



Celebrating 40 Years on June 22, 2025!

Join us as we reflect upon God's faithfulness throughout our church's journey.

GRACE NOTES

September 2024
Vol 42, Nbr 9

God gathers us in a welcoming community, with our curiosity and questions, to worship creatively, learn from God's word, share our gifts, and deepen our faith.

With grateful hearts and a spirit of adventure, we go to serve Christ in the world, sharing kindness with everyone, and working for justice rooted in God's love.

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

In-Person Worship and Online Worship every Sunday on Facebook and Zoom.

Visit gcpc.org for links!

ATW: Making meaning through story, wonder, and play.

One of the programs of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church is Awakening to Worship (ATW). This program is for children who are 4- First Grade. When they leave the Sanctuary following the Time for Children, they are escorted downstairs where they hear one of the stories from the Bible. A few weeks ago, I told the parable of the Good Shepherd during the Children's Time as a model. The stories are told following Jerome Berryman's "Godly Play" curriculum which is a Montessori based curriculum.

In worship this month, I am going to preach on the Bible stories that will be presented in Awakening to Worship. We will hear Creation, Noah's Ark, and The Exodus among the stories this month. Every time we revisit a story, we can find new meaning in the Living Word. The stories take on new meaning as we grow and mature. We are different every time we read these stories, no matter how often we have heard them.

Also this month, we are excited to welcome a new staff member! Emily Nelson Dixon will join us at Grace Covenant as the Director of Christian Education. Emily has worked in children and youth ministry for over 20 years and we look forward to her enthusiasm and expertise joining us in ministry. There is much ahead in the coming months and I look forward to what God is doing in our midst.

Grace, mercy, and peace, —Pastor Karen
karen.wright@gcpc.org; 913-345-1256, ext. #10

GCPC Annual BBQ & Potluck!

Don't cool breezes and BBQ sound good right now? **The GCPC Annual BBQ and Potluck will be held on Saturday, October 5, 2024 from 5-7pm.**

Please plan to join us and bring grilled meat or a dish to share—either a side dish (salad, vegetable, potatoes, etc,) or dessert.

You can sign up at the church services on September 15, 22, or 29 or call Patrick at the church office to register. We appreciate that Kevin Johnson has again agreed to organize the BBQ meats. If you are able to assist him with BBQ/grilling, please let him know. Mark your calendar now for a great evening of fellowship and food! — Your Care and Connections Team



Transition Process Update

In June, your Session met with the Committee on Ministry from Heartland Presbytery to begin laying the groundwork for the journey ahead. We are in the process of gathering people to join the transition team, which will work closely with the Session as we navigate this season of change.

As we move into the fall, you can expect opportunities to share your thoughts and hopes for our church's future. We will be sending out a survey and hosting small group conversations to reflect on where we are as a congregation, where we believe God is calling us, and what qualities we should seek in our next pastor. Your honest input will be invaluable as we discern together.

While it may not seem like the process is moving, we are working to ensure that the process is thoughtful and Spirit-led. The Presbyterian process is not designed for speed. It is designed for time to listen, reflect, and prepare for the next chapter of ministry at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church. Thank you for continued prayers and support as we continue this journey.

— Rev. Karen Wright
Interim Pastor, Grace Covenant
Presbyterian Church

Clerk's Corner

Session met on August 19 with our new class of Elders ordained and installed!

We spent time talking about our pastoral transition process - We realize that it seems like *"nothing has happened"* regarding the transition in a while, but that is about to change! Karen is assembling a transition team and hopes they can identify not just what GCPC wants in a Pastor but why those things are important to us. Stay tuned for opportunities for dialog this fall. Meanwhile, Session will be looking at our current Organizational Chart and making some updates and Personnel team will be reviewing their portion of the operating manual (other teams are encouraged to do the same).

We are very excited that we will have a new Director of Christian Education on staff in just a few weeks. Youth, Children, and Adult teams are excited to start working with her. (See article about the DCE on page 7.)

Another Generosity Town Hall is planned for Sunday, September 29 - we hope that all teams will be able to share their visions for what God is calling them to do in this place, at this time. Finance Team plans to meet with teams as they prepare their budgets to help streamline the budget and the budgeting process.

