



GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DREAM. HOVER. LISTEN.

GRACE NOTES

September 2026
Vol 44, Nbr 9

God draws us together as a welcoming and faithful community, attentive to the Spirit's leading, to worship with joy, grow as disciples, and share our gifts in service to God and neighbor.

With gratitude for where we have been and hope for where God is leading us, we are sent to serve Christ in the world—extending Christ's love, strengthening community, and living out the gospel through lives of grace, justice, and compassion.

11100 College Blvd.
Overland Park, KS 66210
913-345-1256
office@gcpc.org
gcpc.org

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

Drawn In: Deeper into God's Love

Grace and peace to you, and how in the world is it already September! Sunday school and fellowship are back and going, the picnic is coming up on September 13, and we will bring the sermon series "Drawn In" to a close. Over the past several weeks, we've explored what it means to be drawn into the very heart of God:

- God Dreams — the creative imagination and hope of our Creator
- God Hovers — the nearness of the Spirit over the deep
- God Takes Risks — the vulnerability of a God who creates in love
- God Listens With Us — the God who is present and attentive to our lives

As we bring this series to a close, we're reminded of the risk inherent in creation itself, and of the extravagant love God has poured out on each of us. Join us as we look to where God calls us deeper still, to be co-creators with God.

I recently came across a quote by Henri Nouwen that fits with our sermon series:

"Our calendars are filled with appointments, our days and weeks filled with engagements, and our years filled with plans and projects. There is seldom a period in which we do not know what to do, and we move through life in such a distracted way that we do not even take the time to wonder if any of the things we think, say, or do are worth thinking, saying, or doing. We simply go along with the many 'musts' and 'oughts' that have been handed on to us..."

As this series closes, may the words of Henri Nouwen be an invitation to slow down and let ourselves be drawn in once more — not by our own doing, but by the God who dreams over us, hovers near us, risks for us, and listens with us.

Grace and Peace, Pastor Karen

Holy Smokes!! It's Chili Time!!

GCPC Chili Cook-Off, Saturday, October 17, 5:30–7:30pm
GCPC Heartland Hall

Do you make the best homemade chili in town? Now's your chance to prove it!

Join us for the GCPC Chili Cook-Off and bring your favorite chili recipe to compete for bragging rights and prizes! Stir up your favorite recipe and join the fun. Whether your chili is mild, spicy, smoky, or loaded with secret ingredients, we want to taste it!

Not entering the contest? Come hungry! Sample a variety of delicious homemade chilis, vote for your favorite, and enjoy a fun evening of fellowship.

Bring your appetite, your family, and your best chili—we can't wait to see who takes home the title of GCPC Chili Cook-Off Champion!

Watch for more information in the weeks ahead.



Worship in the Park

Sunday, September 13, 9:30am
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. **Volunteers are needed** to help deacons take items (*tables, orange beverage containers, compostable buckets, trash bucket*) to picnic and return to GCPC (*large SUV's or trucks would be helpful!*).



World Communion Sunday on October 4

In John 17:20–21 Jesus prayed for our unity so that we would be a witness to the reality of God's love for all people.

Did you know that World Communion Sunday was first celebrated in 1933? It was conceived by Dr. Hugh Thomson Kerr at Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to foster hope and unity. It was adopted by the denomination in 1936. And in 1940, during WW2, it was promoted globally by the Federal Council of Churches to symbolize spiritual solidarity. Today, the observance of World Communion Sunday promotes global Christian unity, interconnectedness and peace across different nations, languages and denominations during times of crisis.

If you know of someone that might be looking for a place to celebrate World Communion, invite them to come celebrate our commitment to unity on October 4. All are welcome at our table.



21st Annual GCPC Golf Scramble & Fundraiser

Join us for a fun afternoon on the course while supporting the Baker/Reynolds Scholarship Fund, which helps provide opportunities for GCPC youth. This annual event honors longtime GCPC youth supporters Larry Baker and Reggie Reynolds. **The scramble takes place Sunday, September 20, with the first tee time at 1pm at Falcon Valley Golf Course in Lenexa.** The 9-hole scramble is \$100 per golfer, which includes green fees, a riding cart, prizes, and a donation to the scholarship fund.

