



# JOY - GRATITUDE - COMMUNITY

# GRACE NOTES

August 2025  
Vol 43, Nbr 8

God draws us together into a welcoming community, embracing our curiosity and questions, to worship with creativity, learn from God's word, share our gifts, and grow in faith.

With gratitude and a spirit of adventure, we are sent to serve Christ in the world—spreading kindness to all and striving for justice grounded in God's boundless love.

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

In addition to in-person worship, our service is also livestreamed on our website, Facebook and YouTube channel.

## Living the Gospel: How Your Giving Changes Lives

One of the most powerful aspects of ministry at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church is the spirit of generosity that has been part of this congregation's identity for the past 40 years. Because of your faithful giving—both past and present—I am entrusted with a Pastor's Discretionary Fund, which allows me to respond to needs that arise in the lives of those who walk through our doors in need of help.

Recently, a woman came into the church with her two daughters, ages four and eight. They played with Legos and Play-Doh while she shared her story—through Google Translate on her phone. Her husband had been arrested and deported by ICE. She feared separation from her children and asked for help purchasing one-way plane tickets to return to her home country with her girls.

It was one of the most painful and holy conversations I've ever had. I was heartbroken by her request, overwhelmed by the complexity of her situation—and at the same time, I was grateful. Grateful that because of your generosity, I could say yes. I could help her act with dignity and care for her children.

This is who you are, GCPC. A congregation that shows up. A people who give—not just to keep the lights on or programs running—but to be a living witness to the compassion of Christ. I continue to be amazed by your faith, your trust, and your deep commitment to living out the gospel in real and tangible ways.

As we look to the future, I am excited about the ministry we will continue to do together. I believe God is still calling us to be bold in love and generous in spirit.

Thank you for being such an extraordinary part of the body of Christ.

With gratitude and hope,

—Pastor Karen



# Stephen Ministry

At one point in the history of GCPC, there were trained Stephen Ministers. Stephen Ministry is a one-to-one, confidential, Christ-centered care ministry that equips lay people to offer emotional and spiritual support to others who are facing challenges such as grief, loneliness, divorce, hospitalization, or other life transitions. Founded on the principles of compassionate presence and faithful listening, Stephen Ministers are not counselors or problem solvers. They are trained caregivers who reflect God's love through their presence.



**We have been approached about restarting this care and outreach ministry at GCPC.**

Please contact Pastor Karen if you would be open to exploring a call to serve as a Stephen Minister and would be available to participate in training through Village Presbyterian Church beginning in January of 2026. Stephen Ministers provide a listening ear and a caring heart to those in need.

If you're curious, we encourage you to learn more at [stephenministries.org/stephenministry](http://stephenministries.org/stephenministry)



## Worship in the Park

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

Meadowbrook Park, 91st & Nall (SE Corner)

Join us for worship on Sunday, September 7 at 9:30am, at the Meadowbrook Park Grand Pavilion, located at 91st and Nall (SE Corner) in Prairie Village. Worship will be followed by a potluck picnic. Brats, beef & veggie burgers and drinks will be provided. Please bring a side or dessert to share.

Come together with your church family for worship and savor the fellowship and beauty of the park! We are an Earth Care congregation, so remember to bring your own plates and silverware, and bring along camp chairs in case extra seating is required.



**GRACE COVENANT**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Heartland Presbytery and the Members of  
Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church  
invite you to attend the

## Service of Installation

for

**Rev. Karen Wright**

as Pastor on

Sunday, August 24, at 3:00 p.m.

in the sanctuary of

Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church

11100 College Blvd.

Overland Park, Kansas 66210

This service of worship marks an important moment in the life of our church and the ministry we share.

Come celebrate with us as we give thanks for God's call, rejoice in community, and look with hope toward the future.

