



GRACE COVENANT

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church Annual Report – 2017

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AGENDA FOR 2018 ANNUAL MEETING

January 28, 2018

Following 10am Worship

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Opening Prayer and Call to Order Fred Holbrook

Affirmation of Mission Fred Holbrook

Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church celebrates the presence of the living God as we:

gather all people together in a caring Christian community,
equip people to develop and share a faith that works in real life, and
send people to serve Christ in the world.

The mission of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church is to fulfill our vision by:

capturing the heart,
freeing the soul, and
transforming members into disciples.

CORPORATION MEETING

Call to Order Rob Jonas

Recognition of the 2018 Officers of the Corporation:

President – Jo Randolph Secretary – Cheryl Johnson
Vice-President – Rob Jonas Treasurer – Matt McBride

Acknowledgement of Trustees:

Claire Chaffin, Bryan Evans, Harold Frye, Amy Grice, Rachel Grice, Donna Goeckler, Judy Hook, Rob Jonas, Julie Passett, Jo Randolph, Hilary Schmidt, Aaron Soule, Nelson Townsend, and Joy Wilson

Adjournment of Corporation

CONTINUATION OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Session Report Cheryl Johnson

Renewal of Transitional Pastor Contract (April 20, 2018—April 19, 2019)

Special Thanks to Our Teams and Team Moderators:

Adult Ministry – Maggie Blankers	Marketing—Mac Fechtling (Terri Monrad)
Children’s Ministry—Diane Schmit	Music—Anne Stroud
Connections & Care—Lisa Feyh	Outreach—Marcia Turner
Endowment—David Steen	Personnel—Linda Bridges
Facilities—Marc Feyh	Welcome—Kendra Holtzman (Greg Prestridge)
Finance—Matt McBride	Worship—Sarah Evans and Barb Purvis
Generosity—Tony Andersen	Youth Ministry—Danielle Dalton
Kairos—Dave Pack	

Capital Campaign Update Matt McBride

Pledge History Matt McBride

Finance Report (2017 review / 2018 preview) Matt McBride

Update from Pastor Nominating Committee Ryan Hussey and David Sutherland

Adjournment and Closing Prayer / Blessing for Potluck Lunch Fred Holbrook

2017 Session Report



The theme of Advent 2017 was “Let There Be Light.” Grace Covenant created a beautiful piece of art that graced the Sanctuary and is now hanging in Heartland Hall. It celebrates the movement from darkness to light as we celebrate the birth of Christ and his Advent in our hearts day by day. It also stands as a symbol of where the session has seen the congregation move during 2017.

At the January meeting, Cheryl Johnson was welcomed as the clerk of session following six months of excellent service by Chris Krug. Grace Covenant hosted Heartland Presbytery in February. The work of moving from a darker space to a lighter place continued. The session is made up of ruling and teaching elders. The ruling elders are called to test, to measure the spiritual temperature of a congregation. Throughout the spring, Grace Covenant’s membership grew warmer and more welcoming. It was clear to all that the time had come to move ahead.

A Mission Study Team was appointed by the session and the team asked questions, listened to responses, clarified our mission, and helped articulate it in their October report to the session and congregation. One member of the Commission on Ministry of Heartland Presbytery declared it to be “the most thorough and well-thought-out Mission Study I have ever seen!” A special thanks to Melanie Townsend (chair), Bert Benton, Susan Bloom, Mac Fechtling, Tim Hayden, Hilary Schmidt, and Matt Stromberg for their superb work.

When COM accepted the Mission Study, they authorized the session to call a congregational meeting for the purpose of electing a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC). Our Nominating Committee (Joy Wilson, chair; Gary Blankers, Trey Bures, Jim Byrd, Sarah Evans, John Gilbert, Kevin Johnson, Hilary Schmidt, and Christy Soule) presented for election by the congregation six members-at-large. They joined two elders appointed by the session and one deacon appointed by that board. We continue to pray for the PNC including Ryan Hussey and David Sutherland, co-chairs; Bryan Evans, Amy Grice, Kat Mason, Matt McBride, Terri Monrad, Meredith Watson, and Kathy Williams.

When thinking about our congregation, the session draws images from Paul’s letter to the Philippians 1:3-6 found in *The Message* translation. “Every time you cross our minds, we break out in exclamations of thanks to God. Each exclamation is a trigger to prayer. We find ourselves praying for you with a glad heart. We are so pleased that you have continued on in this with us, believing and proclaiming God’s Message, from the day you heard it right up to the present. There has never been the slightest doubt in our minds that the God who started this great work in us all would keep at it and bring it to a flourishing finish on the very day Christ Jesus appears.”