Worship in the Park was exciting and we enjoyed seeing people we don't see on a regular basis. If we repeat this, we might want to have some signage so other people in the park know who we are and what we are doing. Workshop Sunday will feature three different projects this year - watch for Signups in September. We held an Inquirer's class in August, which was well attended and we look forward to welcoming some new (and returning) members in September.

Thanks to everyone who helped make the Ministry Fair a success. It is always exciting to see how many different groups in the Congregation are engaged in different types of ministry. Planning for the 40th Anniversary is underway. Contact Kim Krueger if you have pictures you would like to share.

As always, if you have questions, feel free to contact me or any Session member.

— Melanie Townsend, Clerk of Session

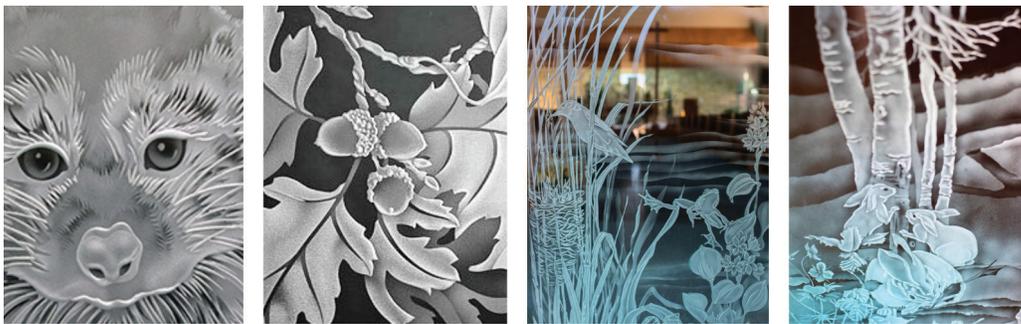
Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church: Beauty in the Cycles of Life

Kathy Barnard's "Beauty in the Cycles of Life" is a stunning set of 12 carved glass doors at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church. These doors form a 40-foot wall that captures the cycles of life through Kansas prairie flora and fauna. Commissioned in the late 1980s, the doors took nearly two decades to complete, with each door reflecting a piece of the landscape's lifecycle, from the growth of an oak tree to the intricate relationships between animals and plants.

Barnard's work began with the church's symbol, an acorn growing into an oak tree, and evolved to encompass a vibrant natural scene. The detailed carvings include an owl catching a mouse, dragonflies hovering over a marsh, and a serpent coiled in a tree. Each door stands as an individual work of art, yet together, they form a cohesive panorama of life, death, and rebirth.

Barnard's intricate glasswork, which she honed while working at Hallmark Cards, involves a labor-intensive sandblasting process. Her pieces now serve as a signature for the church, appearing on its website and materials. The doors symbolize the congregation's growth and interconnectedness, much like the oak tree in her designs. These glass creations not only beautify the church but also resonate deeply with its members, each finding personal meaning in the detailed scenes.

(Read more about the artwork by Kathy Barnard [on our website here.](#))



40th Anniversary Stories, Photos and Video

The 40th Anniversary Committee is in the process of gathering photos, stories, videos, and assistance in telling the history of Grace Covenant and we need your help!

Printed photos

The committee can scan your printed photos and return them to you. Contact Kim Krueger if you have printed photos to share.

Digital photos

If you have digital photos that you can share with us, upload them through the church's website at www.gcpc.org/40.

What photos do we want?

We are looking for photos that tell the story of GCPC and show our members and families. Everything from current to years past!

Here is a "general" list: weddings, baptisms, VBS, bbqs, special events, Easter, Christmas Eve photos from all years, mission trips, Sunday School, mission projects, small groups, Star Sunday, choral and bell performances from all years, members wearing GCPC T-shirts, potluck dinners, pancake suppers, trunk or treat...etc.

Thank you so much for helping us with this project!

