



Service of Worship — May 11, 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: Eileen Thomson

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.



CONTACTING STAFF: The main office is open 8am–4pm, M–F. To reach a staff member by e-mail:

- **Rev. Karen Wright (Transitional Pastor):** karen.wright@gcpc.org
- **Emily Nelson Dixon (Dir. of Christian Education):** emily.dixon@gcpc.org
- **Patrick O'Halloran (Interim Dir. of Music Ministries):** patrick.ohalloran@gcpc.org
- **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

Cancer Treatment: Harold Farren, David Schesser, Tom Jennings

Aging 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.**

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: Stony Point Presbyterian Church, Trimble, MO; Evangel Presbyterian Church, Urich, MO; First Presbyterian Church, Warrensburg, MO

(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

CALLED MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION TODAY, immediately following worship: There will be three items of business for the congregation to vote on:

1. Approval of the Slate of New Elders — We will vote to approve those who have been nominated and feel called to serve as elders in this next season of ministry.
2. Approval of Updates to the Church Bylaws — These changes have been carefully considered and recommended by Session.
3. Vote to Call Rev. Karen as Designated Pastor — Perhaps the most exciting item is the opportunity to formally call Pastor Karen to serve as Designated Pastor of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church. This is an installed position and will essentially create a contract between Pastor Karen and the Congregation of GCPC for the next 5 years.

This is an important time in the life of our church, and your presence and voice matter.

CELEBRATE OUR STORY — SHARE YOUR MEMORIES! As we mark the 40th anniversary of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, we're collecting stories, reflections, and memories from across the generations—adults, families, youth, and children, current and past members, and extended faith community, for a *"Special Anniversary Booklet."*

- What does Grace Covenant mean to you?
- What moments, events, or people made an impact on your faith journey?
- What special memories do you carry from your connection to GCPC?

Whether it's a short paragraph, a photo, a poem, a drawing, or just a few heartfelt sentences, we welcome your contribution. Children and youth are especially encouraged to share drawings or short notes! Please submit by May 26. Submit on our website at gcpc.org/memories, e-mail Kim Krueger at kimgoeckler@outlook.com, or drop off any drawings, photos to the church office. Your memories will help us celebrate our past, inspire our present, and build toward a faithful future. Thank you for being a part of our story!

RSVP FOR THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY WORSHIP SERVICE & BRUNCH: Sunday, June 22, 2025. Worship at 9:30am. Brunch to follow. Join us as we celebrate 40 years of God's grace and faithfulness. For four decades, Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church has been a beacon of God's enduring love, marked by worship, service, and spiritual growth. As we celebrate this milestone, we reflect with gratitude on God's steadfast presence and the faithful efforts of all who have nurtured our church community. We warmly welcome family, friends, and community members to join us in this joyful celebration! **Kindly RSVP by June 12** so we can plan for food and seating. RSVP here: gcpc.org/40th-rsvp

RSVP NOW FOR OUR 40TH ANNIVERSARY FRIENDSHIP BRACELET PARTY! Join us in Heartland Hall on Saturday, July 12, from 1–3pm. FULL DETAILS at gcpc.org/friendship. ALL are welcome for this intergenerational event. Invite friends, family, but please RSVP. Thanks!

VBS SIGNUPS AND VOLUNTEER INVITE: *Road Trip — On the Go with God* Vacation Bible School, June 2–6, 9am–Noon, Ages 4 yrs–5th Grade. Embark on a fun journey with God through the Bible! Head here to register and sign up to volunteer: <https://gcpc.org/vbs/roadtrip.html>

VBS DECORATION: VBS planning is underway. We've set up these working sessions and welcome anyone to join us. Please RSVP to Kristy Shaw or Christy Soule, it will help ensure we have supplies and plans ready for all the helping hands.

Decoration Prep:

Wed., May 14: 9–11:30am

Tues., May 20: 6–8pm

Decorating the week before VBS:

Tues., May 27: 9–11:30am & 6–8pm

Wed., May 28: 9–11:30am & 1–3pm

Thurs., May 29: 9–11:30am & 1–3 pm

Friday, May 30: 9–11:30am & 1–3pm

Sat., May 31: 9–11:30am and 1–3pm

Sunday, June 1: 12–2pm

ADULT

DURING THEIR SUMMER HIATUS, THE THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY GROUP is meeting monthly to discuss a book with spiritual aspects. Everyone is invited to join us. The meetings are all on a Thursday in members' homes. Here are the details:

- May 22 @ 9:30 a.m.: *One Thousand Gifts: A Dare to Live Fully Right Where You Are* by Ann Voskamp. Discussion will be at Sarah Byrd's house (7821 W. 115th St). RSVP to Sarah at: sbyrdks@gmail.com.
- July 17 @ 9:30 a.m.: *The Just Kitchen* by Derrick Weston and Anna Woofenden. Discussion will be at Glenda Johnson's house (11712 W. 108th St). RSVP to Glenda at: geojohnso@aol.com.
- August 14 @ 9:30 a.m.: *Stone Yard Devotional* by Charlotte Wood. Discussion will be at Cindy Schendel's house (11654 Grant Dr). RSVP to Cindy at: cschen56@hotmail.com.

If you have any questions, please contact Cheryl Johnson at agathatoo@gmail.com.

