



## GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship — February 16, 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:** Ashley Jeffries & Bert Benton

**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/GPCAttendance>, or scan the QR Code below.



**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](mailto:karen.wright@gcpc.org)
- **Emily Nelson Dixon (Dir. of Christian Education):** [emily.dixon@gcpc.org](mailto:emily.dixon@gcpc.org)
- **Patrick Bell (Office Admin.):** [patrick.bell@gcpc.org](mailto:patrick.bell@gcpc.org)
- **Tara Hyder (Finance Admin.):** [finance@gcpc.org](mailto:finance@gcpc.org)
- **Jason Turner (Audio/Technical Dir.):** Please e-mail both [darktrainfilms@gmail.com](mailto:darktrainfilms@gmail.com) & [gcpc.media@gmail.com](mailto: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:** Sylvia Littlejohn and family in the death of her cousin.

**Surgeries/Hospitalizations/Illnesses**

**Cancer Treatment:** Harold Farren, Katie Rickley, David Schesser, Cindy Schendel

**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:** Knox Presbyterian Church, Overland Park, KS; Neema Community Presbyterian Church, Olathe, KS; Iglesia Eben-Ezer, Cantón Los Angeles, San Felipe, Retalhuleu (MQP); Farmstead Eight – New Worshiping Community The Rev. Clare Lozano

(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**

**REMINDERS:** The church offices will be closed Monday, February 17, in observance of Presidents’ Day. Also, please note that due to vacation schedules, main office hours may vary the week of February 17. A volunteer will be in the reception office each morning, but please call ahead, 913-345-1256, if you are coming to the church outside of a regularly scheduled meeting to make sure the building is open. Thank you.

**IHN VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION LUNCH — TODAY — After Sunday School (about 11:45 AM):** Jane Knoche and Christine Caseres will host a volunteer appreciation lunch to celebrate the generous commitment GCPC has made to IHN over the past 20 years. A light lunch will begin after Sunday school of sandwiches, fruit, and cookies. We are inviting not only GCPC but our support congregation volunteers. Grace Covenant has been a host church with Johnson County IHN for the past 20 years. Many of our members have participated in various ways, such as preparing food, driving guests, hosting evening or overnight shifts, setting up, taking down, coordinating

breakfast/snacks, and volunteering for laundry. We have been blessed to partner with two support churches: Indian Heights Methodist Church and Shawnee Mission Unitarian Universalist Church. The church model of IHN was meant to allow churches to not just serve a meal and provide shelter, but to be there walking alongside them in their journey. We have often come to know our guests as neighbors, and as we learn their stories, we are reminded that losing one's home could happen to anyone. Please know how grateful we are to each and every volunteer and for GCPC itself for being a host church from the beginning of the program to being two of the last churches to be involved. JOCO IHN is continuing through 2025 with the motel model and appreciates your prayers and monetary support. For more information, contact Jane ([jeknoche@att.net](mailto:jeknoche@att.net)) or Christine ([crcaseres032@gmail.com](mailto:crcaseres032@gmail.com)). We express our gratitude to the Mission Team for their support and whose budget will pay for this event.

**SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER – A DELICIOUS TRADITION!** Get ready to flip for pancakes! The GCPC Children's Team invites you to our **annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper** on **Tuesday, March 4, 5:30–7:30pm** in **Heartland Hall**. Enjoy pancakes, sausage, and drinks, while tapping your toes to the lively sounds of the **Dixieland Band!** Join in on the **Mardi Gras-themed fun, games, and fellowship**, all while supporting a great cause — **proceeds benefit the Children's Team and its ministries**. The cost is \$5 per person or \$20 per family (4+). **RSVP & Volunteer Opportunities:** To ensure we have enough pancakes and seating, please RSVP by **Monday, February 24**. Simply leave your **RSVP at [gcpc.org/shrove-tuesday](http://gcpc.org/shrove-tuesday)**, and we'll handle the rest! We also need **cooks, set-up helpers, clean-up volunteers, and food donations**. If you'd like to lend a hand, **check out the sign-up options at link above** and let us know where you can help. Come hungry and ready for a festive night of **food, music, and community**. We can't wait to see you there!

ENCOREKC! is beginning its spring session. Below are all of our exciting opportunities. Sign up at [encorekc.org](http://encorekc.org).

- Chorus: full except for a tenor or bass opening
- ACT II: full except for a tenor or bass opening
- Ukulele: Mondays at 6:30pm in the choir room with Miles McDonald
- SSA Choir: Tuesday at 10am, Barbara Douglas, conducting
- Music Reading: Wednesday at 1pm in Rm. 4 with Pam Kelly
- Beginning Handbells: Wednesday at 1pm in the bell room with Jim Kelly
- Woodwind Ensemble: Thursday at 1:30pm in the choir room with Amy Schwartz
- Brass Ensemble: Thursday at 7pm in the choir room with Darryl Prater

**REDUCE, RECYCLE, RE-USE:** March 9 and 16, we are having our fourth Reduce, Recycle, Reuse giveaway. Please gather after worship to peruse the tables in the concourse. Come see the goodies we are giving away!