Celebrating Our Faithful Journey

As we commemorate the 40th anniversary of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, we will gather under the uplifting theme of "Celebrating Our Faithful Journey." Anchored by the timeless words of Psalm 100:5, "For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations," this celebration reflects on our rich history, acknowledges our milestones, and rejoices in our growth over the years. Each month we will share stories about our rich history, and ask that you reach out to the 40th Anniversary Committee to share your memories.

40th Anniversary Committee Members: Co-Chairs Kristy Shaw, Christy Soule, and Kim Krueger; Jenny Stromberg, Kathy Williams, Mary Ann Weyforth, Sarah Byrd, Ginny Wirtz, Liz Chandler, Tim Hayden, Caroline Becher, Eileen Thompson, Jane Knoche, Vicki Peck, Cathy Nance, Chelly King, and Kevin Johnson. Volunteer to serve on the committee, or assist with activities throughout the year, by emailing Kristy Shaw at kristinshaw@everestkc.net.

MUSIC NOTES

MUSIC IN WORSHIP

September 1st – 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Organ led worship. Chancel Choir Anthem:
"Creation Will Be at Peace" by Anna Laura Page.

September 8th – 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Organ led worship. Chancel Choir Anthem:
"Know My Heart" by Benjamin Harlan.
Karen Kesler, soprano soloist.

September 15th – 17th Sunday after Pentecost

Praise Team led.

September 22nd – 18th Sunday after Pentecost

Organ led worship. Chancel Choir Anthem:
"The Mind of Christ" by Mark Hayes.
Rev. Karen Wright, trombone soloist.

September 29th – 19th Sunday after Pentecost

Organ led worship. Chancel Choir Anthem:
"O God Beyond All Praising" arr. Dan Forrest.
Joy! Singers (4s-1st grade) and Celebration! Choir
(2nd-5th/6th graders).

THESE MUSIC ENSEMBLES RESUME IN SEPTEMBER

Sunday, September 8th – 12:15-1:30pm – Room 1
Jubilation! Ringers (Intermediate 8th grade-Adults)
Kathy Bures, director

Wednesday, September 11th – 6:00-7:00pm
Charter Ringers (Advanced Adults) – Room 1
Chris Krug & Celia Nicholas, co-directors

GCPC GCPC Wind Ensemble – (8th graders – Adults)
Rehearsals Thursdays October 17th & December 5th
7:00-8:00pm
&

Saturdays, October 19th & December 7th
10:30-11:30am – Sanctuary

Play in 9:30am Worship Sundays,
October 20th & December 8th
Pam Kelly, director

THESE MUSIC ENSEMBLES HAVE ALREADY BEGUN

But there's still time to join!

TUESDAYS from 7:00-8:15pm
Praise Team (Youth & Adults) - Sanctuary
Vocals, Instruments, and Keys
Carrie DeVries, director

SUNDAYS from 10:45-11:05am
(at the beginning of Sunday School)
Joy! Singers (4s-1st graders) - Room 26
Emily Hussey and Hilary Schmidt, co-directors
and
Celebration! Choir & Chimes (2nd-5th graders)
Pam Kelly, director – Katie Hearn, assistant director
Angela Krug, accompanist - Room 15

WEDNESDAYS – 7:05-8:30pm
Chancel Choir (Intermediate - Advanced Adults)
Room 6/Choir Room
Rebecca Prater, director – Linda Dover, accompanist

*Please contact any of the directors or
Rebecca Prater if you are interested in
participating in any of the ensembles.*

We want to be prepared for you!



Good Faith Network

The Good Faith Network is an organization composed of faith-based organizations and individuals who seek to foster a more just society.

This fall the Good Faith Network will be holding Listening Sessions for members and potential members to hear about how we as a community perceive and understand justice in fostering an equitable society.

Following the Listening Sessions, the Network is able to identify key issues important to its membership. These issues become the focus of the collective strength of the Good Faith Network as it seeks to transform ideas into action that bring about change. Addressing the need for a mental health crisis center, the need for affordable housing and the need to respond to homelessness have been the Good Faith Network's top priorities.

