



GRACE NOTES

JULY 2019 | Vol 37, N7

"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it." – Hebrews 13:2

Visitors delight us.

Our goal is simple: make all people feel welcomed, not overwhelmed. We were all visitors once and remember how it feels to try a new place of worship. Attend as often as you want. Visitors are welcome at all GCPC events, classes and small groups as well as in worship. We will always be glad to see you!

Join us for coffee in between our two services or grab a cup of coffee in Heartland Hall on your way to Sunday School class. Heartland Hall is located next to the Sanctuary. There are always people to visit with or things to learn about if you want to just hang out.

REAL FAITH REAL STORIES REAL GRACE

For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but a spirit of power, love and a sound mind.
- 2 Timothy 1 v 7

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

We're preparing for a summer of "youth-oriented" activities!

We wish that meant activities oriented towards us, but we still get the joy of taking part. Since the M&M (Mission & Music) Trip is such an important part of the life of this congregation, we wanted to share in the experience, and so Mitch and Charlie are taking part in the project. They will have hopefully arrived back home none the worse for wear by the time this newsletter goes out.

That gives us a two-week break and then it's time for the biggest youth event in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) – Triennium! Six thousand plus youth, advisors, and volunteers will descend on the Purdue University campus July 16-20, and despite the inevitable heat, it will be a great week. Miles McDonald is part of the leadership for our Presbytery's delegation and GCPC will have a good representation of youth as well. We (Mitch and Sue) are returning as part of the 100 Small Group Leaders who will take part in Triennium. It truly is a unique experience, unlike anything else in the PC(USA). Maybe that's why it takes three years of planning to put together each time!

We're going to squeeze some vacation time in this summer also, although part of it we will use to explore the area and see some of the sights right here in this region.

One of the things we're most excited about though, are some of the activities that our teams are planning for the fall and winter here at Grace Covenant. There will be some wonderful events for fun and fellowship, as well as unique opportunities to serve God that will be positively – joyful!

But even in the midst of all the summer fun, remember to take time to gather together in worship. If you're on the road, take time to worship with family or friends, or even try something new. And if you're at home, well... we'd love to see you!

Peace to all,

Mitch & Sue

Grace Creates Faith Stories

Summer Sunday School // 10am in Heartland Hall

Faith for a lifetime is learned through the sharing of stories and through enjoying creative activities together.

This summer the Children and Adult Ministry Teams are joining together to create an intergenerational Sunday school program for all ages. Each week children, youth, and adults will enjoy unique stories of how faith inspires us as individuals, families, and as a congregation. These stories will inspire us to explore deeper through creative activities for everyone to enjoy together. Come and join us.

(PARENTS: this program is designed for family participation. Parents must participate with their children. Nursery care will be provided for children under 3 years old.)

JULY 7

One Service Sunday
M&M Trip led worship at 10am

JULY 14

"Hidden Talents"
Led by - Julie Webb

Song, scripture and hands on activities to help all ages ponder what God has planned for their life.

JULY 21

"Journeys of Faith"

Led by - Mary Sue Thomas, Ann Shadburn, Harold Frye

What holds families together through life's journeys? For the Frye family, a strong faith instilled in sisters and brothers from their earliest ages formed bonds that remain resilient today. The core of this family, from parents who placed their faith in God, continue traditions that implant values in succeeding generations.

Photos from GCPC Trivia



JULY 28

"Rockin' Out Good News"

Led by - Chris Frye

Come explore how faith and art can come together to share joy, love, and all kinds of good news with others.

AUGUST 4

"Building a Legacy"

Led by - Harold Frye

When brain cancer claimed Jeremy Frye in 2008, his family quickly moved to fill their loss with something that he would have done himself. The strong support of Grace Covenant motivated his family to start an initiative to supply used musical instruments to children and youth who, otherwise, wouldn't enjoy the gift of music in their lives. The Music 4 Jeremy's Cherubs Foundation has grown in many ways, donating more than 2,200 instruments locally and around the world.

