



GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship — December 29, 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: Melanie Townsend

HEAD USHERS: Steve & Caroline Becher

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 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
- **Emily Nelson Dixon (Dir. of Christian Education):** emily.dixon@gcpc.org
- **Rebecca Prater (Dir. of Music Ministries)** 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
- **Jason Turner (Audio/Technical Dir.):** Please e-mail both darktrainfilms@gmail.com & 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: Cal Sweeten, Kevin Johnson

Cancer Treatment: Harold Farren, Katie Rickley, David Schesser

Aging Challenges: Lee Will

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: Presbyterian Disciples Church, Lexington, MO; Iglesia El Buen Pastor, San José La Viña (MQP); Heartland Presbytery Congregational Ministries Committee

(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

REMINDER: The church offices will be closed Wednesday, January 1, for the New Year’s Day holiday.

GPCPC WEEKEND CRAFTERS Annual Winter Craft Retreat on Friday, January 17, 6–9pm and again Saturday, January 18, 9am–4pm. We welcome anyone to join for parts of all of the retreat. **RSVP by January 13 at gcpc.org/crafters.** Do you have craft supplies that you no longer use and would want to share/donate? Bring your stash and put on our donation table. Contact Christy Soule with any questions at christysoule@yahoo.com. (Full details on retreat at link)

B-I-N-G-O-! You won’t want to miss out on another amazing evening of GPCPC Bingo. Mark your calendars for Friday, January 31, 2025! Liz Chandler has agreed once again to be our illustrious caller. Something new this year will be a delicious lasagna dinner, served before Bingo starts. The meal is graciously being covered by an anonymous donor. Make sure to get signed up before and after church services on January 19 and 26!

WE'RE HIRING! Career opportunity at GCPC - Interim Director of Music Ministries. The Interim Director of Music Ministries will be the driving force behind our church's diverse and dynamic music program. The person filling this role will have the opportunity to nurture spiritual growth through music, coordinate various choirs and ensembles, and create unforgettable worship experiences for our congregation. JOB DESCRIPTION and full details at gcpc.org/careers.

THE LIFE OF OUR CHURCH IS ON SOCIAL MEDIA! Help us spread the word about the events, stories, and vibrant life of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church by engaging with and sharing our social media content. You'll find GCPC on Facebook and Instagram, where every like, comment, and share helps us showcase how we share Christ's love in our community. Thank you for being part of this important outreach!

40TH ANNIVERSARY TEA PARTY on Sunday, January 12, at 2pm, in Heartland Hall. The Tea Party is open to ALL AGES. Bring your own teacup or enjoy one provided by our committee. The Tea Party Planning Committee will serve finger sandwiches and beverages, and we invite you to contribute by bringing a small plate of bite-sized desserts or treats to share. **RSVP by January 5 at gcpc.org/teaparty** with how many are attending, if you are bringing your own cup, and if you can bring a treat. We look forward to celebrating this special milestone together!

DIY MINI GOLF EVENT! Join Us for a 40th Anniversary DIY Mini Golf Night on Saturday, February 8, at 7pm in Heartland Hall. Gather your friends, family, or co-workers and join the fun at GCPC's DIY Mini Golf event! Design and build your own creative mini golf hole and compete for prizes in design and golf scores. Each team (up to 5 members) will create a unique golf hole using a 3' x 8' space. Setup must be completed by 7pm. After the course is ready, enjoy a round of mini golf, light snacks, and plenty of laughs. Don't miss this chance to showcase your creativity and skills! **Register now at gcpc.org/golf to reserve your spot! Registration ends on Saturday, February 1.**

"THIS IS GRACE" NEW MEMBER CLASS: Join us for the "This is Grace" New Member Class on Sunday, January 12, at 10:45am in Room 4, immediately following the worship service. Led by Rev. Karen Wright, this class is open to everyone—whether you're a first-time visitor or a long-time friend. This session offers a great opportunity to learn more about Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, ask questions, and explore how we carry out God's work in our community. The class will include a discussion on the meaning of membership and an open Q&A titled, "Everything You've Wanted to Ask a Pastor but Haven't Had the Chance." There's no expectation to join the church after attending the class—just come to learn and explore. To sign up, visit gcpc.org/newmember, or contact Kathy Williams at kathykaskewilliams@gmail.com or call 913-485-1776 if you plan to attend.