CLERK OF SESSION
2017 Annual Report

TOTAL ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP as of December 31, 2016 **579 Members**

Gains in 2017

Reactivated	9
Profession of Faith	1
Reaffirmation of Faith	1
Transfer of Membership	13

TOTAL GAINS **24**

Losses in 2017

Transfer of Membership	(18)
Inactive	(71)
Death	(7)
Transfer Affiliate	(0)

TOTAL LOSSES **(96)**

TOTAL ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP as of December 31, 2017 **507 Members**

BAPTISMS

Kenzie McKnight	Scarlet Berry
Coralie Vail	Charlotte Hearn
Avienda Berry	Aidan Hussey

DECEASED MEMBERS

Carl Chandler	Eric Scarborough
Charlene Connett	Hazel Smart
Jean Ensign	Missy Taylor
Martha Johnson	Angela Watson
Dick Sawdey	

NEW MEMBERS

Kara Baker	Emily Grice
Phyllis Bass	Teresa Halbersma
Dave Berry	Terra Howard
Christopher Callender	Devon Mason
Laurie Callender	Judy Mason
Deb Carter	Ellie Parsons
Luke Cashman	Gordon Phillip
Tatum Cox	Jackson Rupp
Owen Dalton	Sophie Shaw
Terry Garrison	Mara Smith
Richard Gibson	Jenna Soule
Rosemary Gibson	

Team Reports

Worship and Music

Worship Team

Several new members joined the team mid-year and were able to hit the ground running, thanks to the previous team's hard work and the terrific Worship Team binder put together by Kathy Bures. We soon learned that the scope of our work is broad, including securing scripture readers, coordinating communion, planning special services, and preparing the Sanctuary for Advent, Christmas Eve, Star Sunday, Lent, Easter and Thanksgiving Eve. This involved lots of thinking ahead and hands-on activities to help make every worship experience at GCPC meaningful to all.

The team has been encouraged to take advantage of this transition time to review what has been done in the past and open itself to new ideas, as it strives to follow the *Book of Order* of the P.C.(U.S.A.) in its Directory for Worship. It calls us to "offer creative gifts in worship...(as) they give glory to God" (W-1.0204). These creative gifts were especially evident during Advent, when the use of new resources sparked Julie Passet and Laura Holbrook to help us move from Darkness to Light in very concrete, artistic ways. The amazing fabric banner that was created has found a home in Heartland Hall for all to enjoy.

In 2018 our focus will be on making sure everything is in good order, so that when our new pastor is called, the transition will be a smooth one. Feel free to contact anyone on the team if you want to contribute to making that happen.

You can be assured that no one on this team is afraid to roll up their sleeves and pitch in, no matter what the task. Thanks to all!

Sarah Evans and Barbara Purvis, co-moderators; Jami Howe,
Nancy Kalesz, Chelly King, Julie Passet, Nancy Steen, Melanie Townsend,
Nelson Townsend, Meredith Watson, Fred Holbrook

Music Team

In 2017 the Music Ministry at Grace Covenant continued to provide quality musical & spiritual leadership in and outside of worship. Our gifted and dedicated music staff, comprised of Rebecca Prater, Linda Dover, Denice Trawicki, and Daniel Cole worked with a wide range of volunteer leaders and musicians to create remarkable experiences. Our music ministry began the year with 6 vocal, 4 handbell, and 4 instrumental ensembles and ended the year with 7 vocal/instrumental, 3 handbell, and 5 instrumental ensembles.

The Music Team has made a good deal of progress on our goals laid out in GCPC's strategic plan.

- **Musical instruments and equipment**

- Report on pianos from piano technician from Schmitt received in 2017. This collection of data will allow us to know what we have and also replace pianos if we should ever have damage to our church facility (e.g., tornado, etc.).
- Damage to piano humidifiers – one replaced, one repaired.
- Additional music stands, rack, and extensions purchased.
- Timpani acquisition – very generous donation by Pam and Jim Kelly to seed a fund to acquire timpani for the orchestra. Additional members donated in honor or memory of a person, an event, or a ministry at GCPC.
- Quilted window shade made by Jane Bonuchi to block the sun during weddings; it also decorates the Sanctuary.

