



**Service of Worship
January 17, 2021**

***“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.

“Pray for one another” — James 5:15

We encourage you to remember the following in prayer:

All Grieving the Death of a Loved One: Jean Hampton and Family in the death of her mother.

Surgeries/Hospitalizations/Illnesses: Gary Dubois, Gail Harris, Dave Pack, Rosemary Gibson, Morgan Krug, Shirley Sisk, Pat Gray, Beth Lillian, Jan Mohr, Cindy Schendel, Diane Browne & Edward Lanning and Family, Leigh Cummings

Cancer Treatment: Kathy Jonas

Ageing Challenges: Shirley Sisk, C.J. Poirier

Military Service: Conner Maynard, David Zak, C.J. Bradley, Seth Lorimer, Mary E. Johnson II, Alanna Funk, Bryce Hearn, Shannon Lorimer. **All veterans, deployed military, and reservists.**

Our Mission Co-Workers: Jeff and Christi Boyd in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Leslie Vogel, PC (USA) Regional Liaison for Guatemala and Mexico.

Peace and Relief Workers; Unemployed and Underemployed; Families Struggling with Separation and Divorce; Individuals Struggling with Depression; Those Contemplating Suicide and Those Left Behind.

Heartland Presbytery Partnership of Prayer: First Presbyterian Church, North Kansas City, MO; Heartland Presbytery Stated Meeting — January 19

(If you have a prayer request you'd like to include in the bulletin, please contact the church office at office@gcpc.org, or send to gcpc_prayers@yahoo.com.)

SPOTLIGHT

REMINDER: Grace Covenant observes MKL Day, January 18, as a staff holiday.

GET YOUR SOUPER BOWL DONATIONS IN EARLY! In the month of January, GCPC youth will be holding the Souper Bowl of Caring to collect nonperishable food for Harvesters. The collection will take place all the way up to February 7. You can drop off Souper Bowl donations during the KCK Hot Lunch drop off time, on the morning of January 16 from 8:15–9:15, or put them in the Harvesters barrels in front of the big wooden doors at GCPC weekday mornings from 9:00am to noon. If you would like a student to pick your donation up from your house we can arrange for that too! Just contact [Miles.](#))

THE GENEROSITY TEAM WOULD LIKE TO THANK everyone involved in helping us get off to a good start with this year's "Stewart-ship" Campaign. If you haven't made your pledge yet, you can go online at <http://gcpc.org/2021pledge>, or you can call our Finance Administrator, Tara Hyder. You can also download a pledge card [HERE](#).

CONTACTING STAFF: A reminder that the GCPC church building is open to limited use in response to the ongoing public health emergency. Office staff members are primarily working remotely. The best way to reach a staff member is by e-mail:

Rev. Sue: sue.trigger@gcpc.org

Rev. Mitch: mitch.trigger@gcpc.org

Rebecca Prater (music dir.): rebecca.prater@gcpc.org

Miles McDonald (youth dir.): miles.mcdonald@gcpc.org

Patrick Bell (office admin.): patrick.bell@gcpc.org

Tara Hyder (finance admin.): finance@gcpc.org

HOW TO PLEDGE DURING THIS TIME: During this time of online-only worship, we encourage those who normally put their pledge in the offering plate each Sunday to mail their pledges to the church. The Finance Administrator will get them and see that they are deposited in a timely fashion. Of course, you may also make your pledge online by going to gcpc.org and clicking the "Online Giving" tab.

ADULT

WHAT IS A MATTHEW 25 CHURCH? Matthew 25:31–46 calls all of us to actively engage in the world around us, so our faith comes alive and we wake up to new possibilities. Convicted by this passage, both the 222nd and 223rd General Assemblies (2016 and 2018) exhorted the PC(USA) to act boldly and compassionately to serve people who are hungry, oppressed, imprisoned or poor. In 2020 our Session signed on to become a Matthew 25 church along with many Heartland Presbytery congregations. Join our online adult Sunday school class to learn more about what it means to be part of this exciting initiative. The classes will meet Sundays, January 3, 10, 17, and 24 at 11:15am. Join us on Zoom at 11:15am. Meeting ID: 883 1302 4210 Passcode: GCPC2020

CHILDREN

IT'S A SMASH SUNDAY! TODAY, 4-6PM (K-5th grades) January 17 is a Matthew 25 Sunday in the PCUSA. Our SMASH kids will join the congregation in thinking about diversity and how we can change the world. There will be a story, games, activities, and lots of fun as we think about all God's children. Please RSVP to help us safely prepare for supplies and social distance. RSVP to Rev. Sue, sue.trigger@gcpc.org.