AUGUST 11

"Funday Sunday"

Bring a finger food to share, enjoy conversation and get to know your church family better. No lesson plan, just food and fellowship.



Music Notes

Looking Ahead to Music & Worship Events • July - September 2019



MISSION & MUSIC HAPPENINGS

M&M Trip to Coastal Bend of Texas

Friday, June 21 – Saturday, June 29, 2019 Our theme this year is "The Storm Is Passing Over"

We will be working with people recovering from Hurricane Harvey of August 2017

Home Concert, Sunday, July 7 at 10am

We worked with people and shared encouraging music with those recovering from Hurricane Harvey of August 2017.

There will be ONE SERVICE at 10am on Sunday, July 7th to hear our M&M'ers share their songs and stories from the trip.

An all-congregation lunch will follow the worship service!

Fried chicken will be provided but we need YOU to bring a side dish.

Check below to see what you can contribute: Last Name Starts With:

A to F: chips/dip G to M: desserts N to Z: veggies/fruit







All singers 8th grade – adults are invited to sing in the

Summer Choir

Sundays, July 21 and August 18 10:35am Rehearsal 11:05am Worship

Other Music Events

Sunday, August 4

KC Men's Ensemble will share their harmonious songs in both 8:50 and 11:05am worship. Having them sing in worship is always a highlight of every summer!

Sunday, August 25

Ministry Fair

Come into Heartland Hall at 10am and see what all of the music and many other ministries at GCPC have planned for the coming year, and how you and your family members can participate.

Music Ensembles Resume in September

Wednesday rehearsals begin on 9/4/19 Sunday rehearsals begin on 9/8/19

More information to come!



Youth Page

Mission and Music Trip

Our High School youth and adult sponsors worked hard serving the Coastal Bend area of Texas during this year's M&M Trip. We helped residents who suffered loss from Hurricane Harvey to rebuild homes or build new ones. We thank you for praying for us while we were away. Please view our M&M blog page to read about the activities and work during the trip. View at: gcpcmnm.simplesite.com.

Car Wash

On June 16, we capped off another successful annual Youth Car Wash. Thank you to everyone who lined up their car for the best car wash in the 913, and also for everyone who contributed financially to the Youth Program for the upcoming year! We raised \$742, which will go towards helping with youth events and trips.

Massanetta

In the middle of July, four middle school youth and two adults head out to Massanetta Springs in Virginia, for a week of spiritual growth, fun, and connecting with others. We ask for your prayers for this group, as they travel by van, approximately 16 hours each way.

Triennium

Every three years, the Presbyterian Church gathers high school age youth at Purdue University in Indiana for a five day conference. Eight high school students and Miles and Kyle, will be heading out with the Heartland Presbytery to serve as delegates. We expect this experience to be one that will challenge our youth, but will also serve as foundation to better their relationship with each other and with Christ.

Middle School Mission Experience

This year our local area mission trip for middle school students will take place on July 20–21. We will serve three or four agencies around the Kansas City area and our students will get a feel for some of the mission work that takes place every day in our neighborhoods. The group will go swimming and will spend the night at GCPC. So, it's not all work but definitely a great opportunity to serve.

Summer Events:

Mark your calendars now for the following youth summer events:

June 21-June 29 M&M Trip to Coastal Bend, TX July 7 M&M Home Worship at 10am July 10 Middle School Event July 15-July 20 Massanetta and Triennium Theater in the Park (Matilda) July 24 or July 25 July 26-July 27 Middle School Mission Adventure Youth Connect (7pm-8:30pm) July 28 August 2-4 Canoe Trip





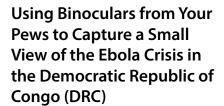






Presbyterians Aroun<u>d the World</u>

Pew Dwellers' Health Notes



This article includes specific facts about the Ebola crisis in specific locations in Africa. Part VI of the article, "Two Health Questions" will continue In the August issue of Grace Notes.

