



GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship — July 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 worshiping with us today.

TODAY'S FLOWERS are given by Chelly King in loving memory of her husband, Gary DuBois.

HEAD USHERS: Richard & Berdine Eby

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, 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:

- **Rev. 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
- **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: Knute Rosché and family in the death of his mother.

Surgeries/Hospitalizations/Illnesses: Shirley Faulwell, Rick Haun, Charlotte Hearn, Kathy Bures

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: Maya Quiché Presbytery; Heartland Presbytery New Worshipping Community Commission

(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

“WE ARE FAMILY!” ENCOREKC! FOUNDATION INVITES YOU to the summer EncoreKC! Chorus concert TODAY, at 3pm at Village on Antioch. The songs presented are music that lifts us up and unites us. From classics like “Both Sides Now” and “There’s No Business Like Show Business” to “We Are Family” and other disco hits, you will relax and enjoy the music that brings us all together in community.

WORSHIP AND PICNIC ON AUGUST 4: *Join us for worship on Sunday, August 4, at 9:30am, at Meadowbrook Park, The Grand Pavilion, located at 91st and Nall in Prairie Village.* Worship will be followed by a potluck picnic. The main dish and drinks will be provided. Everyone bring a side or dessert to share. Come together with your church family for worship, share a meal with your covenant group, and savor the fellowship and beauty of the park. Remember to bring your own plate and silverware, and feel free to bring along camp chairs if extra seating is required.

AUGUST 11 IS THE MINISTRY FAIR IN HEARTLAND HALL, following worship. Plan to stop by and see the small groups and church teams highlighted. This is a time to sign up for what interests you.

THE ANNUAL BAKER/REYNOLDS GOLF SCRAMBLE will be August 25 at Falcon Valley Golf Course. (First tee time at 1pm.) This is the 19th year of this event, benefitting the Youth of GCPC, in memory of Larry Baker and Reggie Reynolds. If you are interested in playing in this year's scramble or in donating to the fund, see your bulletin insert.

“THIS IS GRACE” — NEW MEMBERS’ CLASS will be held on Sunday, August 18, following the worship service, at 10:45am in Room 4. The class is led by Rev. Karen Wright and is open to all. This is the best way to get an overview of the church. First-time visitors and long-time friends are encouraged to attend to get questions answered and to discover the exciting ways Grace Covenant carries out God’s work. There is no assumption on our part that you will join following the class. The class will include a discussion on the meaning of membership and “Everything you’ve wanted to ask a pastor but, have been unable to ask.” If you are interested, please contact the church office, 913-345-1256, or Kathy Williams, 913-485-1776 or kathykaskewilliams@gmail.com.

STAFF SCHEDULE AND OFFICE HOURS FYI: Pastor Karen will be out of the office July 29 to August 3. Rev. Don Wilson is available for emergency pastoral care needs. Patrick will be out of the office July 29 through August 2. During this week, the office will be staffed by volunteers until 1pm each day. Please call ahead to check if the building is open if you are coming to the church for anything other than a regularly scheduled meeting.

40TH ANNIVERSARY NEWS: GCPC will be celebrating its 40th anniversary in June 2025. The 40th Anniversary Committee is in the process of gathering photos, stories, video and assistance in telling the history of Grace Covenant, and we need your help!

- **Printed photos:** There will be a table at the August 11 Ministry Fair staffed by committee members who can scan your 4x6 (or other sized photos) on-the-spot to add to our digital library. All we ask is that you have them face-up and sorted by the same size. We can scan them in seconds and give them right back to you.
- **Digital photos or videos:** If you have digital photos or videos that you can share with us, upload them through the church’s website at <https://gcpc.org/40>.

What do we want? We are looking for photos that tell the story of GCPC and show our members and families. Everything from current to years past! Here is a “general” list: weddings, baptisms, VBS, BBQs, special events, Easter, Christmas Eve photos from all years, mission trips, Sunday school, mission projects, small groups, Star Sunday, choral and bell performances from all years, members wearing GCPC T-shirts, potluck dinners, pancake suppers, trunk or treat ... etc.

ADULT

AS THE PAGE TURNS BOOK GROUP will meet August 7 at 1:30pm in Room 3 at the church. The book selection is *The Chelsea Girls* by Fiona Davis. Please join the group for discussion and fellowship.

