



**Service of Worship — January 14, 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 worshipping with us today.

**ELDER ON DUTY:** Mary Ann Weyforth

**HEAD USHERS:** Ashley Jeffries & Bert Benton

**HEARING ASSIST DEVICES ARE AVAILABLE.** Please ask at the sound booth.

**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:

- **Karen Wright (Bridge Pastor):** [karen.wright@gcpc.org](mailto:karen.wright@gcpc.org)
- **Rebecca Prater (Music Dir.):** [rebecca.prater@gcpc.org](mailto:rebecca.prater@gcpc.org)
- **Lindsay Callender (Youth Coordinator):** [lindsaymichelle0130@gmail.com](mailto:lindsaymichelle0130@gmail.com)
- **Patrick Bell (Office Admin.):** [patrick.bell@gcpc.org](mailto:patrick.bell@gcpc.org)
- **Tara Hyder (Finance Admin.):** [finance@gcpc.org](mailto:finance@gcpc.org)

*“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:** Pam Kelly, 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:** Maitland Presbyterian Church, Maitland, MO; First Presbyterian Church, Maryville, MO; Heartland Presbytery Stated Meeting – January 20th, at Shawnee Presbyterian Church.

(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 CHURCH OFFICES** will be closed Monday, January 15, in observance of MLK Day.

**THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION** will be held on Sunday, January 28, immediately following worship. Join us as we reflect on the good work we did in 2023, thank some of the leaders who coordinated that work, and elect new Deacons to continue leading us into 2024.

**B-I-N-G-O — BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!** The Care and Connections team will host an intergenerational BINGO NIGHT on Friday, January 26, 5:30-7:30pm. Pizza AND desserts will be provided. Please sign up for Bingo, on Sunday, January 14 or 21, in the concourse after worship, or call Patrick in the church office, 913-345-1256. We need a good headcount for the pizza! Hope to see you there!

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR OUR SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER** on Tuesday, February 13, 5:30–7:00 pm. Family and friends are welcome! If you plan to enjoy pancakes with us, we request your RSVP for our planning purposes. Please use this sign-up: <https://bit.ly/GCPCPancakes2024>. If you can help us with set-up, cooking, clean-up or donating a griddle, please use this sign-up: <http://bit.ly/ShroveVolunteer>

**FLOWER DONATION FYI:** Due to rising costs, our fresh flower supplier, Dalton's Flowers, has permanently closed. In researching other florists, I found the cost to be almost twice what Dalton's had charged us. Linda Mc Master, our permanent flower artist, has agreed to make more arrangements available for our special anniversaries. This is her gift to us. The \$30 donation for the permanent arrangements would continue to go to the communion offering. Thank you for your continued support in remembering the special occasions in your life, beautifying the sanctuary, and contributing to the communion offering.

**FEBRUARY GIVEAWAY!** Check tables in the concourse the first two weekends in February for "giveaway" items collected by the Facilities Team, as we continue to clean and organize various parts of the church building. (Items left after Tuesday, February 13, will be donated.)

**THE GARDENING ANGELS** are in need of a head gardener to take over organizing and to act as a contact person for the group. The responsibilities include contacting the previous year's gardeners to ascertain if they plan to continue and find out what plans each continuing gardener has for plants this year. Contact Liz Chandler, [11emchandler55@gmail.com](mailto:11emchandler55@gmail.com) or 913-522-4772, for more information.

**WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS PLEDGE UPDATE:** If you have not yet made your 2024 pledge, you may visit the Generosity Bulletin Board and pick up a pledge slip and envelope and fill it out, and then put it in Tara Hyder's office inbox. You may also go to our pledge portal <https://gcpc.org/about-us/donate.html> and enter it there! Tara always appreciates e-mails ([finance@gcpc.org](mailto:finance@gcpc.org)) or phone calls — leave a message. Please write yourself a note or tear this part of the bulletin/newsletter out for a reminder! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Dave Sutherland, Ryan Hussey, or Jane Knoche.

## ADULT

**TODAY, THE ADULT MINISTRIES TEAM** begins a five-week series on *Early Christian Concepts* led by Rick Randolph. Have you ever wondered how the Christian faith developed after the Book of Acts? What world conditions and ideas influenced the shaping of this new religion? What concepts were incorporated into official church dogma — and by whom? Please join us for adult Sunday school starting at 10:45am to discuss the topics of *Theological Authority*, *The Afterlife*, *The Messiah*, *The Trinity and Incarnation*, and how they intertwined into Early Christian doctrines. We hope to see you in person, or join us via Zoom. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83815237214?pwd=TVh4VWZldC9hbGJCL1k5dIVjWVlwUT09>

## CHILDREN

**THIS WEEK WE CONTINUE OUR ATW AND SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAMMING.** If you need more information, please check the children's bookcase outside the sanctuary for further details.

**NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, IS A SMASH SUNDAY.** K-5th/6th are welcome to join us from 4–6pm. Friends are welcome too!

## MISSION

**EACH MONTH GCPC DESIGNATES AN ORGANIZATION TO RECEIVE THE COMMUNION OFFERING.** You can see the list of organizations by month for 2024 [here](#); it's also posted on the Mission Bulletin board (just outside the Sanctuary doors closet to the sound booth). The Communion Offering recipient is also listed in the bulletin every Sunday. Any member can choose to give Communion Offering by either selecting "Communion" in the online giving portal, or writing "Communion Offering" on the check or envelope that you put in the offering plate.

Currently, many members give to one of the Communion Offering organizations outside of the month that is designated for it. For example, someone might give an offering for Rosehill Elementary in April, although the month designated for Rosehill is February. The many generous donations are much appreciated! Thanks as always for your kindness. However, receiving offering for a Communion Offering organization outside of the designated month creates a lot of work to track and direct those amounts correctly for Tara, our financial officer. To alleviate that burden, effective February 1, 2024, all Communion Offering received will be directed to the organization for the month it is received in. So to continue the example above, all Communion Offering received between February 1 and February 29 will be directed to Rosehill. If you would like to give to a Communion Offering recipient outside of the month designated for it, please consider giving directly to the organization. Mission team will start including information on how to contact the organizations directly in the bulletins. For any questions, please contact Mikki Walker at [michala.walker@gmail.com](mailto:michala.walker@gmail.com).

**SOUPER BOWL OF CARING 2024:** A GCPC tradition, the Souper Bowl of Caring is the championship of food drives! This year we're directing donations straight to ReNewed Hope Food Pantry rather than Harvesters. ReNewed Hope was founded out of the desire that no person in our community go hungry. Their mission is to feed the hungry and help our neighbors as God asked us in Isaiah 58: "... if you pour yourself out for the hungry / and satisfy the desire of the afflicted / then shall your light rise in the darkness / and your gloom be as the noonday."

Any nonperishable packaged food is welcome, but the most needed items are: *peanut butter, jelly, pasta, pasta sauce, canned fruit, canned soup, and crackers*. Please leave your donations in the Weekday Entrance bin anytime before February 1. Both Weekday Entrance bins can be used if needed!

**ReNewed Hope is also our Communion Offering recipient for January;** if you like to support them financially, use the “Communion” option in the online portal or write “Communion Offering” on your check or envelope. If you’d like to give directly to the Pantry, check out <https://renewedhopefoodpantry.org/donate/> for more information.

**UPLIFT KANSAS CITY** — Feeding the homeless in the Kansas City metropolitan area. A large number of Grace Covenant members help prepare hot casseroles to feed 60–90 homeless for the UPLIFT organization on the fourth Saturday of every month. UPLIFT is a completely volunteer organization that distributes hot meals and survival essentials to the homeless three evenings a week all year round.

Taking part in the GCPC UPLIFT process is easy. You can participate as little or as much as you would like each month. Each month GCPC members receive an email detailing volunteer opportunities and items needed for that month’s delivery. These items include casserole recipe items (canned soup, milk, butter, canned veggies, etc.) to help build our casseroles and donate items (coats, blankets, underwear, gloves, flashlights, etc.).

If you are on the GCPC UPLIFT distribution list then you can read the list and sign up to participate. We often have one or two Amazon listed items for “most needed” survival supplies so you can even participate from the comfort of your living room couch! A team of cooks prepare the meals on Saturday morning, and someone delivers the hot meals to the UPLIFT warehouse in Kansas City for distribution that evening.

In order to participate add your e-mail address to the GCPC UPLIFT distribution list. There are three options: 1.) Use your smartphone to scan the QR code below and fill out your name and email address on the web form; 2.) Sign the attendance pad in your pew and write UPLIFT and your e-mail address in the comments section; 3.) Contact Kevin Johnson, GCPC UPLIFT Coordinator at [krpj01@gmail.com](mailto:krpj01@gmail.com) or 913-602-4071.



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