Remember that our Mission co-workers, Christi and Jeff Boyd, serve people in the complex environment of the DRC. These individuals and families may live in communities saturated with political conflict, war-like violence, and poverty. Periodic violent situations now play a huge role in the ability to identify cases of Ebola and provide treatment and care. Some of the key facts related to Ebola in the DRC include the following:

1. A current review of countries receiving disaster relief assistance in Africa showed that Malawi and South Sudan were recipients of continuing disaster support from the Presbyterian Church (USA). The Ebola crisis in the DRC may represent a different type of human suffering situation. On March 15, 2019, cyclone Idai caused extensive flooding and subsequent food insecurity.





- 2. Echo, the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operation, in response to the Ebola situation, published information on June 12, 2019, that included a description of Ebola. The report defined Ebola as an infection marked by fever, and spread through contact with body fluids infected with a filovirus. According to the report, filoviruses were in a virus family called filoviridae and could cause hemorrhagic fevers in humans and non-human primates.
- 3. On June 17, 2019, the British Broadcasting Company (BBC) reported the number of deaths from Ebola as 1,400.
- 4. On October 28, 2018, the BBC reported the killings of civilians and the abduction of children in Beni, a city in the northeastern part of the DRC. Subsequent reports emphasized that the violence against health workers, limited or suspended global viral containment efforts. The reports also stressed that community residents failed to recognize and accept the cause of Ebola and ways to prevent transmission.
- 5. According to the Uganda Health Ministry, the death numbers increased by two persons after two family members traveled from the DRC to the border country of Uganda.
- 6. Due to mounting international concerns over the spread of Ebola in specific areas of Africa, the World Health Organization (WHO) met with the International Health Regulations and Emergency Committee in Geneva, Switzerland. This organization provides expert technical advice. The expectation, from this meeting, is that the group will identify the Ebola crisis as a "public emergency of international concern."

Emerging facts about the Ebola situation in the defined area of the DRC has increased. The use of binoculars to capture details about the crisis may not be necessary.

Mission Notes

Thank you to our deacons and volunteers who have participated in the **KCK Hot Lunch** program this year. Thus far we have fed a total of 1,312 people from January to June in 2019!

Our **July Communion Offering** will be collected for **Catholic Charities**, which is working to support families that were evacuated from their homes during this spring's record level flooding of the Missouri River. Your donations will provide food, water, cleaning supplies and assistance to families who have lost nearly everything.

Our **July donation partner is Rosehill Elementary School**. We are collecting school supplies to help support families that are financially unable to purchase them. The following items are needed and should be placed in the box in the Weekday Entrance: crayons, markers, glue sticks, white glue, pencils, notebooks, rulers, folders, dry erase markers, sticky notes, and headphones.

Children's Team

VBS - a WONDERFUL Week!

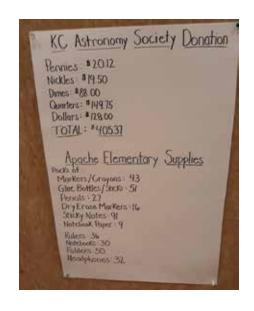
Vacation Bible School was a wonderful week of exploring God's word, God's world, and how we can be empowered to live with faith, boldness, kindness, thankfulness, and hope.

Each day we collected donations for our mission sites. This year we chose to give our offering to the Kansas City Astronomical Society. We collected \$417.77! The offering will support the work of people like Jerel and Kathy Williams who travel throughout the community teaching school children and others about space and the

We also collected school supplies for Apache Elementary School. Apache is an innovative school and includes many children from low income homes who struggle to have the supplies they need for classes. See photo for a full report of the VBS donations.

stars.

We can't say thank you enough to everyone who volunteered their time to make VBS a success—but we are filled with thankfulness so here's one more. THANK YOU!



A Great BIG Thank You... Bravo, Salute and Congrats!

After many months of brainstorming, careful planning, organizing, and working together, the final assessment is in: "To Mars and Beyond" VBS and Celebrating our Children fellowship and luncheon was a tremendous SUCCESS! How grateful it feels to belong to a church family that can see what a big impact our children have on the present life of GCPC. The many volunteers it takes to pull off a successful event need to be acknowledged for their faithful service; praise to you.