ADULT

THE NEW YEAR IS ALMOST HERE AND HOPE YOU'VE HAD TIME TO DO SOME READING! Page Turners will meet at Johnnie Baker's house, Thursday, January 2, at 7pm to discuss *Wild Women and the Blues* by Denny Bryce. Johnnie's address is 8608 W. 152nd Terr., Overland Park.

(Carpooling suggested — end of cul-de-sac! Also adjacent driveway on left is available that night.) Please RSVP to 913-219-3893 or johnniebkr@gmail.com, or you can use the Bookclub's app or Facebook to RSVP.

AS THE PAGE TURNS BOOK GROUP will meet January 8 at 1:30 p.m. in Room 3 at the church. The book selection is *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. Please join the group for discussion and fellowship.

CHILDREN

ATW, MUSIC & SUNDAY SCHOOL: Activities will resume January 5.

MISSION

DECEMBER DONATION PARTNER AND COMMUNION OFFERING RECIPIENT: This month's offering will support the Argentine Baby Closet at Argentine United Presbyterian Church. This ministry is in its 38th year of providing support to families in Kansas City, KS, and Grace Covenant has been one of its faithful partners for most of this time. The Baby Closet serves 45–50 families each month with diapers, wipes, clothing and other basics for infants and toddlers, including sleepers, blankets, burp cloths, books and other baby equipment (when available). This year the items most needed are:

- diapers — sizes 4 & 5
- shoes/boots — sizes 3-7
- formula — especially Similac (blue lid)
- toddler finger foods (Puffs, yogurt bites, etc.)
- new or gently used warm clothes — sizes 18 months to 2T

MISSION

GENEROSITY FULFILLMENT 2024 UPDATE — WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS: Our team is humbled by the enduring generosity and commitment of our members. **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 31st	June 17 th	Dec. 7th
0-25% fulfilled	76	37	10
26-50% fulfilled	20	56	0
51-75% fulfilled	1	4	5
76-100% fulfilled	17	17	99
\$603,174	\$214,344	\$293,452	\$570,211

Rollover Pledges (16)	March 31st	June 17 th	Dec. 7th
0-25% fulfilled	10	6	4
26-50% fulfilled	5	8	3
51-75% fulfilled	0	1	0
76-100% fulfilled	1	1	9
\$34,662	\$6,668	\$11,175	\$30,376

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

Upcoming Events and Services

(Details and links under each event)

Office Closed - New Year's Day

Wednesday, January 1, 2025

VBS 2025 Registration Begins Online!

on Wednesday, January 1, 2025

"Sign up at gcpc.org/vbs"

Epiphany Star Sunday

Sunday, January 5, 9:30am

Reception for Rebecca Prater, 10:45am

GCPC 40th Anniversary Event Intergenerational Afternoon Tea Party

Sunday, January 12, 2-4pm

"RSVP by January 5, at gcpc.org/teaparty"

Weekend Crafters Winter Retreat

Friday, January 17, 6-9pm

Saturday, January 18, 9am-4pm

"RSVP ASAP at gcpc.org/crafters"

Annual Church Meeting

Sunday, January 26, 10:30am

Bingo & Lasagna Night!

Friday, January 31, 5:30-7:30pm

*"Sign up on January 19 or January 26,
during worship, or call the church office."*

GCPC 40th Anniversary Event Intergenerational DIY Mini Golf

Saturday, February 8, 7pm

"Sign up to play at gcpc.org/golf"

Covenant Group Brunch Potluck

Sunday, February 23, 10:30am

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Tuesday, March 4, 5:30-7:30pm

Lent Begins

Wednesday, March 5

GCPC 40th Anniversary Event Craft Fair

Saturday, March 29, 9am-2pm

"Seeking vendors through February 15."

Sign up at gcpc.org/craftfair"

Trivia Night!

Saturday, April 5

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 5, 10am

Holy Week

Palm Sunday, April 12, 9:30am

Maundy Thursday, April 17, 7:30pm

Good Friday, April 18, 7:30pm

Easter Sunday, April 20, 9:30am

Vacation Bible School

"Road Trip - On the Go with God!"

June 2 - June 6, 9am-Noon

Children Ages 4 yrs - 5th Grade

gcpc.org/vbs

GCPC 40th Anniversary Celebration Brunch Following

Sunday, June 22, 9:30am



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

For an online church calendar, visit gcpc.org/calendar