If you are interested in attending a Listening Session, please contact one of the following:

Dave Pack: djpack.12645@gmail.com

Don or Joy Wilson: donjoywilson@gmail.com

Eileen Thomson: esthompson@gmail.com

CROP HUNGER WALK

ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME 

Participate in a GCPC Tradition: CROP WALK

Grace Covenant's CROP Walk tradition, started by our founding pastor, will continue on Sunday, October 6, at 2pm at Country Club Christian Church, 6101 Ward Parkway.

The Kairos Team is challenging the congregation to send 24 walkers for the 2024 walk and to send 40 walkers in 2025 in celebration of the church's 40th anniversary.

Twenty-five percent of the funds contributed benefit five local agencies. Church World Service uses the other 75% of the funds primarily in support of displaced persons and refugees. There are estimated to be over 100 million such persons around the world.

You can sign up for the Grace Covenant walk team using this link: <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/cropwalks/event/kansascitymo>

See Karen or Dave Pack in Heartland Hall after a Sunday worship service starting September 8.



Children's Team



Sunday School has begun!

Our Sunday School program for the new school year has begun. Our youngest children are enjoying their classes and our elementary aged kiddos have enjoyed art and cooking rotations. 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 off with great success!

Facebook Group

Have you joined our GCPC Children's Facebook group? If you join our group of amazing people, you'll have access to all the latest information on our GCPC Children's Program. Join today! <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2555575044593497>

SMASH Program

We kicked off the new school year with our August SMASH water play event. It was a great way to kick off another great year of our SMASH program where our children in Kindergarten through 5th/6th grade get together monthly for a variety of activities inspired by our SMASH (Service Music Art Sports Hangout). We have a strong group of member children and welcome friends too. We look forward to another great school year of fun and learning.



SERVICE - MUSIC - ARTS - SPORTS - HANG-OUT

We love themes at SMASH and this year's theme will be Fruits of the Spirit found in Galatians 5:22-25 which reads: *"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit."*

Our first session will discuss love and be held on Sunday, September 15th from 4-6pm in Heartland Hall.

Please 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#/>

Children's Events at a Glance

- September 1 No ATW or Sunday School (Labor Day)
- September 8 ATW, Music & Sunday School
- September 15 ATW, Music & Sunday School, and SMASH from 4-6pm
- September 22 ATW, Music & Sunday School (Full hour of music for 4s/5s - 5th/6th Grade)
- September 29 ATW, Music & Sunday School

Save the Date

Trunk or Treat will be held October 27th. Join us for lunch, games and trunk or treating!



Welcome Our New Christian Education Director: Emily Nelson Dixon

GCPC is thrilled to announce the arrival of Emily Nelson Dixon as our new Christian Education Director! Emily brings with her a wealth of experience, having dedicated 24 years to various roles in ministry, particularly focusing on children's and youth programs. Her deep commitment to fostering intergenerational connections within the church community aligns beautifully with our mission, and we are excited to see how her passion will inspire and uplift our congregation.



Emily's ministry philosophy centers on creating transformative experiences that allow people of all ages to encounter the Holy Spirit and embrace their identity in Christ. Her extensive background in ministry will be a tremendous asset as she works to nurture faith formation across our church, strengthening our communal bonds and deepening our shared values.

Outside of her ministry work, Emily is an enthusiast of music and theatre, and she enjoys the vibrant, creative aspects of these art forms. She also stays busy with her loving family—her husband Chris and their three children, Esme (14), Eloise (10), and Gilbert (5). The Dixon family is eagerly looking forward to becoming an integral part of the GCPC family, and we are equally excited to welcome them into our community.

Please join us in extending a warm welcome to Emily, Chris, Esme, Eloise, and Gilbert! We are grateful for the many gifts they bring to our church and look forward to the wonderful ways God will work through them in the years to come.

PHOTOS: August SMASH water play in the garden area behind the sanctuary.





Kairos Peace Pole Picnic, September 13

Join us on Friday, September 13, 5:30pm, to view the Peace Pole Art Project at Black Hoof Park, Stone Wall Shelter. Black Hoof Park is at 9053 Monticello Rd., Lenexa, KS 66220. Follow the signs to the Boat Dock for parking. You can easily locate the Stone Wall shelter and picnic tables to your left.

