



GRACE COVENANT

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship — April 26, 2026

“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: Kristy Shaw

HEAD USHERS: Dave & Vicki Peck

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.



CONTACTING STAFF: The main office is open 8am–4pm, M–F. To reach a staff member by e-mail:

- **Rev. Karen Wright (Designated Pastor):** karen.wright@gcpc.org
- **Emily Nelson Dixon (Dir. of Christian Education):** emily.dixon@gcpc.org
- **Patrick O’Halloran (Dir. of Music Ministries):** patrick.ohalloran@gcpc.org
- **Patrick Bell (Office Admin.):** patrick.bell@gcpc.org
- **Tara Hyder (Finance Admin.):** finance@gcpc.org
- **Jason Turner (Audio/Technical Dir.):** E-mail both darktrainfilms@gmail.com & gcpc.media@gmail.com.

“Pray for one another” — James 5:15

We encourage you to remember the following in prayer:

All Grieving the Death of a Loved One: Nathan Littlejohn and family in the death of his brother-in-law.

Surgeries/Hospitalizations/Illnesses: Chris Frye, Donna Goeckler, Nathan Littlejohn, Harold Frye, Bill Brown, Mary Lou Jones, Ellen Mohr

Cancer Treatment: Tom Jennings, Trooper Shaw, Johnnie Baker

Aging Challenges: Lee Will, 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.**

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, St. Joseph, MO

(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

THE SESSION HAS CALLED A MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION on Sunday, May 10, immediately following worship for the purpose of electing a new class of Elders. The candidates to be presented by the nominating team are Sandy Adams, Bob Dover, Laura Johnson, and Gay Lee Ludwig Bonney.

VBS DONATIONS NEEDED: Our volunteer planning committee is busy preparing for a great week of VBS this June. We offer VBS to our members and community for a low cost thanks to your donations. Stop by our donation board located outside the sanctuary or visit our Amazon wish list if you prefer. We will be adding items as planning continues so check back with us as many times as you can. Items should be returned to church as soon as possible to allow our preparations to continue. Thanks in advance for your generosity!

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/QVESOZQ7U30V?ref=wl_share

MUSIC

ENCOREKC! CHORUS AND ACT II SPRING CONCERT "WHY WE SING" is TODAY at 3pm at Grace United Methodist Church in Olathe. Greg Gilpin will be guest conducting many of his compositions. The chorus is celebrating their 5th anniversary with a new commissioned work from Greg Gilpin, "In Time of Silver Rain." Join in on the fun of inspiring music by many of our own church members. ENCOREKC! Foundation is artist-in-residence at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church. **On May 1, all of the ensembles of ENCOREKC!** will perform at GCPC, 7pm in the Sanctuary. Celebrate our woodwind quintet, brass ensemble, ukulele ensemble, and Belle Voci, the EKC women's choir. See you then!

BELL FEST XXXVI: AMERICANA — This year's Bell Fest, held on **Sunday, May 3, at 6pm**, celebrates the rich sounds and spirit of Americana, featuring music inspired by American folk traditions, beloved hymns, and classic melodies with a warm, roots-inspired feel. While handbells are at the heart of the concert, Bell Fest also showcases a wide variety of musical gifts, making this a joyful and unique evening of music for the whole community. Bring your friends and family and experience an evening filled with beautiful music, community, and the spirit of Americana.

ADULT

ADULT EDUCATION — Sundays at 10:45 a.m. in Room 3: Whether you come every week or have not wandered down the hall in a while, there is a place for you. We have a great mix of thoughtful, practical, and engaging classes coming up — and no homework, no pop quizzes, and usually no one gets sent to the principal's office.

Today — *How to Read the Bible 101* with Kevin Johnson: Ever read a passage of scripture and think, "Now what exactly am I supposed to do with that?" This class is a relaxed and approachable look at some simple ways to read the Bible with more clarity, confidence, and depth. Whether you are brand new to Bible study or have been reading scripture for years, this should be a helpful conversation.

Coming up next:

- **May 3** — *Why the Church Sings* — Patrick O'Halloran
- **May 10** — No Sunday School — Mother's Day
- **May 17** — *Trash Talk: How to Be a Better Recycler* — Brandon Hearn
- **May 24** — No Sunday School — Memorial Day
- **May 31** — *How to Read the Bible 102* — Kevin Johnson
- **June 7** — *PCUSA Mission Structure Change* — Doug Tilton
- **June 14** — To Be Announced
- **June 21** — No Sunday School — Father's Day
- **June 28** — *Journaling: A Friend at the End of Your Pen* — Stephen Wing

ALL WOMEN OF GRACE COVENANT ARE PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN and are invited to the Spring Gathering on Saturday, May 9.

Theme: The Joy of Giving Back

Hostess and location: The Kirk of Kansas City, 11430 Wornall Rd., KCMO 64114

Schedule:

- 9:30am, registration, fellowship, and breakfast. Childcare is available.
- 10am, worship — Cheryl Keimig, leader. Special music — Linda Thomas, hammered dulcimer; Brenda Allen – cellist
- 11am, Keynote Speaker — Amy Cox from Flourish: A Furniture Bank. Flourish provides wrap-around services to empower referred families overcoming housing insecurity. The in-kind collection is new or gently-used kitchen utensils and dish towels.
- Noon, announcements and dismissal. Suggestions for lunch at area restaurants will be available.