*A reception will follow in Heartland Hall.  
Childcare will be provided.*

**Join us for this celebration!**

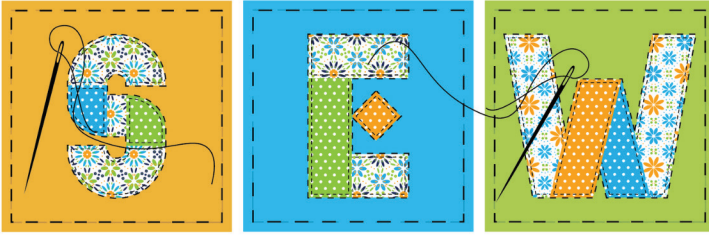
*All are welcome!*

## Thursday Morning Bible Study Group

During their summer hiatus, the Thursday morning Bible study group meets monthly to discuss a book with spiritual aspects. Everyone is invited to join us. The final meeting of the summer is August 14 at 9:30am to discuss *Stone Yard Devotional* by Charlotte Wood. Join us at Cindy Schendel's house (11654 Grant Dr). RSVP to Cindy at: [cschen56@hotmail.com](mailto:cschen56@hotmail.com).

If you have any questions, please contact Cheryl Johnson at [agathatoo@gmail.com](mailto:agathatoo@gmail.com).

## SEW: PIECING FAITH TOGETHER



*God is stitching us into something beautiful—one thread at a time.*

### New August Sermon Series

This August, Grace Covenant is picking up a needle and thread—metaphorically speaking—as we launch a new sermon series titled **“SEW: Piecing Faith Together.”** Like a beautiful quilt stitched from many pieces, our life of faith is shaped through intentional patterns of learning, service, and worship. *God is stitching us into something beautiful—one thread at a time.*

**S – Study** - We begin with study—grounding ourselves in God’s Word. Scripture is the pattern, the template that helps guide how we live.

**E – Engage** - Faith isn’t just personal—it’s communal and active. Whether through service, conversation, or compassion, we are stitched into God’s ongoing work of love and justice.

**W – Worship** - Not just what we do on Sunday morning, but how we live our lives in gratitude and praise. Worship is the binding that holds the pieces of faith together.

In a world often frayed by division, Christ binds us in love and purpose. Whether you’re a lifelong quilter or can’t thread a needle to save your life, this series is for you.

Together, let’s piece together a life of faith—one stitch, one act of grace, one step of discipleship at a time.

Come worship with us this August as we **SEW—Study, Engage, and Worship**—together.



### C & C at Ministry Fair

Come to Heartland Hall after church on **August 10** to see what our church has to offer in small groups and teams.

This is your chance to get involved in something that interests you.

Please stop by.

—Care and Connection Team

## August Donation Partner: Cross-Lines

**Cross-Lines** was established in 1963 as “a place of hope” for those struggling with the hardships of poverty, providing direct assistance to at-risk families, the elderly, and single individuals struggling to make ends meet. The mission of Cross-Lines is to provide people in the Kansas City area affected by poverty with services and opportunities that encourage self-confidence, meet the needs of today, and provide tools for future self-sufficiency.

**You can help Cross-Lines by donating one of the items from their basic needs list below.** Please leave your donation in the Weekday Entrance bin anytime during August: diapers (especially sizes 4, 5, and 6), shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, razors, laundry detergent, and dish soap.

## August Communion Offering Recipient: Habitat for Humanity

Due to unforeseen changes in the Mission Co-Worker program by PCUSA, we are re-directing the August Communion Offering to **Habitat for Humanity KC.** Habitat KC takes a holistic approach to reducing poverty and improving equity in the Kansas City community. They’re focused on affordable housing, because safe and stable homes free families and individuals from instability, stress, and fear — encouraging self-reliance and confidence. The impact of affordable homeownership extends far beyond the present — allowing families to plan for the future. When families have affordable housing, they can build wealth, invest in education, bolster job opportunities and career growth, and uplift their entire family for generations. If you’d like to support Habitat KC, just use the “Communion” option in the online portal or write “Communion Offering” on your check or envelope and turn in your donation by August 30.





## Clerk's Corner

Some years the Session does not meet in July, but this month we had a full meeting!

We heard a report from EncoreKC! and renewed our contract with them as our Artist in Residence for three more years.

We heard reports from most of our busy teams. Liz Chandler has resigned as moderator of the Facilities Team, and we thank her for her many years of hard work, keeping our facility functioning and organized! The Facilities Team is busy talking to roofing contractors regarding the roof on the west wing. We approved the purchase of a video camera which can be used around the church and will also serve as a ready-to-use backup if our livestream ever goes down at a critical time. We discussed hiring an AVL consultant to provide a design to upgrade our audio/visual/lighting system but are not moving forward with that at this time.

