



GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship — July 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 worshiping with us today.

ELDER ON DUTY: Mikki Walker

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, 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:

- **Rev. Karen Wright (interim pastor):** karen.wright@gcpc.org
- **Rebecca Prater (music dir.):** rebecca.prater@gcpc.org
- **Lindsay Callender (youth coordinator):** lindsaymichelle0130@gmail.com
- **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: Shirley Faulwell, Rick Haun, Karen Fankhauser

Cancer Treatment: 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: First Presbyterian Church, Clinton, MO; First Presbyterian Church, Corder, MO; Heartland Presbytery Commission on Ministry; Congregación Buenas Nuevas, Nuevo San Carlos (MQP)

(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

“WE ARE FAMILY!” ENCOREKC! FOUNDATION INVITES YOU to the summer EncoreKC! Chorus concert on Sunday, July 28, at 3pm at Village on Antioch. The songs presented are music that lifts us up and unites us. From classics like “Both Sides Now” and “There’s No Business Like Show Business” to “We Are Family” and other disco hits, you will relax and enjoy the music that brings us all together in community.

WORSHIP AND PICNIC ON AUGUST 4: *Join us for worship on Sunday, August 4, at 9:30am, at Meadowbrook Park, The Grand Pavilion, located at 91st and Nall in Prairie Village.* Worship will be followed by a potluck picnic. The main dish and drinks will be provided. Everyone bring a side or dessert to share. Come together with your church family for worship, share a meal with your covenant group, and savor the fellowship and beauty of the park. Remember to bring your own plate and silverware, and feel free to bring along camp chairs if extra seating is required.

“THIS IS GRACE” — NEW MEMBERS’ CLASS will be held on Sunday, August 18, following the worship service, at 10:45am in Room 4. The class is led by Rev. Karen Wright and is open to all. This is the best way to get an overview of the church. First-time visitors and long-time friends are encouraged to attend to get questions answered and to discover the exciting ways Grace Covenant carries out God’s work. There is no assumption on our part that you will join following the class. The class will include a discussion on the meaning of membership and “Everything you’ve wanted to ask a pastor but, have been unable to ask.” If you are interested, please contact the church office, 913-345-1256, or Kathy Williams, 913-485-1776 or kathykaskewilliams@gmail.com.

ADULT

THE FALL SESSION OF DINNERS FOR 7 OR 8 will begin in August and finish in November. If you have participated before, you know that meeting once a month is a great way to connect with other members. You have a choice of dinners in homes or dining out at restaurants. When you sign up, you will receive additional details about your group. Each group decides on the four dates and sets the times that work for the group. If you have any questions about how it works, contact Kathy Williams, 913-485-1776 or kathykaskewilliams@gmail.com. (Please respond by July 26 if interested!)

DURING THE SUMMER, THE THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY GROUP will meet in members’ homes for monthly book discussions. Everyone is welcome to join us — whether or not you have read the book. Remaining dates and books are below. Contact Cheryl Johnson at agathatoo@gmail.com if you have questions:

- **July 18 @ 9:30 a.m.** *Look for Me There: Grieving My Father, Finding Myself* by Luke Russert at Sarah Byrd's house (7821 W. 115th Street). RSVP to Sarah at sbyrdks@gmail.com.
- **August 15 @ 9:30 a.m.** *Sitting at the Feet of Rabbi Jesus* by Ann Spangler at Lee Mattix's house (11107 W. 132nd Court). RSVP to Lee at lamattix@gmail.com.

YOUTH

ATTENTION FAMILIES OF 7TH, 8TH, AND 9TH GRADERS! GCPC is starting to prepare for the Confirmation Class of the 2024–2025 school year. If you are interested in having your child go through the process of Confirmation this year, please e-mail Lara Schesser at lara.schesser@gmail.com.

