



## GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship — August 31, 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:** Melanie Townsend

**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 (Designated 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.):** E-mail both [darktrainfilms@gmail.com](mailto:darktrainfilms@gmail.com) & [gcpc.media@gmail.com](mailto:gcpc.media@gmail.com).

*“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**

**Cancer Treatment:** Harold Farren, Tom Jennings, Mary Ann Weyforth

**Ageing 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.**

**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, Independence, MO; Trinity Presbyterian Church, Independence, MO

(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**

**THE QUILTS ON DISPLAY IN THE SANCTUARY TODAY** are provided by the Piecemakers group. One of our projects is assembling quilts from donated fabrics. Larger quilts are hand-tied and go to Uplift. Smaller quilts are donated to Linus Project, a nonprofit that provides blankets for children 0 to 18 who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need. If you would like to participate (no sewing skills required!) or donate fabric for any of our projects, please contact Donna Heer at [taxdheer@gmail.com](mailto:taxdheer@gmail.com) or 913-485-5812.

**WORSHIP IN THE PARK:** Join us for worship on Sunday, September 7, 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 to 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.

**RSVP FOR “STEWARDSHIP STORIES & SCRAMBLED EGGS”** Join us for a joyful and meaningful morning of fellowship, storytelling, and inspiration at our Generosity Town Hall on Sunday, September 14, following worship in Heartland Hall. We’ll enjoy a delicious brunch together and explore how your giving supports the heart of our ministry: missions, staff, programs, outreach,

in the place we call home. Through shared stories, scripture and prayer, we'll reflect on how generosity takes root and grows. 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. We need a headcount to order food — RSVP by September 7 at [gcpc.org/eggs](http://gcpc.org/eggs).

**SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR ANNUAL FALL BBQ POTLUCK** on Saturday, October 4, 5-7pm. We are giving our generous grillers a break this year, and we will be providing pulled BBQ pork (hot dogs for the kids). Bring your favorite side dish or dessert to share. Please plan to bring your own reusable or compostable products for your tableware. The Dixieland Band will once again bless us with great music. A goodwill donation will be collected to support The Renewed Hope Food Pantry. Sign-ups will be available before and after church, starting on September 14! "Let the good times roll!"

**WEEKEND CRAFTERS FALL WORKSHOP** — GCPC Weekend Crafters will be hosting a Fall Workshop on October 3, 6–8pm in Heartland Hall. We welcome Katee Smith with The Barefoot Builder who will lead us through creating cute winter trees made of wood that measure 32" tall x 16" wide. Katee will assemble the trees for us ahead of time and we will be painting the trees at the workshop. Costs and registration can be found at [gcpc.org/crafters](http://gcpc.org/crafters). Registration ends Friday, September 23 at 10pm. *Invite a friend for a fun crafting evening out!*

**RSVP FOR OUR INTERGENERATIONAL FRIENDSHIP BRACELET PARTY** on **Saturday, November 15, 1–3:30pm** in Heartland Hall. Enjoy an afternoon of fun, creativity and fellowship hosted by the Weekend Crafters Group. Open to all friends and family of GCPC members! No experience necessary. You will need to bring your own supplies, and a plate of cookies to share. FULL DETAILS and RSVP link at [gcpc.org/friendship](http://gcpc.org/friendship).

## ADULT

**NO ADULT EDUCATION THIS WEEK:** Because of other scheduled church events, there will be no adult education classes this week. We're excited to begin our fall session on Sunday, September 21, with two engaging class options:

- Topical Class — Exploring current events that affect our church and community.
- Lectionary Bible Study — A weekly study of the PCUSA lectionary, including reflections on the sermon.

We look forward to expanding our adult education offerings this fall as we grow together in faith and encourage one another in our spiritual journeys. If you have any questions or suggestions, please reach out to Kevin Johnson, Adult Ministry Team moderator.

**THE AS THE PAGE TURNS BOOK GROUP** will meet September 3 at 1:30pm in Room 3 at the church. Books will be discussed and selected for the year.

**PAGETURNERS IS KICKING OFF A NEW YEAR** with our annual salad supper on September 4, 6:30pm at Jan Cumming's house (9815 Broadmoor St.). Please bring an appetizer, salad or dessert to share, or just bring yourself! Our September book is *The Next Ship Home* by Heather Webb.

Please RSVP to Jan at [cjan1950@gmail.com](mailto:cjan1950@gmail.com), 913-269-4164 or GCPC PageTurners page on FB. All are welcome! Please come even if you haven't read the book.

## CHILDREN

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY:** Regular Sunday programming resumes September 14.