The Finance Team has started meeting with other teams regarding their 2026 budgets and plans to have a proposed budget prepared by September.

A meeting of the congregation has been called after worship on Sunday, August 17, for the purpose of electing at-large members of the nominating committee. It will be a short one! We are also excited that we will be welcoming new members into our congregation that morning.

September will be busy with Worship in the Park on the 7th and Stewardship and Scrambled Eggs on the 14th. Workship Sunday, however, will not happen in September.

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

—Melanie Townsend, Clerk of Session

## Music in Worship

Join us each Sunday in August for a variety of musical worship experiences:

- **August 3:** Encore KC! Act II Ensemble joins us bringing their vibrant energy and rich harmonies to the service.
- **August 10:** Organ-Led Worship with Summer Choir performing "With Every Breath" by Ken Medema, and soloist Andrew Alka singing "The Lord's Prayer" by Albert Hay Malotte.
- **August 17:** Praise Team leads a joyful and spirited worship.
- **August 24:** Organ-Led Worship with Summer Choir singing "All the Day Long" by K. Lee Scott. (Final Summer Choir Sunday)
- **August 31:** Organ-Led Worship with Chancel & Exaltation Singers performing "A Lord-Built House" by Robert Lentz.

## Music Ministry Returns – Save the Dates!

- **Praise Team (Youth & Adults):** Resumes Tuesday, August 5, 7-8:15pm in the Sanctuary. Directed by Carrie DeVries.
- **Chancel & Exaltation Singers (Intermediate–Advanced Adults):** Resumes Wednesday, August 27 in Room 6/Choir Room, directed by Patrick O'Halloran, accompanist Linda Dover.
- **Sunday School & Children's Music:** Resumes Sunday, August 17, 10:45–11:45am. Children's Music meets during the first portion, from 10:45–11:05am, with select Sundays dedicated entirely to music.
  - **Joy! Singers (4s–1st graders)** – Room 26, directed by Emily Hussey and Hilary Schmidt.
  - **Celebration! Choir & Chimes (2nd–5th graders)** – Room 15, directed by Pam Kelly, assistant director Katie Hearn, accompanist Angela Krug.
- **Charter Ringers (Advanced Adults):** Resumes Tuesday, September 3, 6:00–7:00pm in Room 1, co-directed by Celia Nicholas and Chris Krug.

Please contact any of the directors or Patrick O'Halloran at 913-345-1256, ext. 20, or ([patrick.ohalloran@gcpc.org](mailto:patrick.ohalloran@gcpc.org)) if you are interested in participating in any of the ensembles. We would LOVE to have you!

## Thank You!

We are so grateful to everyone who made our recent music events so meaningful. The "I'm So Glad" documentary showing was a powerful gathering, and the **Embellish Handbell Choir concert** was a joyful and inspiring evening. Special thanks to Anne and Tom Stroud, Katie Hearn, Celia Nicholas, Rebecca Prater, Linda Bruns, Barbara Douglas, Chris Lindsay, and Donna Heer for their generous help in hosting, organizing, and supporting these special moments. Your gifts of time and care are deeply appreciated! —Patrick O'Halloran, Interim Director of Music Ministries

## Save the Date:

# Stewardship Stories & Scrambled Eggs

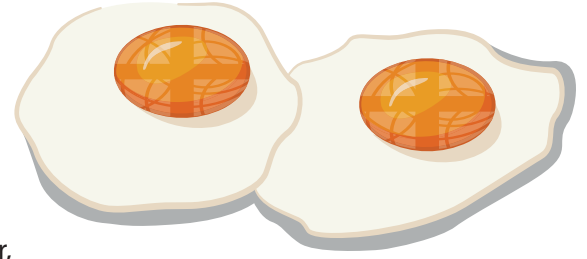
*“Sharing a meal, sharing our mission”*

**Sunday, September 14** - Following Worship in Heartland Hall

Join us for a joyful and meaningful morning of fellowship, storytelling, and inspiration at our Generosity Town Hall — over a delicious brunch! Together, we'll explore how your giving supports the heart of our ministry: missions, staff, programs, outreach, and the place we call home.

Through shared stories, scripture and prayer, we'll reflect on how generosity takes root and grows — and ask, “What legacy are we planting today?” and “Who taught you to live generously?”