MISSION

GOOD FAITH NETWORK CELEBRATION EVENT TODAY: Please plan to attend the Celebration for Good Faith Network today at 3pm at the Islamic Center of Johnson County (9005 W. 151st St., Overland Park). The celebration is where the Network recounts the story of the past year, and asks GFN members to make their pledges if they haven’t already. As with all Good Faith Network

events, anyone who is interested is welcome to attend, not just those are officially network members. Let Mikki Walker know if you need a ride (michala.walker@gmail.com), or if you have questions!

JULY COMMUNION OFFERING RECIPIENT: The Communion Offering for July will be directed to the Pentecost Offering. A gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and also addresses the needs of at-risk children. Forty percent of the Pentecost offering can be retained by individual congregations wanting to make an impact in the lives of young people within their own community. The remaining 60% is used to support children-at-risk, youth, and young adults through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

Astute observers will note that the 2024 Mission Calendar indicates that Pentecost Offering would be collected in June, and the July Communion Offering would be directed to the Presbyterian Mission agency. But the publicity in June accidentally indicated that the Communion Offering that month would go to Presbyterian Mission, so the Pentecost Offering is being collected in July. As always, thanks for GCPC's generosity and commitment to being the hands of Christ in the world!

JULY DONATION PARTNER: Safehome is a domestic violence shelter in Overland Park. Its core purpose is to provide a healing atmosphere where survivors of domestic violence can gain inner strength, explore options, and be empowered to live a life free of abuse. As the only domestic violence shelter in Johnson County, and the largest in the state of Kansas, Safehome strives to break the cycle of domestic violence and partner abuse for victims and their children in our community. Besides providing safe housing, Safehome also provides mental health counseling and legal services for shelter residents. Operating the shelter requires all the necessities of daily life for the women and children housed in it, many of whom leave their abusers with nothing but the clothes on their backs. You can help Safehome execute their important mission by donating an item from the list below; just leave donations in the Weekday Entrance bin anytime during July. *Please note all items must be new, and toiletries must be full-sized.*

- new hand & body towels
- toilet paper
- paper towels
- new pillows
- new twin-sized comforters
- new twin-sized sheet sets
- shower curtains + rings
- diapers (size 5 & 6)
- small laundry baskets
- full sized shampoo, conditioner, body wash & hand soap
- deodorant
- hairbrushes
- small trash cans

- plastic cutlery
- disposable plates/bowls

GENEROSITY

GENEROSITY TEAM JULY UPDATE — WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS: As early July has arrived, the Generosity Team would like to recognize the faithful generosity and commitment of the members. Just as stirring, we are at 62.4% of submitted pledges and 45.4% of rollover pledges have been received. Our July bracket numbers show significant increases in the % fulfilled in the last quarter! Our giving total has reached \$61.5% of our budget! We ask everyone to please continuing keeping up with summer giving and buck the summer slack off giving trend. Thank you, thank you, for the members who pay all or most of their pledge at the beginning, middle, or quarter of the calendar year, but **we are appreciative of everyone who has contributed to Grace Covenant.**

Here is our giving progress shown by numbers of pledges:

Submitted Pledges (114)	March 31st	July 8 th
0-25% fulfilled	76	21
26-50% fulfilled	20	54
51-75% fulfilled	1	14
76-100% fulfilled	17	25
\$603,174	\$214,344	\$376,320

Rollover Pledges (16)	March 31st	July 8 th
0-25% fulfilled	10	5
26-50% fulfilled	5	5
51-75% fulfilled	0	4
76-100% fulfilled	1	2
\$34,662	\$6,668	\$15,731

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.

HELP WANTED: Would you like to help Grace Covenant stride into Its future? Our Generosity Team meeting date is currently the second Tuesday and only one hour, usually after your kids are in bed (8:30pm). Participation by Zoom is available. Once a month, the Team meets to review pledge fulfillment. Quarterly we meet with the Finance Team. Come share your ideas and dreams! Our pledge drive planning begins in July and culminates in November. Please contact Rev. Karen Wright or Jane Knoche for more information.

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