Thank you for your involvement in this year's celebration. By partnering together so much can be done. This FUN event was supported by Connections & Care, Children's Team, and the Welcoming/Marketing Team.

Photos to the right taken at Celebrating our Children Luncheon on June 9.



Summer Smash!

Sunday, July 21 4-6 p.m.

Put on your swimming suit, flip flops and shades and come for a water fun splash SMASH! (don't forget the sunscreen and a towel). Children K-5th grades are all invited. Bring a friend! Meet us at the Weekday entrance where you sign in. We can't wait to see you!





Clerk's Corner

Session met on June 17, 2019 in room 5, with Reverend Sue Trigger serving as moderator. In addition to the elders, Deacon David Steen and Reverend Mitch Trigger were present.

Consent agenda: The minutes of the May stated Session meeting and the June 16 congregational meeting, as well as requests to have one worship service on Sept. 22 and Oct. 20, were approved.

Team minutes: Tim Hayden reported on behalf of Mission team that IHN has requested that we continue our present role as a host church through the end of the year to give them time to find a replacement. Karen and Dave Pack have graciously agreed to continue coordination.

Personnel team: The Personnel team requested that Session approve a statement in its manual of hiring practices that in hiring church staff the team would always look for the candidate who best fills the position requirements. But, because it can sometimes cause position confusion when employees are church members, candidates outside of the congregation will be considered before, but not to the exclusion of, church members. Session approved the request.

Pastors' report: In addition to regular activities and meetings, Mitch officiated two memorial services and continued to work on IT problems while Sue was involved with VBS and moderated the congregational meeting. They both attended the calendar planning meeting and reported it was fun!

Deacons' report: David Steen reminded Session that the Nominating team will need to recruit four new deacons for next year. And, again, we heard Kathy Williams is doing a great job as "head" deacon.

Executive Committee report: With the approval of the new bylaws, the Executive Committee will be known as the Operating Committee. The committee decided that Session will not meet in July.

Old business: In light of discussion at the congregational meeting, we talked about the difficulty recruiting volunteers to serve on teams, or as elders and deacons – possibly because of long meetings in the congregation's past. Teams are encouraged to be good stewards of time. Harold Frye thanked Hilary Schmidt for serving as moderator of the Nominating Team. Harold is the new moderator.

New business: Session approved the baptism of Brody Watson Frye on Sept. 1, 2019, at the 8:50 a.m. service. Grandpa Harold will assist.

After sharing some joys and concerns of the congregation, the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m. and Sue closed the meeting with a prayer.

One Service Sunday 10am July 7

Please join us for the M&M Luncheon Sunday July 7th after worship.

Fried chicken will be provided but we need YOU to bring a side dish.

Check below to see what you can contribute.

Last Name Starts With: A to F: chips/dip G to M: desserts N to Z: veggies/fruit

Finance Team Update

As part of a connectional church, Grace Covenant pledges to support the operations of our General Assembly, Synod of Mid-America, and Heartland Presbytery through a per capita pledge of \$49.07 per member of Grace Covenant. This equals a pledge of \$24,780.35 for Grace Covenant's 505 members. We have collected \$8,191.48 as of June 16, 2019.

We invite each member to prayerfully consider giving his or her \$49.07 to offset this expense in GCPC's budget. Thank you.

Pledge Update

Please catch up your pledge! As we go into the summer months, we typically see a decline in giving. BUT, the bills must still be paid. Please help us by making sure your pledge is up to date.

If you have questions about your pledge, you can e-mail Tara Hyder, Finance Administrator, at finance@gcpc.org, or call her at 913.345.1256, ext. 121. Thank you!



























East Hill Singers

Life of the Church

Concert Update — East Hill Singers

After the concert on November 10, 2019, the East Hill singers (inmates and volunteers), spouses of the volunteer singers, Lansing Correctional Facility staff, and planners of the concert will dine in Heartland Hall. You can help select the main dish for this dinner meal by completing the following survey.