Register by September 13 by submitting your entry form and \$100 payment to Bill Turner or enter online at gcpc.org/scramble or use the QR code below. Golfers may request their preferred playing partners. An optional lunch special featuring a cheeseburger or grilled chicken sandwich, chips, and a drink is available for approximately \$12.

Not a golfer? You can still support the Baker/Reynolds Scholarship Fund with a donation. Questions or registration: Bill Turner at 913-515-5994 or 99wdturner@gmail.com.



Clerks Corner

Since we seated new Session members in June, we started our August meeting with a one-hour mini-retreat prior to our business meeting. We talked about how we all see the church from different perspectives and how our role as a Session is to work together to see the whole picture, as well as ways that we can do that.

During our Team reports, we talked about ways that we can help facilitate coordination between different teams. The Sunday School year is off to a great start, but additional volunteers will be needed as the year goes on - talk to the Children's Team or Youth team if you'd like to know more.

The Facilities team continues to tackle a variety of projects around the building, from security to carpet. The Session approved a motion which created a Kitchen Coordinator and sub-team under the umbrella of the facilities team. Currently, Eileen Thomson has been coordinating kitchen issues (thank you Eileen!!!) A task force has identified several other essential roles at the church which are not formally under the auspices of a Session-level team. Resolving all of those stray roles will take significant effort; as the year goes on we will consider the most appropriate way to tackle them. If you are interested in being part of such an effort, please contact Paul Bruns or Melanie Townsend.

The Worship Team is moving some things around in the concourse and the sanctuary to improve movement and better define the sanctuary as a sacred space. Overgrown plants are being gradually removed from the front of the sanctuary AND we look forward to welcoming acolytes in worship during Advent this year.

Recently several outside groups have asked to use our building; most are either affiliated with a religious organization (i.e. a Methodist youth group from Salina) or have a connection to a GCPC member (or both). If you happen to be in the building when one of these groups is present, please welcome them.

We continue to embrace the energy at Grace Covenant while being cognizant of the potential for volunteer burnout. That said, we are embracing the things that are going well and leaning into their energy and hope you will do that with us. If you have any concerns, please talk to a Session member.

— Melanie Townsend, Clerk of Session



A Little Construction, A Big Difference!

You may have noticed a few changes in our choir loft area recently. We recently completed a small construction project designed to make our music space safer, more functional, and more flexible.

According to Patrick O'Halloran, Director of Music Ministries, a 45-degree angled cut was made into the loft so the organ console could sit flush with the platform and move closer to the window. While it may seem like a small change, the impact is significant. The project provides safer and cleaner cord management, improves traffic flow, and creates more room for choir members and instrumentalists. It also offers additional space for orchestra and larger musical works, greater flexibility for future musicals and dramatic presentations, and a more consistent home for our praise team and piano.

These are the kinds of improvements you might not notice right away, but they help create a space that can better support the many different ways music enriches worship at Grace Covenant.

A big thank-you to everyone who helped make this project possible and who helped create a space that will serve our congregation for years to come. Same beautiful music space—now with even more possibilities!

MUSIC MINISTRY

Music Leadership in September

September brings us fully into the rhythm of a new program year at Grace Covenant. Choirs and Handbell ensembles are finding their groove, Praise Team continues to help lead worship, our young musicians begin gathering again, and throughout the month we will hear from several of the instrumentalists who help make the musical life of GCPC so wonderfully varied.

September 6: Chancel Choir begins September with *Take My Life and Let It Be* by Kurt Kaiser, a familiar prayer of dedication that fits beautifully as we settle into another season of worship, learning, service, and life together.

Ken Werne will also join us on dulcimer, sharing *Simple Gifts* and *Ash Grove*. The unmistakable sound of the dulcimer always brings something wonderfully warm and grounded to worship, and we are grateful that Ken is sharing his gifts with us.

September 13: Worship in the Park - On September 13, we take worship outside to **Meadowbrook Park** for one of the special Sundays of our early fall season.