Bring a picnic meal, and we'll have some fellowship and a short discussion about these peace poles and what would your peace pole include? Our Peace Pole Picnic event supports our Kairos Peace and Justice advocacy pillar. Rain out date is Friday, September 20.

The Peace Pole Community Art Project is a series of poles designed by community members and adorned with original art and messages of peace. The display began in May and continues through September 30. Questions? Contact Jane Knoche, jeknoche@att.net.

Reduce, Recycle, Re-Use

On September 8 and 15, we are having our third Reduce, Recycle, Reuse giveaway.

Please gather after worship to peruse the tables in the concourse. Come see the goodies we are giving away!



Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!

Grace Covenant is a very generous community. Did you know that GCPC donated enough shoes to Soles4Souls from January 1, 2024, to July 31, 2024, to divert OVER 15,000 pounds from our local landfill? At the same time, the number of shoes donated contributed to \$108,600.00 worth of economic opportunity for families and communities worldwide. IMAGINE the impact you have made since we have been collecting since June of 2010!

All Elections Matter

We heard Rev. Karen, in her August 18 Sunday message, say that in knowing ourselves we can be an informed voter to cast the vote that most closely supports our beliefs locally, regionally and nationally. Access the [Faithful Voter Reflection Guide](#) developed by Interfaith Power & Light. Please feel free to download it and reflect on just what is important to you and your descendants. Be sure to check your voter registration before October 1!

GENERAL ELECTION 2024 DATES of importance:

Voter Registration Deadline: KS, Oct. 15; MO, Oct. 9

In-Person Advance Voting: KS, Oct. 19; MO, Oct. 22

Mail Ballot applications deadline: KS, Oct. 29; MO, Oct. 23

Election Day: November 5, 6am–7pm

Movie Nights

We had such a wonderful response of our July movie night when we showed **COOKED** that KAIROS will be scheduling further movie events. Movies will be on themes that KAIROS supports — immigration, gun violence, peacemaking, hunger, earth care, climate change, and more. Keep your eyes out for our next movie night and plan to join us this coming November!

PHOTO: Commissioning of Sunday School Teachers

KAIROS: The Heat Is On

As the Earth warms with climate change, we will face serious consequences. Extreme heat is a silent and effective killer. More people die from excess heat than any other natural disaster, fire, flood, hurricane, or tornado, combined. As Christians, we commit ourselves to caring for others. How can we do more to lower greenhouse gas emission? What daily actions can we do? Kairos is beginning a series of newsletter articles that share the status of how the Earth is warming along with one topic to effectively lower greenhouse gas emissions that requires no cost or little effort to more aggressive investments. The free options can be embraced by anyone, so we can all do our part.

Record Breaking Statistics:

May 2024:

Highest CO2 concentration in the atmosphere of 427.7 ppm. (Average preindustrial levels (before 1700) was 280 ppm)

March 2023 - March 2024:

Highest yearly increase of 4.7 ppm

July 2024

Hottest month in NOAA's 175-year record at 60.4-degree F. Longest streak of record breaking monthly temperature: 15

July 2023

Previously the hottest month, broken by this July.

Most of us drive a car every day. You can effectively lower your carbon emission by driving at a steady rate, driving the speed limit, slowly accelerating and coasting to a stop. Basically, drive more like a tortoise instead of a jack rabbit. Be sure you inflate your tires to the correct