Musical Groups added:

Grace Mountain Bluegrass Band – formed and provided music during times of worship & fellowship

Ukes of Grace – Ukulele group formed

SMASH (Service, Music, Art, Sport, Hangout) formed for 1st through 5th graders

Other Outreach activities in 2017:

- Hosted a regional Suzuki (Strings) Workshop – February 11
- Chancel Choir sang at Heartland Presbytery meeting – February 25
- Chancel Choir shared “Songs of the Cross” – Good Friday – April 14
- Hosted Stringendo Recital of Heartland Chamber Music – April 22
- Spirit! – Beth Lillian, director led both worship services with theme: “Love One Another” – April 30
- Charter Ringers & Chancel Choir Outreach Concert at Lakeview Village – May 6
- Bell Fest – Theme: Anything Goes! – Kathy Bures, Chris Krug, Celia Nicholas, & Rebecca Prater – directors – May 7
- Senior High Mission & Music Trip to Louisville, KY – June 23 -30 + M&M Led GCPC Worship – July 2
- KC Men’s Ensemble sang in both worship services – August 13
- A Christmas Exclamation! – a day for gifts (silent auction to support the M&M Trip) and an evening for carols presented by our children’s & youth choirs, youth band, & handbell ensembles – December 3
- Members of Praise Team & Chancel Choir shared a meal & sang Christmas carols with the residents of American Cancer Society’s Hope Lodge – December 5
- “Songs of the Season” were shared in 8:50 Worship by Praise Team & in 11:05 Worship Chancel Choir & Chamber Orchestra presented *Gloria* by Mark Hayes – December 17
- Exaltation! – Chancel Choir – Soloists – Guitar & Organ shared their songs in our 3 Christmas Eve services: 5pm, 7:30pm, & 10:45pm

Anne Stroud, moderator; Linda Dover, Michelle Gailliez-Frye, Judy Hook, Chris Lindsay, Celia Nicholas, Hilary Schmidt, Barb Smith, Rebecca Prater

Education and Nurture

Children's Ministry Team

2017 was an exciting year for Children's Team!

- In February, we began a new program entitled **SMASH** (Service-Music-Art-Sports-Hangout) for our 1st through 5th graders. It was met with great enthusiasm by the children and we average 10-12 kids with many bringing friends. Our 1st-5th grade roster is about 20 children, so this reflects over 50% attendance. The kids love to get together to play and learn how to live as God would want us to. Adults share the planning and leadership.
- **Sunday School** continues with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) curriculum, *Growing in Grace and Gratitude*, for Pre-K through 5th grade. Our teachers are so wonderful!
- With our growing number of toddlers, in summer we introduced a **2 and 3 year old Sunday School class** using curriculum the church owned, *God Loves Me*. Parents and children were excited with the new class and it continued in the fall, again with loving, caring teachers. This class is our largest in attendance of all the children's classes with 8 or more children.
- Our weekly **Nursery** continues to be well-staffed and we have had 7 babies born in 2017!
- **Summer Sunday School** was offered with lots of volunteers stepping in to teach. We used curriculum already in our church.
- We **Painted and refreshed two Sunday School rooms** downstairs and moved all elementary classes to these rooms. Our older children love the updated rooms and furniture and a place to call their own.
- In June, we held our week-long **Vacation Bible School** staffed by over 50 volunteers. Our theme, *Hero Central*, explored ways to be a hero for God. On Sunday following VBS, the children shared in worship. A Celebration Lunch followed with 200 in attendance.
- **Music** for children remains a strong priority so we added choir weekly before Sunday School and created a space for this downstairs. The same music is also sung and rehearsed at SMASH. We introduced 10 hymns as a part of our music curriculum as well.
- **Awakening to Worship** continues during both services. A training class was held in August to help more storytellers learn how to lead. Coordinator Kristy Shaw is facilitating the addition of 15 new stories to our curriculum which includes many new pieces and lots of planning.
- **Worship Leaders** assist by carrying the light in and out of worship and with leading the Call to Worship. We have elementary children as Worship Leaders twice a month with hopes to expand.
- **Worship Bags** are provided weekly and have many hands-on activities to help young children engage in worship. Also, **Children and Worship pew cards** have been added to our pew racks to help families feel comfortable worshipping together.
- The **Lord's Supper Class** was taught in August for 2 students and will be taught again in January 2018 to our larger 2nd grade class.

- Our **Teachers and Leaders** are faithful and dependable, living fully into their baptismal promise to love and nurture our children. They are the heart of our ministries.
- We continue to offer events for GCPC families as well as families in the communities, Kids Day Out, and Pioneer Preschool such as **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner, VBS, an Easter Egg Hunt, Trunk or Treat, and the Advent Fair.**

If you are interested in being on the Children’s Ministry Team or giving an hour or two teaching our children in SMASH, ATW, or Sunday School, contact our Team Moderator, Diane Schmit, or our Interim Director of Christian Education, Laura Holbrook.