**This is more than a meal.** It's a moment to celebrate how far we've come and dream faithfully about where God is calling us next. **Mark your calendar for September 14.** Don't miss this eggs-tra special event — where faith, food, and fellowship are all sunny side up!



## Teeing Off for a Good Cause

### *20th Annual Golf Scramble Supports Youth Scholarships*

Mark your calendars and shine up your clubs—it's time for the 20th Annual Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church Golf Scramble/Fundraiser for the Baker/Reynolds Scholarship! This beloved tradition returns on Sunday, September 21, 2025, with a 1:00 PM tee time at Falcon Valley Golf Course in Lenexa, Kansas.

This 9-hole golf scramble is more than just a friendly competition—it's a meaningful fundraiser that supports the Baker/Reynolds Scholarship Fund, established in loving memory of Larry Baker and Reggie Reynolds. Larry and Reggie were long-time, faithful members of GCPC who had a passion for both golf and encouraging the youth of our church. Their legacy lives on through this event and the young people it helps support.

#### Here's what you need to know:

- Format: 9-Hole Golf Scramble
- Entry Fee: \$100 (Covers green fees, riding cart, prizes, and a donation to the scholarship fund)
- Lunch Option: Falcon Valley offers a lunch special (cheeseburger or grilled chicken sandwich, chips & a drink for approx. \$11–\$12). Indicate your interest on your entry form.

Whether you're a seasoned golfer or a newcomer to the scramble format, we hope you'll join us for an afternoon of fun, fellowship, and purpose. Not golfing this year? You can still contribute to the scholarship fund and show your support.

**Your entry form and check need to be received no later than Sunday, September 14th** in order to reserve your spot.

#### To register:

1. Complete the entry form (available in the church office or online).
2. Send your form and \$100 check (payable to Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, memo: Baker/Reynolds Scholarship) to: Bill Turner, 9119 W. 157th Terrace, Overland Park, KS 66221

Alternatively, you can pay online at: <https://onrealm.org/gcpc/-/form/give/KKHVZUJVDW> (Be sure to select “Memorial Scholarships – Reynolds/Baker” from the drop-down menu.)

**Note:** If you pay online, please still email or mail your entry form to Bill Turner at [99wdturner@gmail.com](mailto:99wdturner@gmail.com) so he can organize scramble groups.

Thank you for continuing to make this event a success year after year. Your participation keeps Larry and Reggie's memory alive while investing in the next generation of GCPC youth. Let's make the 20th annual scramble our biggest yet!



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

## Blessing, Belonging & Big Fun: August 10 Kicks Off a New Year in Children's Ministry

Mark your calendars for Sunday, August 10, as the church kicks off a new year of faith, fellowship, and fun for our children and families! With special blessings, exciting sneak peeks, and a chance to plug into meaningful ministry, this is a Sunday you won't want to miss.

## Blessing of the Backpacks

9:30am during Worship

As a new school year begins, we want to surround our students, teachers, and school staff with love and prayer. During worship, children and educators are invited to bring their backpacks and bags forward for a special blessing. Everyone will receive a backpack tag to serve as a year-round reminder of God's presence. Plus, *our Middle and High School Youth have created a special gift for our elementary-aged children*—just one more way our church family shows up for one another!

## Ministry Fair

10:30am in Heartland Hall (Following Worship)

After worship, come explore the vibrant ministries of GCPC and ask questions during our annual Ministry Fair.

Stop by the Children's Team table to:

- Update your child's information
- Learn more about Sunday School and Awakening to Worship (ATW)
- Discover volunteer opportunities

## Sneak-a-Peek

10:30am in Heartland Hall (Following Worship)

We have a new activity for sneak-a-peek this year. **Stop by the Children's team table for a special sneak-a-peek game.** And, as always, there will be a prize for all who complete the challenge.

Whether you're new to GCPC or have been here for years, there's something for everyone to learn and celebrate.

## Sunday School is for Everyone! Children's Programming Begins Sunday, August 17

At Grace Covenant, we believe children are a vital part of our church family—and there's a place for every child on Sunday mornings!

### Nursery Care – Room 22

Our nursery is open every Sunday during worship and Sunday School for our littlest ones. We love the joyful noise of children in worship, and worship activity bags are always available, but if your child would prefer a quieter space to play, our caring nursery team—Carolyn, Cathy, and Meg—are ready to welcome them with open arms.