DURING THE SUMMER, THE THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY GROUP will meet in members' homes for monthly book discussions. Everyone is welcome to join us — whether or not you have read the book. Contact Cheryl Johnson at agathatoo@gmail.com if you have questions:

- **August 15 @ 9:30 a.m.** *Sitting at the Feet of Rabbi Jesus* by Ann Spangler at Lee Mattix's house (11107 W. 132nd Court). RSVP to Lee at lamattix@gmail.com.

YOUTH

ATTENTION FAMILIES OF 7TH, 8TH, AND 9TH GRADERS! GCPC is starting to prepare for the Confirmation Class of the 2024–2025 school year. If you are interested in having your child go through the process of Confirmation this year, please e-mail Lara Schesser at lara.schesser@gmail.com.

MISSION

PLANNING AND PREPARING FOR OUR 82ND IHN HOST WEEK AUGUST 4–11. On August 4, we will welcome two families to stay overnight at Grace Covenant for the week. In the past 20 years our church has been blessed to lift up over 922 individuals, 529 of those have been children. As of June 2024, our network has worked together to provide 59,608 bed nights and 178,824 meals! Our downstairs will be converted to two bedrooms and one host bedroom. With our offsite worship on Sunday, August 4, we will be able to set up on Saturday, August 3. Christine Caseres is the lead primary coordinator for this week. We need meals, hosts, help with set-up/laundry. Only hosts need IHN training. Many thanks to all who continue to support IHN. Please contact Christine, crcaseres032@gmail.com, and Jane Knoche, jeknoche@att.net, for more information.

JULY COMMUNION OFFERING RECIPIENT: The Communion Offering for July will be directed to the Pentecost Offering. A gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and also addresses the needs of at-risk children. Forty percent of the Pentecost offering can be retained by individual congregations wanting to make an impact in the lives of young people within their own community. The remaining 60% is used to support children-at-risk, youth, and young adults through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

JULY DONATION PARTNER: Safehome is a domestic violence shelter in Overland Park. As the only domestic violence shelter in Johnson County, and the largest in the state of Kansas, Safehome strives to break the cycle of domestic violence and partner abuse for victims and their children in our community. You can help Safehome execute their important mission by donating an item

from the list below; just leave donations in the Weekday Entrance bin anytime during July. *Please note all items must be new, and toiletries must be full-sized.*

- new hand & body towels
- toilet paper
- paper towels
- new pillows
- new twin-sized comforters
- new twin-sized sheet sets
- shower curtains + rings
- diapers (size 5 & 6)
- small laundry baskets
- full sized shampoo, conditioner, body wash & hand soap
- deodorant
- hairbrushes
- small trash cans
- plastic cutlery
- disposable plates/bowls

GENEROSITY

GENEROSITY TEAM JULY UPDATE — WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS: As early July has arrived, the Generosity Team would like to recognize the faithful generosity and commitment of the members. Just as stirring, we are at 62.4% of submitted pledges and 45.4% of rollover pledges have been received. Our July bracket numbers show significant increases in the % fulfilled in the last quarter! Our giving total has reached \$61.5% of our budget! We ask everyone to please continue keeping up with summer giving and buck the summer slack off giving trend. **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	July 8 th
0-25% fulfilled	76	21
26-50% fulfilled	20	54
51-75% fulfilled	1	14
76-100% fulfilled	17	25
\$603,174	\$214,344	\$376,320

Rollover Pledges (16)	March 31st	July 8 th
0-25% fulfilled	10	5
26-50% fulfilled	5	5
51-75% fulfilled	0	4
76-100% fulfilled	1	2
\$34,662	\$6,668	\$15,731

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.

HELP WANTED: Would you like to help Grace Covenant stride into Its future? Our Generosity Team meeting date is currently the second Tuesday and only one hour, usually after your kids are in bed (8:30pm). Participation by Zoom is available. Once a month, the Team meets to review pledge fulfillment. Quarterly we meet with the Finance Team. Come share your ideas and

dreams! Our pledge drive planning begins in July and culminates in November. Please contact Rev. Karen Wright or Jane Knoche for more information.

Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church
11100 College Blvd, OPKS 66210
gpc.org