Diane Schmit, moderator; Carolyn Chaffin, Danielle Dalton, Erin Frye, Emily Hussey, Angela Krug, Julie Passet, Hilary Schmidt, Kristy Shaw, Jenny Stromberg, Susan Sutherland, Julie Webb, Laura Holbrook

Youth Ministry Team

The Youth Team philosophy is to provide opportunities and inspiration for youth to develop a life-long relationship with God. We strive to offer a variety of meaningful worship opportunities, service and outreach events, thoughtful programming, and intentional connections with others to help youth develop and grow in their faith journey. We hope that through their involvement at Grace Covenant, youth will find strength, guidance, encouragement, and hope in Christ.

One great resource for our youth ministry at GCPC is our newly remodeled youth space. The space is now very conducive to social gathering and community building which makes a big difference to our ministry. It also is great for sharing music and able to support newer advances in technology.

The biggest reason our youth ministry program is successful is because we have many caring adults who are active along with church staff to help nurture our youth in their love of Christ. We are grateful for those who minister to our youth through participation as youth leaders, Youth Team members, mentors, Sunday School teachers, Confirmation mentors, drivers, food preparers, and event coordinators and hosts. We could not do what we do for GCPC youth without these caring and dedicated servants.

To accommodate different student schedules and activities, we offer a wide variety of options for youth to participate, including:

- Sunday School
- Confirmation classes
- “Connect” Youth group Gatherings
- Youth Band
- Exaltation! singers and ringers
- Peer Ministry
- Emerald City lock-in
- Homeless for a Night event
- Car Wash

- Music and Mission Trip
- Presbytery wide retreats, including snow tubing event
- Progressive Dinner
- Souper Bowl of Caring
- Massanetta Middle School Conference
- Montreat High School Youth Conference
- Heartland Presbytery camps
- Random Acts of Kindness and other outreach events

Our youth program will continue to remind GCPC youth that they are God’s precious children, cherished since birth, blessed and loved beyond words.

Danielle Dalton, moderator; Susan Sutherland, vice-moderator; David Berry, George Bures, Claire Chaffin, Amy Grice, Rachel Grice, Wendy Kor, Pat Kowalczewski, Lynn Long, Julie Passett, Chris Specht, Julie Webb, Miles McDonald

Adult Ministry Team

In 2017, GCPC’s Adult Ministry Team revitalized the adult education program, now called “**Grace Studies**,” largely thanks to Interim Director of Christian Education, Laura Holbrook. Last year’s all-church adult education survey informed our Christian education format throughout 2017, with members and attendees expressing interest in specific Bible study, interfaith studies, current issues, biblical history, and social justice. Programming throughout the year was enriched by adding an intentional focus on young adults, now called “Young Adults & Families” (YAF).

Adult Sunday School

Winter/Spring – Our winter series brought three topical options: “Parenting for Life,” “Speaking Truth to Power,” and “World Religions.” In the spring, we launched a six-week program in tandem with Kairos, “How Do I Live a Life of Justice?” that included members and guest speakers on programs such as “Climate Change and the Developing World,” “Immigration and the Path to Citizenship,” “Wages & Poverty,” “Guatemala Partnership,” and “Fair Trade.”

Summer – Summer began with a class hosting Daniel Washira from Kenya and a class on work by the Healthcare Foundation of Greater Kansas City. **Grace Creates** followed with many Grace Covenant members sharing education and hands-on experiences from their interests and expertise. This included playing hand bells and the dulcimer, woodworking, card-making, and sign-making. The series finale featured how to make (and taste!) Baklava. Members greatly enjoyed being creative together.

Autumn programming – We kicked off the fall with four short series:

- “Astrophysics for People of Faith in a Hurry” based on Neil DeGrasse Tyson’s book entitled *Astrophysics for People in a Hurry*. Tyson’s thoughts were juxtaposed with scriptures and presented by our Interim Pastor, Fred Holbrook.

- *This Is Grace* is offered several times a year to invite guests to look more closely at the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and, more specifically, GCPC. At the request of the Adult Ministry Team, this series was offered to include current members.
- “The Advent Conspiracy,” a video and discussion series helped us focus more on *Christ’s birth* and less on *seasonal business*.
- “This is Covenant,” was a short course on God’s covenants with humankind.

Concurrently, the Young Adults & Families (YAF) offered a longer-term series, “Animate: Bible” which looked at the Bible through a creative video series and included discussion and journaling.

Weekly Bible Studies

In addition to Presbyterian Women group studies, GCPC enjoys two popular midweek studies:

- The Thursday Morning Bible Study used several studies from Kerygma and also read *The Book of Joy* by His Holiness, the Dalai Lama, and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.
- The Wednesday Morning Men’s Bible Study held discussions on the lectionary passages found in the Revised Common Lectionary.