The **Praise Team** will lead us as we gather around the theme of rest, with music including *Morning Has Broken*, *Greater, In Christ Alone*, *Come Thou Fount, I Need You More*, *We Are an Offering*, and *Sing Wherever I Go*.

There is something refreshing about stepping outside our normal surroundings and remembering that worship is not confined to a particular room; one of our favorite events of the year!

September 20: Chancel Choir returns on September 20 with Heather Sorenson's *Unexpected Places*. The anthem reflects on the surprising places in which God's grace and provision can be found, making it a thoughtful companion to a morning shaped by the Israelites' experience in the wilderness.

We are also glad to welcome **Mary Burnett on clarinet**, adding another beautiful instrumental color to the morning's worship.

September 27: Chancel Choir, Joy! and Celebration! - September closes with another wonderfully full morning of music. Chancel Choir will sing *Like a River in My Soul* by Tim Osiek, an ensemble favorite.

Our Joy! and Celebration! musicians will also be part of the morning as several generations of GCPC musicians help lead worship together. Sundays like this are a wonderful reminder that our Music Ministry is not really one ensemble at all, but a collection of people of many ages and musical backgrounds bringing their gifts together in service to the church.

Youth Music Returns

September also marks the return of **Spirit Singers** and **Spirit Ringers**, giving our middle and high school musicians another opportunity to grow, make music together, and take an active role in leading worship.

Our September rehearsals begin **September 20** and continue **September 27**, with additional rehearsals in October as we prepare for worship leadership on October 25.

Spirit Singers welcomes middle school singers and rehearse during the Sunday School hour.

Spirit Ringers, directed by Katie Hearn, welcomes middle and high school students and meets from **12:00–12:30pm in Room 1**. No previous handbell experience is necessary.

These ensembles are intentionally about more than preparing something to perform. We want our young musicians to understand that their gifts belong in worship and that they have a meaningful voice in the life of this congregation.

For more information about either group, contact Patrick O'Halloran at patrick.ohalloran@gcpc.org.

A Busy Fall Ahead

September is only the beginning of a very full fall for the Music Ministry.

Our singers and instrumentalists are already beginning to prepare for **All Saints Sunday on November 1**, when Chancel Choir will present Gabriel Fauré's beautiful *Requiem* during morning worship with guest instrumentalists and soloists.

We will also continue seeing our handbells, youth musicians, winds, Praise Team, Chancel Choir, and other musicians take their turns helping lead worship as the season unfolds.

I remain deeply grateful for the extraordinary number of people who are willing to share their time and talents here. Every rehearsal, anthem, instrumental offering, bell rung, song led, and quiet bit of preparation behind the scenes contributes to something much larger: helping our congregation pray, listen, celebrate, grieve, and worship together through music.

Thank you for continuing to make that ministry possible.

—Patrick O'Halloran, Director of Music Ministries

Good Faith Network 2026-2027 Begins Sunday, October 11

What is the Good Faith Network (GFN)?

A network of more than 30 Johnson County congregations, Christian, Jewish, and Muslim, who work together on justice issues in Johnson County. Grace Covenant contributes \$2,500 yearly to be a network member.

Justice Issues and Accomplishments to Date

- **Mental Health** - November 2025 opening of mental health crisis facility for twelve short-term voluntary patients
- **Homelessness** - April 2024 Johnson County stated goal to reach functional zero homelessness by 2029. Advanced LaQuinta Inn as homeless shelter but denied by Lenexa City Council
- **Affordable Housing** - February 2026 approval of fifty-home Habitat neighborhood in Lenexa by the City Council
- **Elder Care** – October 2025 elder care CAPABLE pilot program operated in Olathe to support community aging-in-place with home visits by assist persons.

What is Happening during 2026-2027?

- **Sunday October 11, 10:45am** - Listening Session at Grace Covenant to unearth justice issues that people believe need to be dealt with.
- **Sunday October 25, 2pm** - Community Problems Assembly of all congregations to vote on a new issue to work on.
- **Sunday April 4 2:00pm** - Solutions Briefing of all congregations to present researched proposal for dealing with the issue that will be brought to the Nehemiah Action.
- **Tuesday May 4, 6pm** - Nehemiah Action. Gathering of 2,300+ GFN supporters at Church of the Resurrection to advocate for the proposal with local officials who have the power to act.
- **Sunday June 13, 2pm** - Celebration of progress and victories by all congregation.s
- Potential interaction with Johnson County cities promoting proposed affordable housing projects.