## MISSION

**KAIROS KLUES:** *Be sure to take a look at the bulletin board outside Heartland Hall for more information.*

- **PEACE** — CALL TO ACTION — MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD! "Lamenting Increased Militarism On Our City Streets" <https://hubs.ly/Q03CXlzc0> #PCUSA #Advocacy #Peace
- **JUSTICE** — October 12, Crop Walk: sign-ups coming soon! Hunger in our community is growing with the many funding changes. Check out more information on the ReNewed Hope Food Pantry and how YOU can make a difference (no matter how small) in alleviating hunger with other GCPC members. (Contact Knute Rosche for details)
- **ENVIRONMENT** — Last weeks of early registration pricing! PEC Conference, Fernduff Conference Center (outside Little Rock), October 8–11, "Sacred Creation: Justice Flows Down Like Water." United Nations court rules countries have duty to limit greenhouse emissions: "The United Nations' highest judicial body ruled Wednesday that nations have a "duty" to prevent environmental harm and are obliged to limit planet-warming greenhouse gas emissions." Write your legislators TODAY!  
[https://actionnetwork.org/letters/tell-your-representative-save-the-epa?clear\\_id=true](https://actionnetwork.org/letters/tell-your-representative-save-the-epa?clear_id=true)

**AUGUST DONATION PARTNER — CROSS-LINES:** 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  
dish soap

**AUGUST COMMUNION OFFERING RECIPIENT — HABITAT FOR HUMANITY KC:** 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 is focused on affordable housing, because safe and stable homes free families and individuals from instability, stress, and fear — encouraging self-reliance and confidence. 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.

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES CONTINUE AT RENEWED HOPE FOOD PANTRY:** ReNewed Hope makes a significant impact for good in our community by helping solve the problem of food insecurity. Many GCPC members have already volunteered at ReNewed Hope, and food donations may always be left in the bin in the Weekday Entrance. The pantry has volunteer opportunities on Sunday afternoons, Tuesday mornings, and Friday evenings. Please check out their website for more information: <https://renewedhopefoodpantry.org/>

**GENEROSITY**

**GENEROSITY FULFILLMENT AUGUST UPDATE — GENEROSITY THROUGH THE GENERATIONS:** Here is our Generosity fulfillment for Grace Covenant’s pledges through July 2025. The Generosity Team is delighted to share our 2025 fulfillment numbers as of August 5. We have received 61% of our total pledges and 58% of this 2025 year has gone by us. Often our summer giving drops due to travel, vacation and absences; so, it very refreshing to see everyone’s summer commitment so strong. There is a slight revision in our pledge total due to some members having to decrease their pledge amount. We certainly understand and recognize the value of their update. **We continue to appreciate everyone who has contributed to Grace Covenant.** Here is our progress shown by numbers of pledges:

<i>Submitted Pledges (135)</i>	<i>March 31st</i>	<i>June 6th</i>	<i>August 5th</i>
<i>0-25% fulfilled</i>	98	56	38
<i>26-50% fulfilled</i>	18	51	27
<i>51-75% fulfilled</i>	4	6	42
<i>76-100% fulfilled</i>	12	12	28
<i>\$722,179</i>	<i>\$226,719</i>	<i>\$324,383</i>	<i>\$442,532</i>

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.

Our Generosity team meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 8:30pm, in person or by Zoom. We are always glad to have new team members. The current team: Eileen Thomson, Jane Knoche, Rev. Karen Wright, Keith Langabee, and Kim Krueger. We are planning our Stewardship Stories and Scrambled Eggs on Sunday September 14. Mark this date on your calendar! Please contact Eileen if you are interested — we have room for you!



**GRACE COVENANT**  
 PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
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 Phone (913) 345-1256 ♦ [www.gcpc.org](http://www.gcpc.org)

# Upcoming Events and Services

*(Save these dates)*

## **Labor Day - Office Closed**

Monday, September 1

## **Worship in the Park**

Meadowbrook Park (91st & Nall)  
Grand Pavilion (SE Corner) Prairie Village  
*(Lunch following)*  
Sunday, September 7, 9:30am

## **Generosity Town Hall**

**Stewardship Stories & Scrambled Eggs**  
"Sharing a meal, sharing our mission"  
*(Brunch following worship)*  
Sunday, September 14, 10:30am  
RSVP by September 7 at [gcpc.org/eggs](http://gcpc.org/eggs)

## **Weekend Crafters Mini-Retreat**

Friday, October 3, 6-8pm  
Details and Registration  
at [gcpc.org/crafters](http://gcpc.org/crafters)

## **Fall BBQ w/Dixieland Band**

Saturday, October 4, 5pm

## **World Communion Sunday**

Sunday, October 5, 9:30am

## **CROP Walk**

October 12, 2pm

## **Trunk or Treat**

Sunday, October 26, 11:45am-1pm

## **Intergenerational**

### **Friendship Bracelet Making Party**

Saturday, November 15, 1-3:30pm  
Heartland Hall

RSVP at [gcpc.org/friendship](http://gcpc.org/friendship)

## **A Christmas Exclamation!**

Sunday, December 7, 6pm

## **The Longest Night**

Sunday, December 21, 7pm

## **Christmas Eve Worship**

Wednesday, December 24, 5pm and  
8pm

## **Bingo Night**

Friday, January 23, Time TBA

## **Trivia Night**

Saturday, April 18, Time TBA



**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)