YAF’s: Young Adults & Families

Anchored by Katie Hearn and Emily Hussey, the Young Adults & Families ministry is alive and well!

- A core team of leaders meets every other month via Google Hangout for planning and discussion.
- Monthly events for fellowship are planned by this group including events for adults only, for families, and occasionally for women or men separately. The most attended social events are the May Picnic and the Fall Pumpkin Patch Gathering.
- Kim Krueger created a logo for the YAF’s that is used in all publicity.
- The team is always looking for ways to gather young adults together in fellowship, service, and study.

Maggie Blankers, moderator; Pat Collins, Colleen Carroll, Christine Hutchins, Dave Pack, Nelson Townsend, Laura Holbrook; Katie Hearn, Emily Hussey, co-chairs for YAF’s

Congregational Care

Connections & Care Team

The Connections and Care Team continued its work of nurturing the members of GCPC by organizing many events to connect people within and outside of the church as well as providing care for our members.

Fellowship Events:

- Presbytery Meeting (February)
- Bell Festival Reception (May)

- Vacation Bible School Luncheon (June) (coordinated with Welcome Team)
- M&M Concert Luncheon (July)
- Thanksgiving Eve's Chili Supper (November)

Hospital and Home Visits (Pastoral Care & Member Care) – a new program called “Parish Partners” was started to provide regular “one on one” care to members of the congregation who are homebound or facing challenging situations. Ten people completed the first training and a new class will be offered soon. This program is overseen by the pastor and works closely with the deacons who care for members within their Covenant Group.

Ministry Fair – During two Sundays in August, church members were given the opportunity to sign-up for Teams, Small Groups, and Sunday School classes (Small Group Ministry).

New Members – A team member took over this role in mid-2017 to follow-up with recent new members of the church to find out if they have been able to get involved or connected with the church in addition to providing assistance or answering questions. Many of the new members were interested in being assigned a “First Friend” who will track with them their first year of membership.

Lisa Feyh, moderator; Pat Collins, Karen Fankhauser, Mary Beth Funk, Jean Hampton, Cathy Haun, Terra Howard, Nancy Kalesz, Chelly King, Christina Kwon, Lynn Long, Linda Rosine, Ann Shadburn, Anne Stroud, Karen Tilma, Mary Ann Weyforth, Joy Wilson, Dee Zak, Laura Holbrook, Fred Holbrook

Outreach

Mission Team

Highlights

1. Holiday “gift certificates” sales top a new record of \$1,475 purchased by 28 members.
2. Communion offerings and contributions to our donation partners indicate the generosity of our congregation.
3. Mission Co-workers Leslie Vogt and Christie and Jeff Boyd are “adopted” by the congregation. A September visit by the Boyds is well-received.
4. Team name change from “Outreach Team” to “Mission Team.”
5. Team adopts new “Mission Funding Request Form” for organizations wishing to receive donations from GCPC.
6. Noisy Offering donations continue to grow as congregation becomes more aware of the program. October receipts were \$539.04.

Marcia Turner, past moderator; Johnnie Baker, Harold Frye, Mary Beth Funk, Susan Hayden, Ryan Hussey, Jesse Martin, Karen Pack, Rick Randolph, Shirley Sampson, Meredith Watson

Welcome Team

- Organized and hosted GCPC June Picnic (coordinated with Connections & Care Team)
- Offered two *This Is Grace* series of classes including
 - History of Grace Covenant
 - Theology and history of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
 - Everything you've wanted to ask a pastor but haven't been able to do so"
 - Grace Covenant and You—what membership means.
- Maintained GCPC banners along College Blvd.
- With the Marketing Team, created new "Welcome Packets" displayed in front of a new "Welcome" banner in the Concourse.
- Replaced the "Weekday Entrance" sign to incorporate our newer logo.

Kendra Holtzman, past moderator; Greg Prestridge, acting moderator;
Rosemary Gibson, Amy Grice, Al Hook, Jessica McKnight, Ginny Wirtz, Fred Holbrook

Kairos Team

Kairos is the ministry team coordinating GCPC's activities advocating for peace, justice, and earth care. During 2017 the team adopted the tag line **Advocating Peace, Justice, and Earth Care**. ("Kairos" is an ancient Greek word meaning "the right or opportune moment or time.")

A significant piece of Kairos' work is sharing information about peace, justice, and earth care issues and P.C.(U.S.A.) policies on these issues. We do that through the church newsletter, our bulletin board, and the **Advocacy Spot** display outside Heartland Hall.