For more information or carpooling contact Ginny Wirtz, 913-851-8797 or Chelly King, 913-634-4450.

THE AS THE PAGE TURNS BOOK GROUP will meet May 6 at 1:30pm in Room 3 at the church. The book selection is *James* by Percival Everett.

CHILDREN

TODAY:

- **Awakening To Worship:** 4yo–1st grade age-appropriate worship experience in Room 12 (downstairs). ATW participants leave from the children’s sermon in worship and travel downstairs together with helpers. They finish at the end of worship.
- **Sunday School, 10:45–11:45am — 10:45–11:05am:** JOY! (Rm 26) and CELEBRATION! (Rm 15) choirs rehearse and the children are escorted to their Sunday school classes by leaders, they can be picked up in their Sunday school lesson rooms listed here. **11:05–11:45am** — Sunday school lessons: Toddlers (2yo–3yo) Rm 20; Preschool (4yo–5yo) Rm 25; K–2nd grades, SCIENCE, Rm 14; 3rd–5th grades, Cooking, Rm 10
- **Noon–1pm:** VBS Volunteer Training

COMING UP:

- **May 3** — Worship, ATW, ALL MUSIC for 4yo–5th, Bell Fest in the PM
- **May 10** — Mother’s Day – Worship, ATW, Sunday school
- **May 17** — Last Day of Sunday school (for the school year) — Worship, ATW, Sunday School, 4–6pm SMASH and YOUTH GROUP
- **May 24** — Pentecost, Memorial Weekend, NO ATW, NO Sunday school
- **June 1–5** — VBS, 9am–Noon
- **June 7** — VBS Sunday!

VBS REGISTRATION IS OPEN! Snowball Mountain Challenge — Find your strength in God! Vacation Bible School, June 1–5, 9am–12pm, ages 4 yrs–5th graders, and MS/HS helpers! Sign up here!



YOUTH


TODAY:

- **10:45–11:05am:** Many of our youth help with the Children’s Choirs during this time, everyone else enjoys Youth Fellowship time in the Youth Lounge (downstairs).
- **11:05–11:45am:** Sunday school, Rooms 19a and 19b
- **Noon–1pm:** VBS Volunteer Training

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- **May 10** — Mother’s Day, Worship, Sunday School
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KAIROS

THANK YOU ALL for your time and efforts, which made the Lunch ‘n’ Learn a great success. Grace Covenant is blessed with people like you who have a heart for others. Trisha, Bishop Tom Ochuka, and the whole Growing Gardens team send their grateful thanks to you and to the Grace Covenant Community for hearing the needs of school children in the Kisumu area of Kenya. Due to the generosity of those at Grace Covenant who felt called to support Growing Gardens, Feeding Minds, 25 students will now have lunch *for a year!* For those who would like to contribute: bit.ly/4cW7TIE or or If you would like to write a check, contact Jo Randolph for contact info and mailing address. 

SOLES4SOULS — SHOE COLLECTION CHALLENGE: This past Tuesday we were able to ship five boxes of shoes to Soles4Souls, and deliver 19 pairs of street shoes/work boots to Cherith Brook. We have six more boxes packed, counted and ready to ship AND are *so close* to meeting and exceeding the challenge with *four days left to collect*. If you would like to help contribute to the shipping you can donate directly online at <https://onrealm.org/gcpc/give/SOLES4SOULS> — or drop your cash/check in our “fireman’s boot” in the concourse or Weekday Entrance.

THE KAIROS BULLETIN BOARD just outside of Heartland Hall has lots of information on **Peace, Justice, and Earth Care** activities and actions both locally and nationally. Interested in what PCUSA is following nationally? Check out the Office of Public Witness, the national PCUSA office located in DC, watching what our national government is working on. Check out their webpage directly here: <https://bit.ly/4vKYLb9>.

MISSION

THE GOOD FAITH NETWORK INVITES EVERYONE to join us at the Nehemiah Action Event on Tuesday, April 28, 6pm at United Methodist Church of the Resurrection, 13720 Roe Ave., Leawood. The event is part of the Good Faith Network's efforts to ask for commitments from local decision-makers who have the power to implement our requests for specific actions. Each request supports issues addressing mental health, homelessness, affordable housing and elder care. We are aiming for 75 participants from GCPC to contribute to a Network goal of 2,000 participants. We have a sign-up poster on the Mission bulletin board, which is in the hallway across from Heartland Hall. For any questions or for more information, please contact:

- Dave Pack: dipack.12645@gmail.com
- Don or Joy Wilson: donjoywilson@gmail.com
- Eileen Thomson: esthomson@gmail.com

OUR APRIL COMMUNION OFFERING will be directed to the PCUSA Special Offering One Great Hour of Sharing. Mark any checks you put in the offering plate "Communion Offering" or use the "Communion Offering" option in the online giving portal.

OUR APRIL DONATION PARTNER was meant to be A Gathering of Friends, but we have lost contact with that organization, and it's unclear if they are still operating. So, if you feel called to donate food in April, please concentrate on our support for the Renewed Hope Food Pantry — just put your donations in the wooden bin in the Weekday Entrance.



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