YOUTH

SUNDAY SCHOOL: We are waiting until February to start Sunday School back up for the spring. So, no classes in January, but we plan to be back to our 11:30 time slot in Heartland Hall starting February 7.

MLK WEEKEND: We encourage you all to join us for an MLK Day activity. This year we will be participating in a 90-minute "Dividing Line" driving tour of segregation in KC. For our Connect activity on the 17th, we will gather at 2pm in cars at the Shawnee Mission East parking lot (the tour starts in the north lot of SME that enters off 75th St.) and will caravan in separate cars with people in your bubble. Drivers must be at least 25 years old, so this will be a good family activity. If the 17th doesn't work for you, do it on your own any time before January 18. You can access the tour by following this link: <https://voicemap.me/tour/kansas-city/dividing-lines-a-history-of-segregation-in-kansas-city> and you may want to do that ahead of time just to get a feel for it. On January 18 at 2pm, we will be holding a Zoom meeting to discuss and debrief what you learned on the tour.

MISSION

IHN OPERATIONAL CHANGES AND REQUEST FOR DONATIONS: Amid concerns about COVID exposure to our volunteers, IHN executive director Vicki Dercher made the decision to house our guests in motel rooms. We currently have Elizabeth (53), with two teens, Marie (16), and Madilyn (15). Elizabeth does have transportation and is looking for employment. We are eager to assist them as they work toward renewed stability.

We will not need volunteers to host, nor prepare meals in order to avoid contact for our next IHN week, which begins this February 7, 2021. Vicki asked for if we could provide \$125 toward a gift card to Price Chopper so that Mayra can purchase ready-made items or those needing little preparation. She has a refrigerator, microwave, and coffee maker in her motel room. Our support Congregation, Indian Hills United Methodist Church, is also looking into ways to financially contribute to costs this week. The remaining cost will be \$544 for the motel stay of the family for one week. *For those of you wanting to help, please send your donation to Grace Covenant with "IHN" noted in the memo section. Grace Covenant will issue the check to IHN. If you could help with ten dollars, that would be wonderful support in lieu of preparing a meal or spending a few hours volunteering.*

While we cannot bless our guests with warm hospitality and smiling faces at this time, we are doing what we can. Hopefully when our next host week rolls 'round on May 2, 2021, our lives will be more normal. Thank you for supporting IHN.

CLEAN OUT YOUR FABRIC STASH AND HELP THE HOMELESS! Mission team is once again seeking donations of leftover fabric to make into quilts to distribute to the homeless. Donations should be at least

¼ of a yard and include sturdy fabrics that can take some hard usage such as cotton, linen, and flannel. We also need Christmas prints to make stockings for the Red Bag Project in 2021! Contact Mikki Walker, michala.walker@gmail.com, to arrange pick up or drop off of your donation. Contact Donna Heer, taxdheer@gmail.com, if you're interested in making a quilt top and haven't already heard from her. Thanks!

IDEAS PLEASE! Many GCPC members are familiar with how we collect food donations in the weekday entrance year-round (in addition to our monthly donation partner collections). We've been unable to do that with the church building being mostly closed, but we'd like to start it up again. Mission team has considered a few ways to do this — putting a bin outside the church, adding food donations to the monthly drive-up collection event, suggesting folks put donations in the blue Harvesters barrels at area grocery stores — but hasn't found a home run yet. (One idea that's already been considered is leaving just the outer doors to the weekday entrance unlocked so that the bin is accessible — unfortunately, it's not possible to leave the outer doors unlocked and still secure the building.) We'd like to hear any creative ideas members have on how to provide GCPCers an opportunity to help the hungry during the pandemic. Please send an e-mail to michala.walker@gmail.com with any ideas. Thanks!

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