### Awakening to Worship (ATW) – Room 12

ATW is a special worship experience just for children ages 4 through 1st grade. Children begin in the sanctuary with their families and, following Children's Time, are invited to join ATW leaders in the back of the sanctuary. They'll head downstairs for age-appropriate worship, stories, and activities. Children can be picked up from Room 12 at the end of the worship service.

Have questions? Reach out to our Children's Team at [GCPCChildren@gmail.com](mailto:GCPCChildren@gmail.com).

*We can't wait to grow, learn, and worship together this year!*

## Save These Dates

- **August 10** – Backpack Blessing, Ministry Fair & Sneak-a-Peek
- **August 17** – ATW, Sunday School & Music resumes, SMASH fellowship
- **August 24** – ATW & Sunday School continue
- **August 31** – No ATW or Sunday School (*holiday weekend*)



# Sunday School Class Details

*There's room for everyone!*

- **2's/3s** – Room 20 (10:45am)
- **4's/5s** – Will meet in Room 26 at 10:45am for music, then will be escorted to Room 25 at 11:05am for Sunday School.
- **K-5th** – Our kindergarten through 5th grade students will begin a new season of creative learning through art, cooking, and drama. We will begin by looking at the diversity of God's creation and Biblical teachings that call us to love one another equally. We typically start out in music, then travel together to our lesson for that day.
- **K-1st – Joy! Singers** gather in Room 26 (upstairs) at the start of our Sunday School hour for Joy! Singers music time, then are escorted to their Sunday school lesson. Our workshop rotations move each week, so check the wall just outside the basement stairwell or the door outside the nursery for a sign that informs of each week's activities.
- **2nd-5th – Celebration! Choir** gather in Room 15 (downstairs), for Celebration! Choir music time and will be escorted to their Sunday School classes after music. Our workshop rotations move each week, so check the wall just outside the basement stairwell or the door outside the nursery for a sign that informs of each week's activities.

## SMASH Returns!

**SMASH: Service, Music, Art, Sports, Hangout**

**K-5th grade monthly fellowship**

**August 17, 4-6pm**

Our August SMASH will mark the start of our new year of SMASH with an end-of-summer celebration! Please wear your swimsuit, bug spray, and sunscreen. Bring a towel. We will meet in the courtyard for water play and pizza! Invite a friend!



Keep up to date about each SMASH event on our Facebook page.

## How can YOU get involved with these exciting Children's Programs?

At GCPC, we take seriously the promises made at each child's baptism—to nurture, teach, and walk alongside them in faith. As a result, our children's ministry continues to grow in exciting ways! To support this vibrant growth, we need more hands and hearts to help each Sunday. We'd love for you to be part of the team! **Volunteering doesn't mean an every-week commitment—you can choose the Sundays that work for you.** But be warned: our kids are so wonderful, you might find yourself signing up more often than you planned!

**All positions will come with lesson plans, training, and support from your Children's Team and our Director of Christian Education.**

Our areas of need are:

- **Preschool Teachers** - These teachers will join a team of teachers who will share teaching responsibilities on Sunday morning.
- **Elementary Teachers** - These teachers will join a team of teachers who will share teaching responsibilities on Sunday morning.
- **Workshop Rotation Shepherds** - Our shepherds escort our classes to their classes help supervise activities planned by our Elementary teachers.
- **Substitute Sunday School Teachers/Shepherds** - Subs are added to our call/email list when a need arises. Substitutes are used for all age levels.
- **ATW Storytellers or Greeters** - Storytellers and greeters assist with our children's age-appropriate worship service experience.
- **SMASH (K-5th grade fellowship) Helpers** - Our SMASH program is organized by our Children's Team co-coordinators Amy Sellers and Christy Soule. This program meets once a month on a Sunday afternoon from 4pm – 6pm. This group has grown SO MUCH, we need extra help for our fun activities!

**If you would like to learn more about any of these opportunities,** please email our Christian Educator, Emily Nelson Dixon, at [emily.dixon@gcpc.org](mailto:emily.dixon@gcpc.org).



# Awakening to Worship, Our Children's Service

Our Children's Service at Grace Covenant is called Awakening to Worship, and it is offered to children ages four years old through 1st grade. It is based on the books *Young Children and Worship* by Sonja M. Stewart and Jerome W. Berryman and *Following Jesus* by Sonja M. Stewart. The authors believe that, "It involves helping children worship in a special place apart from the worshiping congregation so they become able to worship meaningfully with the congregation."