2017 activities were:

Peace: (1) Monitored GCPC's adherence to the P.C.(U.S.A.) *Commitment to Peacemaking*. (2) Promoted the October Peace & Global Witness P.C.(U.S.A.) Offering which received \$866, with 25% designated to two local organizations—Arts in Prison and the Immigration Justice Advocacy Movement. (3) Established a financial and informational link to the national Presbyterian Peace Fellowship. (4) Shared information on U.S. military spending on the *Advocacy Spot*.

Justice: (1) Sold fair trade goods to GCPC members the first Sunday of most months and at First Presbyterian Church, Gardner, KS in September. (2) Grew 110 pounds of vegetables in Grace Garden that were donated to a food pantry. (3) Raised consciousness about prison ministry needs, co-sponsoring an April 30th East Hills Singers concert at Atonement Lutheran Church and hosting May 6th birthday card writing. (4) Sought and got Session approval of Grace Covenant becoming a Certified Hunger Action Congregation in the P.C.(U.S.A.) and submitted the paperwork to attain that designation. (5) Began to move Grace Covenant to some action on immigrants/refugees, organizing the November 12th "Lunch and Learn" on that topic with the Mission and Adult Ministry Teams. (6) Organized adult education classes on immigration, wage equity, Guatemala, and Fair Trade.

Earth Care: (1) Maintained GCPC's designation as an *Earth Care Congregation* by completing the required annual audit in January. (2) Encouraged recycling, including collecting 855 pairs of shoes for Soles 4 Souls and cell phones for SafeHome. (3) Sought and got Session approval of a P.C.(U.S.A.) divestment from fossil fuels overture. (4) Interacted with other groups in the community and P.C.(U.S.A.) on environmental issues – Heartland Presbytery Earthkeepers, Kansas City's Sustainable Sanctuary Coalition, Presbyterians for Earth Care Advocacy. (5) Organized adult education classes on climate change and U.S. government environmental policies. (6) Planned Earth Day activities. (7) Started to examine the possibility of Grace Covenant using solar panels for electricity generation at the suggestion of some church members.

Dave Pack, moderator; Gary Blankers, Lauren Bond, Glenda Johnson, Brandon Hearn, Christine Hutchins, Nathan Littlejohn, Mike Lorimer, Ellie Nelson, Jean Nelson, Stewart Nelson, Lyn Patterson, Jo Randolph, Rick Randolph, Shirley Sampson

Marketing Team

The Marketing Team promotes GCPC to the surrounding community as an engaged, accepting, caring, and faithful congregation as cost effectively as possible. We focus on reaching out and bringing in people who are unfamiliar with us by presenting a consistent look and feel that conveys a message of inclusiveness and encouragement to become involved with the life of the church.

As a support ministry, the Marketing Team provides promotional materials for the programs at GCPC that may entice someone to visit such as VBS, special choral music, recycling events, season and special worship services, and more. As noted by many of our newer members, the website is how they found GCPC. We keep the website up to date both in functionality and fresh content and events. The Marketing Team meets once a month and covers agenda items from team members and other team moderators. We discuss low cost, effective means of reaching people in order to grow our congregation. Church Administrator, Patrick Bell, is an active member of the team. We also work closely with the Welcome Team to provide materials they need to welcome new members.

Over the coming year, we will continue to make updates to the website, welcome packet, direct mail, and create some new street facing banners. We will also plan on working with a new pastor to promote his or her arrival. We would also like to produce an internal/external ad campaign that focuses on members and the various ministries they are involved in.

We are always looking to add-on to our team – especially if you have a knack for writing, social media, or google analytics, but we also need people with a passion for growing the church. If you have an interest in joining or have questions, please contact Team Moderator, Mac Fechtling.

Mac Fechtling, moderator; Terri Monrad, past moderator; Jennifer Battaglioli, Judy Hook, Amy Lafferty, Brianna Vaughn, Patrick Bell

Administration

Personnel Team

The Personnel Team has worked this year to be responsive to the process of living into who we are while, at the same time, looking forward and being ready for whatever possibilities may come our way.

We are responding to our budget needs while keeping in mind being a good employer to our staff and volunteers. We have worked with the General Assembly of the P.C.(U.S.A.) to keep our staff informed about the changes in the health and pension benefits available to them and make sure they are signed up to receive the best possible package offered.

We are keeping our position descriptions up to date and are evaluating a variety of ways to move into the future in terms of our staff needs and gifts. We strive to use the gifts of our volunteers to complement the work of our staff in support of the needs of the congregation. Together we become a complete system.