What Can You Do?

Attend as many of the events listed above as possible, **but especially the two shown in bold above**. Additional opportunities would be:

1. Making a personal financial donation to GFN
2. Participating in the research that takes place from October 2026 through March 2027.



Weekend Crafters Pajama Party

Make plans to attend the GCPC Weekend Crafters Pajama Party on **Friday, October 2, from 6–9pm in Heartland Hall!** Wear your favorite pajamas, bring your current craft project, or simply come for the fellowship and enjoy an evening of creativity, laughter, snacks, and great conversation. Whether you knit, crochet, quilt, scrapbook, paint, bead, or simply enjoy spending time with crafty friends, there is a seat waiting for you. Enjoy a cozy evening filled with creative inspiration, wonderful fellowship, and tasty treats. Participants are encouraged to bring a snack to share. **RSVP at gcpc.org/pjs.**

Come as you are, bring a friend, and join us for a memorable evening—one stitch, scrapbook page, and laugh at a time!

Piecemakers Quilt Raffle Tickets

The Piecemakers are raffling three beautiful, hand cross-stitched quilt tops to support their ministry of comfort, warmth, and encouragement to those in our church and community. Purchase your raffle tickets, with proceeds supporting the purchase of batting and other quilting supplies by September 13. One lucky winner could receive all three quilts; for more information, contact Donna Heer at taxdheer@gmail.com or 913-485-5812.

FAMILY MINISTRIES (*Children and Youth*)

Sunday School

Our Sunday school program for the new school year has begun! Our 2-year old-12th graders are enjoying their classes, including a **NEW Middle School Sunday School**.

ATW is also in full swing. Our children ages 4–1st grade enjoy a children's worship service together as they learn the common components of our worship service. A big thank you to our teachers and volunteers for helping us get started with great success!

If you would like to sign up to help teach or assist, you can find more info out here: <https://gcpc.org/children-youth/youareinvited.html>

SMASH and Youth Group

SMASH is our monthly fellowship for our K-5th grades! This year's SMASH theme reflects the theme from our 2027 VBS Theme. We'll be learning from friendships we find in the Bible! Our first SMASH session started with a big, fun, water play celebration and good-bye to summer.

Children in Kindergarten through 5th grade/6th grade are invited to join us for some learning and LOTS of fun. **RSVP via our GCPC Children's group Facebook event or email gcpcchildren@gmail.com**, and if you would like to volunteer as a helper with SMASH, sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0A45A4A722A4FC1-smash1>

Youth Group

Youth meet at the same time as SMASH. For the first Youth Group of the year, we start off by helping out our SMASH friends with their water play activities! We have a lot of fun!

3rd Grade Bible Workshop

We'll have our annual Bible workshop on **Sunday, November 1**. The 3rd graders are invited to participate in worship, where they will receive their Bibles, then are invited to stay after Sunday school for a lunch workshop with their chosen beloved adult. This is open to any 3rd grader, as well as older siblings and anyone who hasn't done our 3rd grade Bible workshop before. Families with 3rd grade kiddos, please watch your e-mail for further details.

Trunk or Treat is October 25!

Join us for Lunch, Games and Trunk or Treating! We'll have a "normal" Sunday morning, including Sunday school. After Sunday school, we will eat lunch, the youth will lead us in some fun games, and then we'll all head out to TRUNK or TREAT together! Come in costume and let's have some seriously spooky fun!