The service is facilitated by a "storyteller" and "greeters" each week in an inviting and quiet space.

## The children learn to:

1. Assemble in God's Name (The Call to Worship, The Greeting, Songs of Praise with sign language)
2. Proclaim God's Word (Bible Story, Learn to Pray)
3. Give Thanks to God (Preparing the Lord's Table, Prayer of Thanksgiving, The Lord's Prayer, Feast-Communion)
4. Go in God's Name (Hymn, Charge, Blessing)

The Bible stories, like "Noah", are told using wooden pieces. The Parables, like "The Mustard Seed," are told using flat pieces. The children also learn stories about "How the Church Tells Time" and "Baptism."

Awakening to Worship is open to children of church members and visitors. **We are also looking for new volunteers to worship with our little ones.** It is a chance to spend meaningful time with the children of our church. It's an unforgettable experience for all involved. If you have questions, please **contact Kristy Shaw** at [kshaw96@yahoo.com](mailto:kshaw96@yahoo.com).



## YOUTH MINISTRY

### GCPC Youth Program

**BIG SHOUT OUT** to **Lara Schesser** for your work and dedication to the youth and children of GCPC and for leading our Youth Committee! Lara is now passing the torch to **Chris Cabe** as our **new Youth Committee Moderator and Liaison to Session**—Welcome Chris! We look forward to your leadership as we continue to nurture our youth.

**We're looking for a couple more youth committee members**, please let Emily Nelson Dixon or Chris Cabe know if you'd like to join this growing team!

### Youth Calendar

#### Sunday, August 10

Blessing of the Backpacks in worship, and Ministry Fair afterwards. There will be a youth table with info about our activities—come by and see us!

#### Sunday, August 17

First Sunday School of the new year!

**10:45-11am** - Youth Fellowship and connection in the youth lounge.

**11-11:45am Middle School** (all 6th-8th graders) will meet in Room 19b and **High School** (all 9th-12th graders) will meet in Room 19a. Come join us! Bring a friend!

**4-6pm YOUTH Gathering** with games, snacks, connection, and service! For the last hour, we'll help the children's department with **WATER PLAY** games outside! Come ready to have fun!! All are welcome! Invite friends!







## KAIROS KLUES

### August 2025—Water

Water will be the August environmental focus — safe water, water access, power of water and more. Some areas of our country have too much water, and we have seen the terrible, devastating, and deadly flooding that results. Some areas of our country have too little water, and we bear witness to drought and fires sparked by lightning, like the fires decimating the Grand Canyon's North Rim.

Be sure to check out the bulletin board just outside Heartland Hall for more information this month for Peace, Justice and Environmental Issues.

### THINGS YOU CAN DO:

#### 1) GODS CREATION

Attend the Presbyterians for Earth Care Conference being held at Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center (near Little Rock Arkansas). Early Bird pricing valid through August 31. SACRED CREATION: JUSTICE FLOWS DOWN LIKE WATER

<https://presbyearthcare.org/>

#### 2) PEACE

Peace is not just something that happens; it is an effort that requires vigilant attention and action. Check out your Voting Registration (at your county election office.) Many cities have primaries in early August for local positions. Organizations to help you identify those running for office and issues affecting where you live.

County election office <https://www.jocoelection.org/voting-election-info/ballot-information> , League of Women Voters <https://lwvk.org/> , Indivisible <https://indivisible.org/>

### MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

#### 3) JUSTICE

Seek justice! That call is evident within this team in many ways as we seek social and economic justice – “setting things right” rather than just “letting things be.”

Learn about hunger in our community. HARVESTERS <https://www.harvesters.org/learn-about-hunger/hunger-in-our-region>.

Volunteer with other GCPC members (talk with Knute Rosche and Tim Hayden when you see them at church) on Tuesday at the ReNewed Hope Food Pantry <https://renewedhopefoodpantry.org/>

## Adult Education Program

A BIG THANK YOU to Tom Stroud and Jake Schmidt for your leadership on the Adult Education committee! And welcome to Kevin Johnson, our new Moderator and Session Liaison! We're excited to have you lead us!