We are grateful for our staff and their willingness to work with us as we anticipate the changes a new pastor will bring. We are all looking forward to the possibilities and gifts in the near future of Grace Covenant. If you are interested in sharing in our work we are interested in talking to you! Please contact Linda Bridges at lgbridges@hotmail.com. Thank you!

Linda Bridges, moderator; Janice Blansit, Andrew Frye, Donna Goeckler,
Rob Jonas, Mary Sue Thomas, Fred Holbrook

Facilities Team

The Facilities Team had an eventful and productive 2017. Heavy spring rains brought ground water inside the building, so 12 downspouts were buried underground and piped away from the building to eliminate future problems. Remaining Capital Campaign projects were delayed due to funding shortfall (Heartland Hall renovation), but Sanctuary lighting replacement will proceed and hopefully be accomplished in 2018. Existing Sanctuary lighting system received ongoing maintenance and we'll need it until replaced. The team was busy with many more projects, big and small – maintained and removed trees around the property; cleaned gutters and picked up lots of leaves; major repairs to lawn sprinkler system so it now operates properly and efficiently; reseeded several areas; repainted East wing exterior doors and repaired stucco; repaired/repainted Portico and replaced light fixtures; mulched playgrounds; repaired and replaced several drinking fountains, faucets, valves; replaced KDO playground fence; repaired and replaced aging HVAC equipment; repainted the Concourse, Room 29, and small restroom; replaced 11 windows in the Sanctuary. As you can see, a lot was accomplished and our budget was spent. There is much more work to be accomplished in 2018 and we could use your time, talents, and expertise on the team so please consider joining us!

Marc Feyh, moderator; Larry Baker, Bryan Evans, Mike Lorimer,
Dave Peck, Knute Rosche, Cal Sweeten, Paul Thomas, Patrick Bell

Finance Team

This past year, we moved GCPC's banking accounts to Central Bank. The move was done for more favorable banking fees and Central Bank's ability to assist GCPC with online, electronic giving capabilities. We are excited to have this option available for those in the congregation who want to be able to make pledge payments in this manner. The Finance Team feels confident that our church is in good financial condition.

Highlights of 2017:

1. 2017 Budget was approved with anticipated net LOSS of \$46,825.
2. We ended 2017 with a GAIN of \$2,861.
3. We collected 98.8% of 2017 pledges – only \$7,606 short of the budgeted amount.
4. We collected \$5,586 of additional payments towards the per capita expense.
5. Combined expenses were \$57,599 less than budget (\$826,564 versus \$884,163).
We have cash reserves of \$357,829 which is just under FIVE months of total expenses.

Faithfully submitted,

Matt McBride, moderator; Bryan Evans, Doug Firebaugh, Terry Kolich, Mike Mattix, Cathy Nance, Aaron Soule, Tom Stroud, Debbie Miller, Fred Holbrook

Generosity Team

Our mission, based on I Corinthians 12:4, is grounded in the principles of biblical stewardship to nurture a culture of generosity within the congregation.

Generosity changed its methodology for stewardship in 2016 and continued it in 2017. We utilized a series of announcements and publications to inform and instruct the congregation as to the faith-based reasons for stewardship. GCPC members were asked a simple question: "What is God asking of me in response to God's grace?"

The stewardship campaign was capped by a single worship service with a catered meal provided by Zarda BBQ. At the service, the congregation was asked to prayerfully make a commitment to God's work through the ministry of GCPC. Membership responded with overall pledges of \$684,683, a 1% increase over last year's commitments of \$672,338. Giving units were up approximately 1.1% from 164 in 2017 to 183 in 2018. Per unit pledging decreased slightly from \$4,100 per unit in 2017 to \$3,741 per unit in 2018.

Overall, GCPC is a very generous congregation that continues to support the mission and ministry of the church. Generosity Team believes GCPC is on solid ground currently with opportunities going forward to increase the financial foundation of the church.

Tony Andersen, moderator; Bill Brown, Harold Frye, Christa Rupp, Fred Holbrook

Endowment Team

The Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church Endowment Fund was established in 1995 with the purpose of continuing, expanding, and supporting important missions and ministries of our

church, as well as ensuring that the church is prepared for capital improvement needs. The Endowment Fund provides a unique opportunity to partner with God to leave a legacy that will benefit not only current generations, but future generations as well. A brochure is available in the Concourse. It will provide each of you with meaningful, helpful information concerning a few of the numerous ways to make contributions to the Endowment Fund. This includes information concerning several estate planning considerations.