We are looking for folks to host a trunk and a few other donation items. If you would like to help make this event a spooky success, please see our sign up genius here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0A45A4A722A4FC1-65301767-gcpc>

Children/Youth Events at a glance

- September 6** NO ATW during worship;
No Sunday school (Labor Day)
- September 13** WORSHIP IN THE PARK, then 4-6pm SMASH
- September 20** ATW, ALL Music Sunday school, First Sunday for our new Middle School Music Group (during Sunday school)
- September 27** ATW, JOY! And CELEBRATION! Singers in Worship, TOWN HALL for Sunday school, Youth bells start

Stewarship Town Hall - September 27 following worship

This will be a great time to gather and reflect for our congregation and enjoy a meal together. We'll have children and youth go through the food line first with their families and eat with them, then head out to their combined Sunday School classes: 2yo-5yo upstairs (preschool hallway) and K-5th downstairs. Youth who do not stay for the Town Hall will help with both combined children's Sunday schools.

Sunday School Registration

Please register your child for our 2026-27 school year.

This helps us serve your family.

Registration for Children:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfSrXYbPUtyNXVVCYKIFyj_bb5im5Cs3XYPj49J6UjDvmo0A/viewform

Registration for Youth:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSePyvJkvKEO308tBIDnB8atZO0L-9tVE9dMJJnC7VMXch_zw/viewform



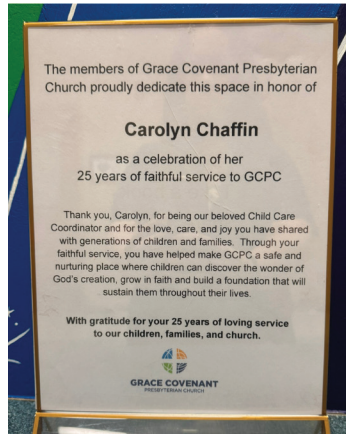
Stop By Carolyn's Corner!

There's a new special place at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, "Carolyn's Corner"—and it's filled with color, joy, books, imagination, and lots of love!

We are delighted to dedicate this space in honor of Carolyn Chaffin, celebrating 25 years of faithful service to GCPC as our beloved Child Care Coordinator. For generations of children and families, Carolyn has helped make our church a safe, welcoming, and nurturing place where children can learn, grow in faith, discover the wonder of God's creation, and simply be themselves. And what better way to celebrate Carolyn than by creating a beautiful corner just for the children she has loved and cared for?

Carolyn's Corner is a joyful reminder of the lasting impact one person can have on a church family. The smiles of these children—and generations of children before them—are part of Carolyn's legacy.

Thank you, Carolyn, for 25 years of love, care, laughter, and faithful service. We are so grateful for all you have given to our children, our families, and our church!



Youth Sunday School and Youth Group Off to a Great Start!

Our 6th–12th grade Youth Sunday School kicked off on August 16 with plenty of fun, laughter, and a little healthy competition! The morning began with "Hang Time" in the Youth Lounge, where students had an opportunity to get to know one another through creative Graffiti sheets. Our new middle school class also took on a challenging balancing task that required plenty of concentration.

Then all the youth joined in the action for a lively game of broom ball. Let's just say they take the cleaning very seriously! Later that Sunday evening, our youth put their caring hearts into action by helping with SMASH's Water Night. What a wonderful way to begin a new year of growing, connecting, serving, and having fun together. We're so glad you're here, youth!



What an Amazing Ministry Fair!

Heartland Hall was buzzing with energy, laughter, conversation, and connection during our annual Ministry Fair in August. It was a wonderful opportunity for members and friends of Grace Covenant to learn more about the many ways to connect, serve, learn, and grow within our church community.

A huge thank-you goes to all of our ministry leaders, volunteers, and teams who shared their time, passion, and enthusiasm. We also want to offer a special and heartfelt thank-you to our Care & Connections Team for organizing this year's Ministry Fair and helping create such a welcoming and engaging event. From worship and music to children and youth, mission and outreach, small groups, care and connection, and so much more, the Ministry Fair was a wonderful reminder that there truly is a place for everyone at Grace Covenant.

We loved seeing so many people stop by to ask questions, discover new opportunities, reconnect with familiar faces, and explore ways to share their gifts and passions. The wonderful turnout and interest in our ministries reminded us once again what makes this church community so special.

Our children enjoyed a Ministry Fair adventure of their own with a "Find the FRIENDS!" scavenger hunt. They explored the church searching high and low for stickers that spelled the word FRIENDS. After finding all the letters, they returned to the children's table in Heartland Hall to receive a special gift.