### Keep an eye out for our Fall offerings!

**August 10** Check out our table at the Ministry Fair

**August 17** Adult Sunday School class, Room 3

**Thank you to Don Wilson** for his interesting and engaging class on Christian Nationalism. The choir room with over 40 people and received great feedback from it.

## Save the Date!

## Weekend Crafters Fall Workshop - October 3rd!

GCPC Weekend Crafters will be hosting a **Fall Workshop on October 3rd from 6pm- 8pm** in Heartland Hall. We welcome Katee Smith with The Barefoot Builder for another exciting project. Participants can make one, two or all three of the trees featured here. We hope you will join us and invite a friend. **Registration and additional details will be included in the September newsletter.**



## Got spare change? It's time to make some holy noise!

Start gathering your coins now for our **Noisy Offering on Sunday, August 24!** During worship, our kids will carry buckets through the aisles, ready to collect your spare change—and every joyful clink and clatter will support Presbyterian Disaster Assistance as they respond to floods, fires, storms, and more. Every coin helps bring hope. Let's turn our change into change for good! Learn more about Presbyterian Disaster Assistance at <https://pcusa.org/.../ministry-areas/disaster-assistance>



# GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**Inclusive. Family Oriented. Welcoming.**

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

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



## GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Follow us on Social Media!

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

Instagram: @gcpc\_overlandpark • YouTube: @gracecovenant443

### CHURCH STAFF

**Transitional Pastor, Rev. Karen Wright**  
[karen.wright@gcpc.org](mailto:karen.wright@gcpc.org) ..... ext. 15

**Church Administrator**.....Patrick Bell  
[patrick.bell@gcpc.org](mailto:patrick.bell@gcpc.org) ..... ext. 10

**Director of Christian Education**  
**Emily Nelson Dixon** .....ext.18  
[emily.dixon@gcpc.org](mailto:emily.dixon@gcpc.org)

**Finance Administrator**.....Tara Hyder  
[finance@gcpc.org](mailto:finance@gcpc.org)

**Interim Dir. Music Ministries**...Patrick O'Halloran  
[patrick.ohalloran@gcpc.org](mailto:patrick.ohalloran@gcpc.org) .....ext. 20

**Praise Team Director**.....Carrie DeVries  
[cdevriesbe@olatheschools.org](mailto:cdevriesbe@olatheschools.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 Drummer** ..... Jill Endaya-Allen

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

**Wedding Coordinator**.....Kristy Shaw

**Funeral Coordinator** .....Vacant

### ELDERS

Johnnie Baker	Frank Slovick
Paul Bruns	Jaylee Soule
Chris Cabe	Eileen Thomson
Debbie Campbell	Michala Walker
Barbara Douglas	Mary Ann Weyforth
Kevin Johnson	Melanie Townsend
Andrew Sellers	Session Clerk
Kristy Shaw	

### SUPPORT STAFF

Deacon Moderator ..... Nelson Townsend

Operating Committee..... Lara Schesser,  
Tom Stroud, Barbara Douglas, Mikki Walker,  
Melanie Townsend, Rev. Karen Wright

Newsletter Editor/Marketing..... Kim Krueger

Prayer Chain ..... Cheryl Johnson

Website Administrators ..... Kim Krueger,  
Patrick Bell

### MINISTRY UNITS

Congregational Nurture Unit Moderators  
Care and Connections....Mary Ann Weyforth  
Worship and Music..... Kathy Bures,  
Barbara Douglas

Education Ministry Unit Moderators  
Adult .....Kevin Johnson  
Children ..... Kristy Shaw  
Youth.....Chris Cabe

Reach Out Ministry Unit Moderators  
Kairos ..... Rick Randolph  
Mission .....Mikki Walker  
Welcoming ..... Kathy Williams

Supportive Ministry Unit Moderators  
Facility ..... Vacant  
Generosity ..... Jane Knoche,  
Eileen Thomson

Finance..... Beth Lillian  
Personnel ..... Kevin Mason

### Worship Schedule

9:30am Worship

Streaming on YouTube, Facebook, [gcpc.org](http://gcpc.org)  
Visit [gcpc.org/online](http://gcpc.org/online) for links

### Upcoming Newsletter Article Deadlines

September 2025 issue - Deadline, August 22  
October 2025 issue - Deadline, September 19