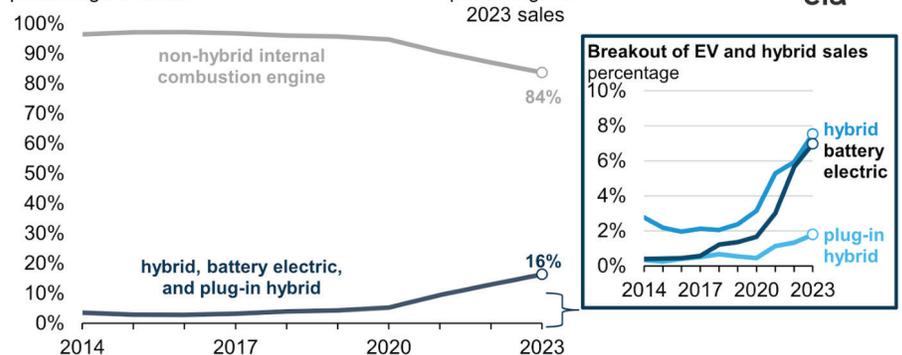
pressure (recommended pressure is for when the car is cool not hot) and keep your car serviced as recommended. Make a list of your errands and combine your trips. Remove excess weight from your car and try rolling down your windows on cool summer days instead of using the air conditioner. When you buy a new car, consider a hybrid or electric vehicle. There are affordable options. For example, the price for a new Toyota Corolla Hybrid is less than \$25,000 for a base model and if driven in a fuel efficient manner, one can get over 50 mpg during the summer. Last summer, Kairos hosted a class on owning an electric vehicle and, if interested, there are GCPC members who would be happy to share their experience with these cars.

On August 11, an informal survey of the GCPC parking lot during Sunday Service counted 17 hybrid or plug-in Hybrid cars and 5 electric cars out of a total of 124 cars. Based on this, a total of 17.7% of cars (hybrid, plug-in hybrid, and electric) with 13.7% of the cars hybrid and 4.0% electric. This is good news! According to the Bureau of Transportation we beat the average number of cars sold in the US. In 2021, 8.7% of hybrid, plug-in hybrid and electric cars sold with 3.2% of cars sold in the US were electric and 5.5% were hybrid. These numbers go up significantly in 2023 (see below), but we still beat the number cars sold in US for new cars. The goal of sharing this is to feel good about the individual commitment of those at GCPC as we transition to more fuel efficient cars and electric vehicles.

JANUARY 31, 2024

Electric vehicles and hybrids surpass 16% of total 2023 U.S. light-duty vehicle sales

Annual U.S. light-duty vehicle sales by powertrain (2014–2023)
percentage of sales



Data source: Wards Intelligence

Note: EV = electric vehicle, which includes both battery electric and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles.

Kairos, GCPC Peace, Justice and Environment Team, would love to have you as part of our team. We meet the 2nd Tuesday of the month, on-line. If you would an invite to our meeting or more information please email Christine Caseres at crcaseres032@gmail.com or Rick Randolph at rrandolphiii@gmail.com.



SERVICE PROJECTS

Please choose one of the following service projects and sign up for it online at www.gcpc.org/workshop. Each member of a household needs to sign up for a project and indicate whether they'll be eating lunch.

Children are welcome at any project except Shalom House (*they require adult volunteers*). The nursery will also be open during it's normal hours.

Savers FUNdraiser – The entire congregation is invited to donate household items for this project, which is a fundraiser for our 40th anniversary celebration. Savers pays us for our donated items! People who sign up for this project will sort items and box or bag them for delivery to Savers. This team is limited to 15 people.

Beautify and Improve GCPC – With the help of Facilities team, we'll do many tasks to tidy up and make improvements in and around our own building: washing windows, cleaning under pews, sweeping, dusting, clearing fallen sticks and other chores. Bring a pair of work gloves if you want to work outside!

Mission Quilts/Tactile Quilts – Help tie and bind a quilt for homeless relief, or make tactile quilts for nursing home residents with dementia. No sewing experience or supplies are necessary; we'll teach you what to do for either project. (*If you have a sewing machine and want to bring it to make tactile quilts, that's great! But you don't have to bring a sewing machine to do either project.*)

Starfish Project Plastic Bag Mats – We'll make mats from plastic grocery bags. This is a good project for those who need a project that can be done sitting down. Project Starfish distributes these mats to unhoused individuals to ensure they won't have to sleep on the bare ground. No experience is necessary!

Lunch for the Residents of Shalom House – [Shalom House](#) (at 2601 Ridge Avenue in KCK) operates a Transitional Living Program that offers support and resources to help vulnerable men find stability, permanent housing, self-sufficiency and hope for the future. We'll prepare lunch for about a dozen residents and staff (Mission team will fund the cost of the food). Volunteers for this project must be at least 18, and can choose whether to stay and eat with the residents or return to church for lunch. The team for this project is limited to 5 people.

