair**

Sunday, August 10, 10:30am

## **Worship in the Park**

*(Lunch following)*  
Sunday, September 7, 9:30am  
Meadowbrook Park

## **Fall BBQ**

Saturday, October 4, 5pm

## **A Christmas Exclamation!**

Sunday, December 7, 6pm



**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)