THE CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT IS LOOKING FOR HELP FROM THE WHOLE CHURCH to pull off our summer VBS program! Would you like to help lead kiddos, organize, serve snacks, decorate, donate funds, or something else? Sign up to help here: <https://gcpc.org/vbs/volunteer.html>, or check with Emily—she will find a spot for you to help out: (emily.dixon@gcpc.org)



MUSIC

PAST AND PRESENT CHANCEL AND EXALTATION! SINGERS: We would be absolutely thrilled to invite you to lend your voices in celebration of GCPC's 40th Anniversary during the 9:30am service! We can't think of a better way to mark this milestone by coming together and making music! We ask that you are available for at least one rehearsal, preferably two. Potential dates for you to consider: Wednesday, June 18 (6:30pm rehearsal); Saturday, June 21 (10am rehearsal), Sunday, June 22 (9:30am service and celebration — Call Time TBA). Contact Patrick O'Halloran, 913-530-6446 or patrick.ohalloran@gcpc.org for more information or to sign up. We are so excited about the possibility of singing with you all!

EMBELLISH HANDBELL ENSEMBLE — JULY 6: We are thrilled to welcome Embellish, a premier handbell ensemble from Western Michigan, for a special concert on the evening of July 6 at 7pm in the GCPC Sanctuary! There is no cost to attend, but a love offering is appreciated to help offset the cost of the ensemble's travel. Join us for an unforgettable night of inspiring music. You won't want to miss this!

CHILDREN

SMASH, our K–5th grade fellowship, meets Sunday, May 18, 4–6pm, in Heartland Hall.

NURSERY CARE — Available during Worship and Sunday School: We love seeing and hearing our children in worship, but if you prefer, our ushers can assist families to the nursery located in Room 22, in the children's wing. Worship bags are available on the bookshelf in the narthex for children who stay in worship.

AWAKENING TO WORSHIP (ATW) is our child-friendly worship experience for children ages 4 through FIRST GRADE. The children depart with leaders from the Sanctuary following the Children's Time in worship. Parents may pick up their children in Room 12 on the lower level following worship.

SUNDAY SCHOOL — 10:45–11:45am: Toddlers/Preschool is for 2–4yrs. Rooms 20/25; **4-year-olds — 1st Grade** meet in Room 26 (10:45am gathers for Joy! Singers and will be escorted to their Sunday school workshop); **2nd—5th Grades** meet in Room 15 (10:45am gathers for Celebration! Singers and will be escorted to their Sunday School workshop).

YOUTH

MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH meet in Room 19a. Our Youth gather each Sunday in the Youth Room which is in the lower level of our Education Wing at 10:45am.

MISSION

HONOR YOUR MOM/GRANDMA/SISTER/ANY SPECIAL LADY THROUGH NOISY OFFERING TODAY! Today, we'll collect a Noisy Offering destined for the Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering. Collected in the spring of each year to celebrate blessings in the lives of Presbyterian Women, the Birthday Offering funds up to five projects that are not included in ongoing General Assembly mission support, such as agricultural development, child care, community organization, criminal justice, drug counseling, economic justice, elderly care, employment training, homelessness, literacy, violence and women's concerns.

MAY DONATION PARTNER: HUMANE SOCIETY (IN PARTNERSHIP WITH VBS): We will collect the same items that children attending VBS in June will have a chance to donate — help them make a BIG pile of donations for pets! Leave your donations in the bin in the Weekday Entrance anytime in May.

- soft dog treats
- cat toys
- peanut butter
- rope toys
- paper towels
- Kongs
- hard rubber toys
- squeaky toys
- Nylabones
- medium/large towels

MAY COMMUNION OFFERING RECIPIENT — CROP HUNGER WALK: CROP Hunger Walks are community-based fundraising events held in cities and towns across the United States. They support the global mission of Church World Service, a faith-based organization transforming communities around the globe through just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement and disaster. Hunger is one of the greatest injustices facing our world, but it doesn't have to be this way. Ending hunger is possible in our lifetime. The Heart of America CROP Walk won't take place until this fall, but we can support the global CROP organization now. If you'd like to support the CROP Walk, use the "Communion" option in the online portal to make a donation,

or write "Communion Offering" on your check or envelope and donate it during Offering before June 1.



GRACE COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11100 College Boulevard ♦ Overland Park, KS 66210
Phone (913) 345-1256 ♦ www.gcpc.org

Upcoming Events and Services

(Save these dates)

Congregational Meeting

May 11 *(following worship)*

Church Office Closed

Memorial Day
Monday, May 26

Vacation Bible School

"Road Trip - On the Go with God!"

June 2 - June 6, 9am-Noon

Children Ages 4 yrs – 5th Grade

Volunteers can also register at link below

****Register children at gcpc.org/vbs**

(Sign up soon to get a t-shirt)

Church Office Closed

Juneteenth
Thursday, June 19

GCPC 40th Anniversary Celebration

Brunch Following Worship

Sunday, June 22, 9:30am

(Please RSVP your attendance)

*****RSVP SOON at gcpc.org/40th-rsvp**

"Embellish Handbell Choir"

of Grand Rapids, Michigan

Concert

Tuesday, July 8, 7pm

GCPC 40th Anniversary

Friendship Bracelet Making Party

Saturday, July 12, 1-3pm

Heartland Hall

****RSVP at gcpc.org/friendship**

Ministry Fair, Sneak-a-peek and Blessing of the Backpacks

Sunday, August 10, 10:30am

Worship in the Park

(Lunch following)

Sunday, September 7, 9:30am

Meadowbrook Park

Generosity Town Hall

(Brunch following worship)

Sunday, September 14, 10:30am

Fall BBQ

Saturday, October 4, 5pm

Trunk or Treat

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

A Christmas Exclamation!

Sunday, December 7, 6pm



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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)