It was a joy to see the curiosity and excitement of our youngest members, and we are grateful for the Children's Team and the love they pour into the children of our church. Their care and creativity help make Grace Covenant a place where children and families feel welcomed, loved, and at home.

Thank you to everyone who participated and helped make this year's Ministry Fair such a success. Together, we continue to make Grace Covenant a place where everyone can connect, serve, learn, grow, and belong.



Generosity Fulfillment August 2026 Update

A Living Legacy: Called to Plant, Called to Grow

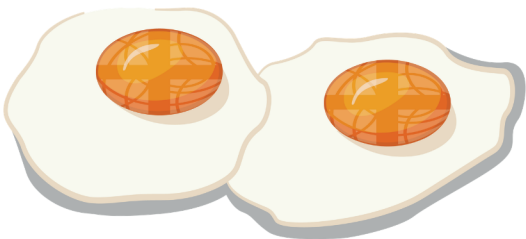
The Generosity Team is pleased to share our 2026 fulfillment numbers as of August 6th, 2026. We have received nearly 73% of our total pledges and only 58% of this year has gone by us. Often during our summer months our fulfillment drops due to travel and summer activities. This has not been true in the last three years! Grace Covenant has been blessed by everyone’s on time giving. We are appreciative of everyone who has contributed to Grace Covenant.

Here is our progress shown by numbers of pledges:

Submitted Pledges (130)	February 23rd	June 2nd	July 7th	August 6th	Amount Received
0-25% fulfilled	120	36	34	17	\$800.00
26-50% fulfilled	4	64	60	25	\$46,049.00
51-75% fulfilled	0	4	10	52	\$155,991.00
76-100% fulfilled	5	26*	20	35	\$299,600.89
\$689,012	\$226,719	\$370,248	\$384,846.07		\$502,440.8

Four groupings show giving progress and calendar relationship. Each pledge falls into one of these groups. **The asterisk denotes several pledges being overpaid.*

Our Generosity team meets on September 1 at 6:30pm by Zoom. **We are always glad to have new team members.** The current team is Eileen Thomson, Jane Knoche, Rev. Karen Wright, Keith Langabee, Tom Stroud , Darryl Prater, and Kim Krueger. Contact Eileen or Jane if you are interested — we have room for you!



GRACE COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

STEWARDSHIP STORIES & SCRAMBLED EGGS

**LET’S GET
CRACKIN’
ON SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 27**
FOLLOWING WORSHIP
IN HEARTLAND HALL

Let’s Get Crackin’!

Join us Sunday, September 27, following worship in Heartland Hall, for our annual Stewardship Town Hall! Enjoy a delicious brunch, hear inspiring stories about how God is working through Grace Covenant, and learn where the Spirit is leading us in 2027 under the theme *“Led by the Spirit. Growing in Grace.”*

Come share a meal, conversation, and your voice as we celebrate what God is doing and look toward the future together.

Please RSVP by Sunday, September 20 at gcpc.org/eggs.



**WORLD COMMUNION
OFFERING**

September Communion Offering: World Communion Offering

Throughout September, our Communion Offering will support the World Communion Offering of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). One of three special offerings of the PC(USA), the **World Communion Offering** provides opportunities to put our faith into action around the world.

This year’s theme is based on Micah 6:8: *“What does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God.”* The World Communion Offering seeks to reconcile God’s people at the Table of Grace through ministries of justice. Gifts support restoration and ministry projects in five areas: Racial Justice, Gender Justice, Peacemaking, Global Witness, and Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations.

Throughout September, please prayerfully consider making a gift to the World Communion Offering. Every gift, no matter the size, can help make a life-changing impact in communities around the world. Together, we can help bring the unity, justice, and grace of the Communion Table into the world.

We will celebrate World Communion Sunday on October 4, 2026.



Bid on a Little Piece of Ireland!

Support the Baker/Reynolds Annual Golf Scramble and Fundraiser by bidding on one of two beautiful black-and-white canvas prints generously donated by Ric Cummings.