**GARDENING ANGELS: OUR MISSION TO THE COMMUNITY** is to provide a pleasant and inviting presence at College Blvd. and Nieman Dr. In addition to our architecturally pleasing building, we have multiple flowerbeds and green spaces that require attention throughout the year. As we

celebrate 40 years of answering God’s call to serve at this location, we look forward to re-establishing a tried and true method of caring for our garden at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church. We are asking for volunteers to choose a flower bed or garden area to care for during the upcoming year. Our plan is to have small groups — two to six individuals to pick an area to care for, such as clean up from winter, spring planting, summer and fall care to clean up when season is done. Some of these seasons may not require weekly attention as most of the gardens do have automatic watering several times a week. You will be reminded of the needs of the various spaces throughout the seasons. **Today, a display of the garden beds will be in the foyer along with a description of each area for you to choose from.** Please prayerfully consider this opportunity as your mission for the 40th Celebration of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church.

**40TH ANNIVERSARY CRAFT FAIR — JOIN THE CELEBRATION!** Come one, come all! Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church is celebrating 40 years of faith, fellowship, and community with a special **40th Anniversary Craft Fair on Saturday, March 29, from 9am to 2pm** in the **concourse and Heartland Hall**. This exciting event will feature a variety of talented local artisans and crafters showcasing their handmade goods — everything from home décor, jewelry, and textiles to seasonal gifts, baked treats, and more! Whether you're looking for a unique treasure, a perfect gift, or simply want to enjoy a day of shopping and fellowship, there will be something for everyone. In addition to the wonderful selection of crafts, we'll have refreshments available and plenty of opportunities to connect with friends, old and new. Don't miss this chance to support local crafters, celebrate our **40th anniversary theme — "Celebrating Our Faithful Journey"** — and enjoy a day of creativity and community! Mark your calendar and invite your friends and neighbors—we can't wait to see you there!

**YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS OUR ANNUAL TRIVIA NIGHT** on Saturday, April 5, 5:30–7pm. We will once again be led by our tremendous trivia master, Jake Schmidt. Pizza will be provided. ***Check the concourse for the "Trivia Questions" box and submit your questions!*** So put on your thinking caps and please join us!

**ROAD TRIP — On the Go with God** is the theme for the 2025 VBS, held June 2–6, 9am–Noon. **Registration is NOW OPEN!** Sign up your kiddos (*ages 4 years to 5th grade*) at [gcpc.org/vbs](http://gcpc.org/vbs). Volunteers needed! Volunteers can also sign up at the same link. Opportunities to help with decorating, planning, etc. are available and appreciated. Contact Kristy Shaw at [kshaw96@yahoo.com](mailto:kshaw96@yahoo.com).

<b>ADULT</b>
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**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL** meets in Room 3, across from the choir room. **Today's Topic:** Rev. Reginald Wayne Sharpe, Jr. — “The Fourth Temptation” — exploring the challenge of overcoming the pressure to please others and the inner conflict that arises when the desire to gain approval occasionally wins.

**WANT TO EAT SOME YUMMY PANCAKES**, celebrate Shrove Tuesday, AND support the CHILDREN of GCPC? Tuesday March 4<sup>th</sup>, 5:30-7:30pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Fundraiser with Dixieland Band and Mardi Gras games.



RSVP here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0A45A4A722A4FC1-54921546-shrove>

**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? Any help at all will be greatly appreciated! It takes a village to pull an event like this off! You can be an important part of this life-changing event at our church!



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](mailto:emily.dixon@gcpc.org))

## CHILDREN

### TODAY:

- All welcome to worship! Check out the bookshelf in the narthex for activities to do during worship.
- Nursery care available
- Awakening to Worship, our child-friendly worship time, is for children ages 4 through 1<sup>st</sup> grade. 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.

### 10:45AM SUNDAY SCHOOL:

- Nursery available
- Toddlers/Preschool, Rooms 20/25
- 4 year olds—1st Grade, JOY! Singers rehearsal, Room 26
- 2nd—5th Grades, Celebration! Choir rehearsal, Room 15 (This Sunday will be an ALL music Sunday to rehearse for the upcoming performances for Joy! and Celebration!)

**SMASH!** Children's fellowship meets tonight from 4-6pm. This popular program is an activity for Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> graders combining sports, music, arts, service, and "hangout" time and offers a time for children to be nurtured in faith by building relationships with a variety of adults of all ages. We're focusing on the fruits of the spirit this year for SMASH. Tonight's fruit: Goodness!

**NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, COVENANT GROUP BRUNCH AFTER WORSHIP.** All families are encouraged to attend together. This will be in place of our Sunday school. THEN...from Noon to 2pm, we'll have a **Communion Workshop** for 2nd grade families, with first communion taking place during worship on March 2.

**CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT VBS FUNDRAISER:** Shrove Sunday, Tuesday March 4, 5:30–7:30pm — Pancake Fundraiser with Dixieland Band and Mardi Gras games.  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0A45A4A722A4FC1-54921546-shrove>



**SUMMER VBS:** Vacation Bible School, June 2–6, 9am-12pm, ages 4 yrs–5<sup>th</sup> grade, *Road Trip — On the Go with God* <https://gcpc.org/vbs/roadtrip.html>



## MISSION

**FEBRUARY'S COMMUNION OFFERING RECIPIENT IS ROSEHILL ELEMENTARY.** Rosehill is a Title I school in Lenexa, and a longtime partner with GCPC. Title I is a federal program that provides extra math and reading support; Rosehill is eligible for Title I because of the percentage of students who receive free or reduced lunch benefits. A quality education is necessary for every child to be successful in life; GCPC's partnership with Rosehill helps ensure that all our local children are equipped to succeed. Make your donation online or in the offering plate; just note that it is meant for Communion Offering.

**UPLIFT — FEBRUARY DONATION PARTNER — UNDERWEAR CHALLENGE!** “Answer the Call: Give the Gift of Dignity” We've all been blessed with the simple things we often take for granted — like clean, fresh underwear. For those struggling to meet basic needs, something as small as new underwear can restore dignity, comfort, and hope. Uplift is an organization that delivers hot meals and high need items to the homeless in the Kansas City area. Uplift is a 100% not for profit organization. No one in the organization gets paid for what they do. Yet every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday evening four trucks pull out from their downtown warehouse, loaded with hot meals to feed 500 to 1,000 homeless and to provide them with essential needs. Our mission is clear: **We're collecting NEW underwear for those in need!** This is a small gift that makes a big difference.

Below are Amazon links to help you understand what they are looking for. Feel free to get these anywhere you would like but if you use Amazon *please do not deliver to the church*. Instead have it delivered to my home (Kevin Johnson, 12840 Century St., Overland Park, KS 66213). You may also have it delivered to your home then drop them off at church in the Room 21 Uplift closet.

[Cotton Underwear for Women\(\\$13.99 on Amazon; Sizes M, L and XL\)](#)

[Men's Underwear Boxer Briefs \(\\$17.04 on Amazon; Sizes L, XL are highest need\)](#)

Women's Underwear



Men's Underwear





**GRACE COVENANT**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

# Upcoming Events and Services

## **SMASH**

Kindergarten-5th grade fellowship  
Sunday, February 16, 4-6pm

## **Covenant Group Brunch Potluck**

Sunday, February 23, 10:30am

## **Communion Workshop**

2nd graders and their parents  
February 23, Noon-2 pm

## **Music Appreciation Sunday**

Sunday, March 2, 9:30pm

## **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**

Tuesday, March 4, 5:30-7:30pm  
Heartland Hall

## **Ash Wednesday Worship - Lent Begins**

Wednesday, March 5, 6:30pm

## **GCPC 40th Anniversary Event**

### **40th Anniversary Craft Fair**

Saturday, March 29, 9am-2pm  
Heartland Hall and Concourse

## **Trivia Night!**

Saturday, April 5, 5:30-7pm  
Heartland Hall

## **Bible Workshop**

3rd graders and their parents  
April 6, Noon-2 pm

## **Easter Egg Hunt**

April 12, 10-11am  
Heartland Hall and Outdoors

## **Holy Week**

Palm Sunday, April 13, 9:30am  
Maundy Thursday, April 17, 7:30pm  
Good Friday, April 18, 7:30pm  
Easter Sunday, April 20, 9am & 11am

## **Church Office Closed**

Easter Monday, April 21

## **Spring Clean-Up Day**

Saturday, April 26, 9am-3pm

## **Youth Sunday**

Sunday, April 27, 9:30pm

## **Bell Fest**

Sunday, May 4, 6-8pm

## **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 register at link below*  
Register children at [gcpc.org/vbs](http://gcpc.org/vbs)

## **Church Office Closed**

Juneteenth, Thursday, June 19

## **GCPC 40th Anniversary Celebration with Brunch Following Worship**

Sunday, June 22, 9:30am

## **GCPC 40th Anniversary Friendship Bracelet Making Party**

Saturday, July 12, 1-3pm  
Heartland Hall



**GRACE COVENANT**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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)