Congregational Suggestions for the Main Dish

DIRECTIONS: Circle the items you believe will make a nutritious and delicious meal. Send the list of your selections, via e-mail to goodss21@gmail.com.

LIST OF FOOD ITEMS:

ROASTED TURKEY ROASTED CHICKEN

ROAST BEEF COLLARD OR MUSTARD GREENS

STUFFED GREEN PEPPERS HAM **PORK TENDERLOIN BROCCOLI SWEET POTATOES**

BOILED POTATOES BRUSSEL SPROUTS

POTATO DISHES W/ADDED

INGREDIENTS

MACARONI AND CHEESE

RICE

PASTA

GREEN PEAS GREEN BEANS SPINACH

CARROTS

CAULIFLOWER



Stephen Ministry Update

A meeting was held in June with a group of members interested in rebuilding a Stephen Ministry program. We have a few trained Stephen Ministers, what we're lacking is Stephen Leaders. We will need at least two Stephen Leaders to lead the training of new Stephen Ministers and oversee the regular administration of the program with support from our pastors. It does require commitment, but the rewards are many. We would love to send one or more people to Stephen Leader training.

What is Stephen Ministry? Stephen Ministry is a one-to-one lay caring ministry. Stephen Ministry congregations equip and empower lay caregivers—called Stephen Ministers—to provide high-quality, confidential, Christcentered care to people who are hurting. It is an excellent ministry!

If you would like more information about Stephen Ministry or would like to volunteer to serve as a Stephen Leader or Stephen Minister, please speak with Rev. Sue or Mitch.

The Office of Ruling Elder Information and Training Classes

Sundays, July 14, 21, 28 at 10am, Room 5

"As there were in Old Testament times elders for the government of the people, so the New Testament church provided persons with particular gifts to share in discernment of God's Spirit and governance of God's people. " - Book Of Order G-2.0301

Imagine being asked to serve in one of the oldest offices of all the Bible, an elder! What a privilege and opportunity to serve Christ's church! We are so grateful for our new class of officers: Dave Stalling, Diane Schmidt, Susan Sutherland, Dave Minaschek, Josh Sutherland and Kat Mason.

We will be offering a class on the role and duties of a ruling elder with this new class of officers and want to extend the invitation to you, too. Have you considered serving as a ruling elder? Have you wondered what an elder does? Want to learn more? Come and join this class and find out more.

KAIROS

Thank you!

KAIROS Commitment to Peacemaking. Part 2 Matthew 5:9

We began a new series in Gracenotes last month identifying PCUSA programs the session of GCPC has committed to. The Peacemaking commitment outlines that we as a congregation work in eight areas of ministry. The three we highlighted last month were Worship, Prayer and Bible Study, Receiving the Peacemaking Offering.

The two we will visit this month in regards to the Peacemaking Commitment are:

Peacemaking in families and in community living: create opportunities for people of all ages to develop peacemaking skills such as conflict resolution, mediation or nonviolence training that will help them grow as peacemakers in their families, in the congregation and in the community.

Community ministries: work with and support ecumenical and interfaith partners and other bodies in their pursuit of social, racial, and economic justice, to confront racism and all other forms of prejudice, and to respond to people in communities, local, national, and worldwide, who are caught in poverty, hurt by unemployment, or burdened by other problems.

For more information on the PCUSA commitment - <u>www.</u> <u>presbyterianmission.org/ministries/peacemaking/making-commitment/</u>

Read about the PCUSA international peacemakers coming to teach and preach this summer. www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/peacemaking/international-peacemakers/

If peace, social justice, earth care or any combination of them appeals to you as a member of GCPC please join us and walk with the Kairos Team. We are not meeting in July but welcome anyone to contact moderator: Rick Randolph (rrandolphiii@gmail.com) or Rev. Mitch Trigger (mitch.trigger@gcpc.org) and join us Aug 11 at our next scheduled meeting.

Our Dear Church family:

Thank you for your prayers and your many other expressions of support during Tom's illness and again at his death. We are so grateful to be members of such a caring church. May God bless each of you.