- **Coastal Cottage** — Keel Beach, Achill Island
- **Reflections in Rowboats** — Ross Castle, Killarney National Forest

Each 28" x 24" print is valued at \$200, with bidding starting at \$100! (*Portions of photos shown in image above.*)

Auction will be held on Sunday, September 13, at the GPCP Worship in the Park Picnic at Meadowbrook Park.

Come enjoy the picnic, admire these gorgeous photographs, and bid for a great cause! For more information, contact Bill Turner.



Heartland Youth Back-to-School Kickoff

Heartland Presbytery Community Ministries hosted a "Youth Back-to-School" Kickoff event on Sunday, August 30, at Topgolf, bringing together youth groups from across the Heartland Presbytery. Our GPCP youth attended and had a wonderful time enjoying an afternoon of fun, fellowship, and friendly competition! It was a great opportunity to connect with other Presbyterian youth as everyone kicked off a new school year and another exciting season of youth ministry.

A Little Button, A Big Blessing!

During worship, we celebrated our children and students as they brought their backpacks forward during Children's Time. Each received a special button carrying a simple message of blessing and love—a reminder that they are surrounded by a community that cares about them and is praying for them as they begin a new school year.

And the blessing isn't just for children and students!

Teachers, college students, and anyone who carries a backpack are invited to receive a button, too. Stop by the church office to pick one up, or contact our Director of Christian Education, Emily Nelson Dixon, and she will make sure you receive one.

May these little buttons serve as a reminder that wherever you go, you are loved, you are supported, and you are blessed.





WORSHIP IN THE PARK

SEPTEMBER 13 9:30AM

Meadowbrook Park Grand
Pavilion (SE corner - 91st & Nall)

(Lunch following - Bring side to share)



GRACE COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WORSHIP.
FELLOWSHIP.
FUN.





GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Inclusive. Family Oriented. Welcoming.

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

gcpc.org



GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor, Rev. Karen Wright
karen.wright@gcpc.org ext. 15

Church Administrator..... Patrick Bell
patrick.bell@gcpc.org ext. 10

Director of Christian Education
Emily Nelson Dixonext.18
emily.dixon@gcpc.org

Finance Administrator.....Tara Hyder
finance@gcpc.org

Director of Music Ministries.... Patrick O'Halloran
patrick.ohalloran@gcpc.orgext. 20

Praise Team Director.....Carrie DeVries
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; gcpc.media@gmail.com

Praise Team Drummer Jill Endaya-Allen

Child Care Coordinator.....Carolyn Chaffin

Wedding Coordinator.....Kristy Shaw

Funeral CoordinatorCaroline Becher,
Ashley Jeffries

ELDERS

Sandy Adams	Laura Johnson
Johnnie Baker	Andrew Sellers
Gay Lee Ludwig-Bonney	Frank Slovick
Paul Bruns	Jaylee Soule
Chris Cabe	Eileen Thomson
Debbie Campbell	Melanie Townsend
Bob Dover	Session Clerk
Kevin Johnson	

SUPPORT STAFF

Deacon Moderator Ginny Wirtz

Operating Committee..... Paul Bruns,
Chris Cabe, Debbie Campbell, Johnnie Baker,
Melanie Townsend, and 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.....Gay Lee
Ludwig-Bonney

Worship and Music.....Debbie Campbell,
Bob Dover

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

Reach Out Ministry Unit Moderators
Kairos Andrew Sellers
Mission Sandy Adams
Welcoming Kathy Williams

Supportive Ministry Unit Moderators
Facility Paul Bruns
Generosity Jane Knoche,
Eileen Thomson

Finance..... Beth Lillian
Personnel Kevin Mason

Follow us on Social Media!

Facebook: facebook.com/GraceCovenantPresbyterian

Instagram: @gcpc_overlandpark • **YouTube:** @gracecovenant443

Worship Schedule

9:30am Worship

Streaming on YouTube, Facebook, gcpc.org
Visit gcpc.org for links

Upcoming Newsletter Article Deadlines

October 2026 Issue - Deadline September 18
November 2026 Issue - Deadline October 21