If you have questions after reviewing this brochure, please feel free to contact any of the members of the Endowment Team. You may also contact our Church Administrator, Patrick Bell, who can point you in the right direction. We will have an Endowment Team member contact you to discuss your questions. Additionally, if you have an estate planning attorney, you may want to contact him or her to discuss whether any of the types of gifts identified in the brochure will help you achieve your charitable giving goals and financial objectives.

As of December 31, 2017, the Endowment Fund, which is invested with the Presbyterian Foundation, had a balance of \$214,394. Thank you for prayerfully considering leaving a legacy which will serve Christ through Grace Covenant for generations to come.

David Steen, moderator; Aaron Soule, Fred Holbrook

Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church
Capital Campaign
January – December 2017

Capital Campaign Funds	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Restricted Revenue</u>	<u>Restricted Expenses</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
82478 – Capital Campaign Receipts	\$691,012.92	\$74,202.35	\$0.00	\$765,215.27
82480 – Feasibility Study/Expenses	(\$8,755.50)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$8,755.50)
82482 – Consulting Expenses	(\$45,849.96)	\$0.00	\$550.00	(\$46,399.96)
82483 – Promotions	(\$4,004.66)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$4,004.66)
82484 – LOC Interest & Bank Charges	(\$380.13)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$380.13)
82486 – Lighting	(\$2,006.02)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$2,006.02)
82487 – Security/Wireless Access	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,122.25	(\$7,122.25)
82490 – HVAC	(\$88,36.06)	\$0.00	\$6,271.00	(\$94,407.06)
82491 – Organ	(\$135,510.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$135,510.00)
82493 – Roof Repair	(\$54,772.00)	\$0.00	\$69,150.00	(\$123,922.00)
82494 – Youth Wing	<u>(\$278,158.87)</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$18,759.65</u>	<u>(\$296,918.52)</u>
Total Capital Campaign Funds	(\$9,653.53)	\$74,202.35	\$18,759.65	\$45,789.17

**GCPC Pledge History
2012 to 2017**

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
Pledged Giving Units	222	218	235	223	175	164
Average Pledge	\$3,776	\$3,737	\$3,433	\$3,462	\$3,431	\$4,100
Amount Pledged	\$838,370	\$814,711	\$806,658	\$772,083	\$600,359	\$672,338
Amount Budgeted	\$795,000	\$795,000	\$795,000	\$772,664	\$586,159	\$672,338
Amount Received	\$839,856	\$798,153	\$792,162	\$745,800	\$580,661	\$664,732
% of Pledges Actually Rec'd	100.2%	98.0%	98.2%	96.6%	99.0%	98.8%
Non-Pledge Budgeted	\$32,000	\$32,000	\$52,000	\$24,000	\$24,000	\$82,500
Non-Pledge Received	\$57,322	\$50,454	\$23,378	\$33,593	\$121,103	\$70,043



GRACE COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2018 BUDGET

	2018 Budget	2017 Budget	2016 Budget	2015 Budget
Pledged Income	684,683	672,338	586,159	772,664
All non-pledged Income	160,117	150,000	106,000	106,000
Per Capita Fundraising	15,000	15,000	-	-
02 Accounts	-	-	21,121	-
TOTAL	859,800	837,338	713,280	878,664
Education Ministry Unit				
Children's Ministry Team	5,685	4,800	5,000	5,000
Youth Ministry Team	8,845	11,250	8,475	8,475
Adult Ministry Team	2,220	3,600	2,835	2,835
Total Education Unit	16,750	19,650	16,310	16,310
Outreach Ministry Unit				
Mission Team	31,210	32,900	28,000	28,000
Welcome Team	675	1,610	1,610	1,610
Marketing Team	4,255	5,500	6,000	6,000
Kairos Team	305	545	545	545
Total Outreach Unit	36,445	40,555	36,155	36,155
Congregational Nurture Unit				
Music Team	9,856	9,900	7,840	7,840
Worship Team	2,800	2,800	1,960	1,960
Generosity Team	4,000	4,200	1,120	1,120
Connections & Care Team	1,170	2,450	2,450	2,450
Moderator/Pulpit Supply	-	-	3,000	-
Total Congregational Nurture	17,826	19,350	16,370	13,370
Support Ministry Unit				
Office Expenses	48,090	46,890	46,800	46,800
Facilities Team	123,000	180,600	113,400	113,400
Finance Team	24,200	20,200	13,115	69,335
Personnel Team	491,275	507,857	508,245	573,582
Administrative Expenses	100,414	46,061	39,789	39,789
Total Support Unit	786,979	801,608	721,349	842,906
KDO Expenses	1,800	3,000	2,000	2,000
TOTAL	859,800	884,163	792,184	910,741
CASH RESERVES / NET LOSS	-	(46,825)	(78,904)	(32,077)