—Glenna Barnett

We'd like to thank everyone for all the calls, texts, prayers, and visits during Tom's recent lengthy illness. It made a scary situation easier to handle and recover. We are blessed to be a part of a wonderful church family!

—Diane and Tom Hevener

Thank you for the expressions of condolence, following the passing of my mother. I am truly overwhelmed by the outpouring of support. Linda and I are very grateful to be a part of this church.

-Jerry McMaster

Shout out and thanks to Patrick Bell for his assistance in setting up and taking down the "One Service Sunday" flag banners and our main banners that are facing College Boulevard. We really appreciate your help Patrick! It means a lot to us.

—Welcoming/Marketing Team

GCPC Trivia!

- 1. What liturgical calendar event was celebrated/observed on the occasion of the first service at "A New Presbyterian Church", later to be known as GCPC?
- 2. Where did Grace Covenant hold services before August of 1988?
- 3. Who was GCPC's first clerk of Session?
- 4. What are the six languages on the Peace Pole?
- 5. What is the origin of the cross we flower and "lift high" on Easter Sunday?
- 6. When did we add the East/South wing to the building?

Arsabic, Hebrew, Swahili; 5. Live Christmas trees from 1988; 6. 1992.



Inclusive. Family Oriented. Welcoming.

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gcpc.org







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Instagram: @gcpc_overlandpark

CELEBRATING GOD'S ALL ENCOMPASSING LOVE!

CHURCH STAFF

Co Pastors

- Office hours: Monday-Thursday Mitch Trigger, mitch.trigger@gcpc.org.....ext.18 Sue Trigger, sue.trigger@gcpc.org.....ext.15

Director of Music Ministries

- Office hours: Monday-Wednesday, Friday Rebecca Prater, rebecca.prater@gcpc.org... ext. 13

Church Administrator

- Office hours: Monday-Friday Patrick Bell, patrick.bell@gcpc.org.....ext. 10

Director of Youth Ministries

- Office hours: Monday-Thursday

Miles McDonald, miles.mcdonald@gcpc.org.. ext. 17

Finance Administrator.....Tara Hyder - Monday 8-4; Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday 8-12

.....Linda Dover Contemporary Music Coord. Donna Goeckler Contemporary Music Drummer......Daniel Cole Technical Director for Worship.. Miles McDonald Child Care Coordinator.....Carolyn Chaffin Kid's Day Out Director Kathy Connor Wedding Coordinator.....Lara Schesser Funeral CoordinatorMary Sue Thomas

ELDERS

Harold Frye Diane Schmit Tim Hayden Aaron Soule Cheryl Johnson Dave Stalling Josh Sutherland Terry Kolich Lynn Long Susan Sutherland Kat Mason **Nelson Townsend David Minaschek** Marcia Turner Julie Passett

SUPPORT STAFF

Deacon Moderator	Kathy Williams
Operating Committee	Tim Hayden,
Cheryl Johnson, Julie Passett, Diane Schmit	
Nelson Townsend	
Newsletter Editor	Kim Krueger
Prayer Chain	Cheryl Johnson
Presbyterian Women Moderator	Vacant

MINISTRY UNITS

Congregational Nurture Unit Moderators Connections and Care.....Lisa Feyh Worship and Music...... Sarah Evans, Barb Purvis, Anne Stroud **Education Ministry Unit Moderators** Adult Pat Collins Children Erin Frye, Angela Krug Youth.....Susan Sutherland Reach Out Ministry Unit Moderators KairosRick Randolph Mission.....Mikki Walker Welcoming and MarketingRosemary Gibson, Kim Krueger Supportive Ministry Unit Moderators FacilityMarc Feyh Generosity and Finance......Matt McBride

Worship Schedule

8:50am - Praise Team Led Worship 10am - Church School All Ages 11:05am - Choral Led Worship Childcare is provided during Worship.

Upcoming Newsletter Article Deadlines

PersonnelLinda Bridges

August Issue - Deadline, July 15 September Issue - Deadline, August 19