Lunch + Clean Up – Hungry people are going to come back from these projects and need lunch! Join this project to help prepare and serve lunch, set up Heartland Hall, and clean up afterwards. Everybody on this team (*which is limited to 6 people*) gets lunch for free!

Sign-ups will start on September 15 and run through October 6 at

gcpc.org/workshop

Contact Mikki Walker at michala.walker@gmail.com with any questions or difficulties.



GCPC'S 6TH ANNUAL WORKSHOP SUNDAY EVENT!

Sunday, October 13

9:30am-1pm (approximately)

Sunday, October 13 will be GCPC's 6th annual Workshop Sunday event. We'll start with a brief worship service at 9:30am, then from 10am-Noon, we'll pursue the service projects listed below. At approximately noon, we'll gather for lunch (*a free will donation will be collected*).

Please **save your plastic grocery bags** for the Project Starfish team, even if you aren't planning on joining that project. Only the type of bag given at Walmart is useful for this project - please don't bring any bags that are not that size and shape. Bags can be left in the big barrel outside the sanctuary any time before October 6.

And please bring any household items on the list below that you're willing to donate to the **Savers FUNdraiser**. Leave them in Room 19 (LOWER LEVEL) before October 13. All items must be clean and in sellable condition.

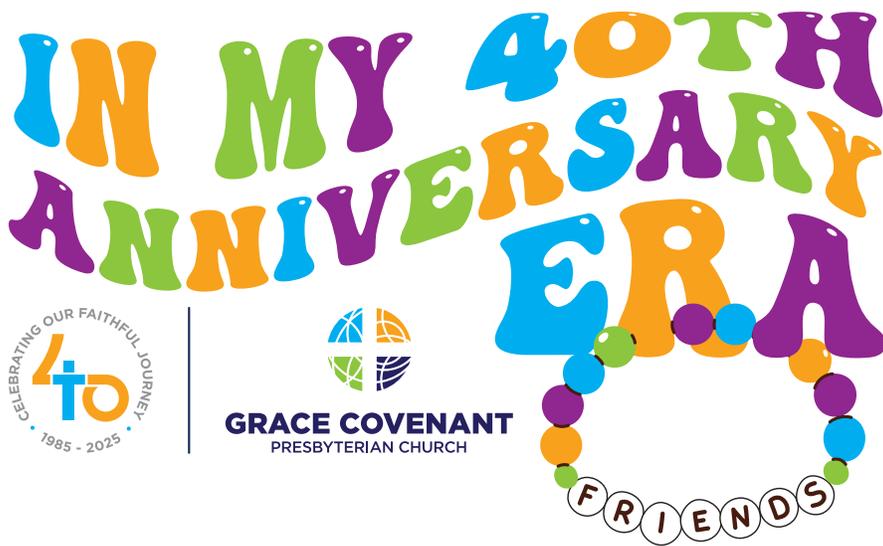
SAVERS DONATIONS LIST:

Clothes: Men's, women's & children's clothes, coats, shoes, scarves, handbags, wallets, fashion accessories, belts, backpacks, etc. *** Clothes and household textiles should be donated in large 20 lb. trash/lawn plastic bags.

Household Textiles: bedding, comforters, blankets, sheets, towels, linen, tablecloths, curtains, pillows, etc.

Small Household Goods: kitchen items (such as pots/pans, dishes, silverware, glasses, serving pieces and hand-held appliances), home decorative items, knick-knacks, toys, games, and small electronics.

Books & Media: paperback, hard cover - all genres. media needs to be boxed separately. *no encyclopedias or textbooks.



Friendship Bracelet Making Party!

Saturday, September 21, 1-3pm

**Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church
Heartland Hall**

“Are you ready for it?”

Join us for an intergenerational friendship beaded bracelet making party! Open to all friends and family of GCPC members!

This fun event will have a “Taylor Swift Vibe,” so break out your best outfit that will make the “whole place shimmer.” The whole friendship beaded bracelet craze started from Taylor Swift’s lyric: “So make the friendship bracelets. Take the moment and taste it. You’ve got no reason to be afraid” from Taylor’s song, “You’re On Your Own Kid” on the *Midnights* album. Since her ERAS TOUR kicked off in March 2023, fans have been seen trading bracelets ever since.

You don’t have to have experience making these colorful beaded bracelets, or be a Swiftie to attend. You will however need to **bring your own tools and supplies**. We are also asking everyone to **bring a dozen cookies to share**.

Join us for Music! Fun! Fellowship!

What to bring:

(Supplies version)

- BEADS! Pony beads, alphabet beads, any bead shapes, etc.
- Elastic cording
(Clear Stretch Magic brand 7mm or similar)
- Scissors
- Ruler or tape measure
- Washi tape
(1 roll washi, or masking tape)
- Bowls for beads *(ziplocs helpful)*
- Fabric place mat *(keeps beads from rolling and a great surface to layout your bead pattern)*
- Bead board (optional)
- G-S Hypo Cement, a strong craft and jewelry glue (or super glue if you can’t find it)

What to bring:

(Food version)

- A dozen cookies to share
- Your own drink *(with a lid)*

What to wear:

(Sparkly version)

- Whatever makes you comfortable, especially anything in lavender or pink, or with sparkles!
- Dress in your favorite ERA or Swiftie shirts!
- Chiefs shirt or Travis Kelce jersey



RSVP Preferred

**Sign up at
gcpc.org/friendship**



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

Follow us on Social Media!

Facebook: facebook.com/GraceCovenantPresbyterian

Instagram: @gcpc_overlandpark

CHURCH STAFF

- Interim Pastor, Rev. Karen Wright**
karen.wright@gcpc.org ext. 10
- Director of Music Ministries.....Rebecca Prater**
Mon.-Wed., Fri.; rebecca.prater@gcpc.org ext. 13
- Church Administrator.....Patrick Bell**
Mon.-Fri.; patrick.bell@gcpc.org ext. 10
- Director of Christian Education**
Emily Nelson-Dixonext.10
emily.nelson-dixon@gcpc.org
- Youth Coordinator** Lindsay Callender
lindsaymichelle0130@gmail.com
- Finance Administrator**.....Tara Hyder
finance@gcpc.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 Director**.....Carrie DeVries
- Praise Team Drummer** Jill Endaya-Allen
- Child Care Coordinator**.....Carolyn Chaffin
- Wedding Coordinator**.....Kristy Shaw
- Funeral Coordinator**Mary Sue Thomas

ELDERS

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Johnnie Baker | Jaylee Soule |
| Paul Bruns | Tom Stroud |
| Joy Circo | Eileen Thomson |
| Barbara Douglas | Melanie Townsend |
| Lara Schesser | Session Clerk |
| Jake Schmidt | Michala Walker |
| Andrew Sellers | Mary Ann Weyforth |
| Kristy Shaw | |

SUPPORT STAFF

- Deacon Moderator.....Jean Hampton
- Operating Committee..... Angela Krug, Lara Schesser, Katie Hearn, Tom Stroud
- Newsletter Editor/Marketing..... Kim Krueger
- Prayer Chain.....Cheryl Johnson
- Website AdministratorsKim Krueger, Patrick Bell, Christy Soule

MINISTRY UNITS

- Congregational Nurture Unit Moderators
Care and Connections....Mary Ann Weyforth
Worship and Music..... Kathy Bures, Barbara Douglas
- Education Ministry Unit Moderators
Adult Joel Ilten
Children Angela Krug
Youth..... Lara Schesser
- Reach Out Ministry Unit Moderators
Kairos Rick Randolph
MissionMikki Walker
Welcoming Kathy Williams
- Supportive Ministry Unit Moderators
Facility Liz Chandler
GenerosityJane Knoche
Finance..... Beth Lillian
Personnel Kevin Mason

Worship Schedule

9:30am Worship
In-Person, Facebook & Zoom
Visit gcpc.org/online for links

Upcoming Newsletter Article Deadlines

October 2024 issue - Deadline, September 20
November 2024 issue - Deadline, October 22