



REAL FAITH | REAL STORIES | REAL GRACE

GRACE NOTES



“Who do I want to be?”

That’s a question that we all ask ourselves at some point, usually when we are young and the future seems unlimited. But it’s also a question that every person gets to ask when they make the conscious decision to follow Jesus. Jesus called on his followers to repent, which means to turn from the direction in life you’re taking and change, to believe in the good news of God’s forgiveness before you even ask. Sometimes it’s not so much that we are living extremely sinful lives, but the fact that we’re not taking the direction Jesus pointed us to. Every day we have the opportunity to repent and make a change in our lives that will give joy to God.

The interesting thing is this message holds true for the Christian church as a whole, for denominations, and individual congregations. Sometimes a congregation can get so set in its way that it loses its passion for Christ’s work in the world.

During the pandemic, both individuals and congregations had the opportunity to step back and reflect on their expressions of faith. We’ve had the chance to see areas of our lives where it might just be the right time to repent, to turn to a new direction that Jesus leads us, a path that truly does seek an abundant life for all people. “Who do we want to be?” When we answer that question, we’ll know exactly what to do to serve God in our personal lives and in this shared life as Grace Covenant. And there will be rejoicing in heaven as on earth.

Peace and joy be with you all,

— *Mitch & Sue Trigger*

Special Worship Service

After 14 months of on-line worship, **Pentecost Sunday** was truly a day of celebration as we joined together, both online and in-person. It reminded us all of what a special privilege it is when we worship together.

With that in mind, Grace Covenant will have a very special worship service on **Sunday, June 27, at 4:00pm**, a **“Service of Lament and Hope.”** Many of us experienced the loss of family and friends during the pandemic and we missed out on the opportunity to share our grief at their passing and the opportunity to celebrate their lives. Our **“Service of Lament and Hope”** will be a time of remembering those loved ones we miss and celebrating the love of God that surrounds them even now.

We will make a list for our bulletin with the names of those we will remember and everyone is invited to send those names into the GCPC office (at office@gcpc.org) or by calling and leaving a message with Patrick during weekdays (913-327-1059). Please join us and bring family or friends that may want to take part. All will be welcome as we give thanks to God for loving each one of us and giving us hope till we meet again.

A quick note:

The Triggers (*Sue, Mitch, Charlie, & dog Ellie*) and Stewart will be taking vacation time to visit the Badlands and Yellowstone July 2-17. We’d appreciate prayers for safe travels as we take the opportunity to visit a spectacular portion of God’s creation.

We're Excited to Begin the Workshop Rotation

Would you like to help?

The Children's Team is resuming plans for the Workshop Rotation Sunday School to begin in late summer! We are building a new and exciting experience for our children to learn Bible stories through workshops in art, science, music, puppetry, games, and more. Each week the children will experience a story through one of these workshops.

Leaders will select a favorite area (science, art, etc.), partner with a friend, and lead a workshop for two weeks in a row. There will be 6–8 weeks between your workshops. This is a great way for children to build relationships with our adults.

Rev. Sue will host an IN-PERSON workshop on Sunday, June 27, at 11:30am in Heartland Hall to introduce the program. If you love working with children and would like to be part of this program, **please contact Rev. Sue** at sue.trigger@gcpc.org.

KCK Hot Lunch

On Saturday, June 19, we will gather the KCK sandwich lunches in the parking lot from 8:15 to 9:15am. We are asking the lunch preparers to come by GCPC on Thursday, June 17, and pick up bagged (12 mustard, ketchup, & mayo) condiments for each dozen they are making. By 8am, they will be in a cooler marked for KCK Hot Lunch outside the Weekday Entrance. Please mark your name off the list. Put one of each packet (mayo, mustard, ketchup) in each lunch bag.

If you can't come by on Thursday, please contact Mitch Trigger (973-970-5751) or Meredith Watson (816-289-6648) and we will deliver your condiment bag to you on Friday. Also, your assistance in not closing the lunch bags is appreciated. KCK Hot Lunch staff will add a milk if there is a child receiving the lunch. Thanks, and see you Saturday, June 19.

Address Update

The Strouds have moved! Their new contact information is: 9821 Broadmoor, Overland Park, KS 66212; Tom's cell, 913-515-0591; Anne's cell, 913-515-6084.



A Summer of Intentional Fellowship

As we have been preparing for reopening, there is one message we have heard repeatedly, *"We can't wait to see each other and spend time together."* It reminded us about the importance of fellowship. In the book of Acts, the first Christians gathered together for fellowship, study, prayer and service. Many of the stories of Jesus gathering at dinners and weddings were all about fellowship.

With this in mind, we are inviting you to join us for "intentional fellowship" after worship each Sunday this summer. We need to be together again and to enjoy each other's company, share each other's struggles, and continue to build our relationships as a congregation.

Our teams and groups in the congregation are planning some creative ways to enjoy our fellowship time together. We will gather outside following the 10am service each Sunday. We will gather outside unless weather sends us to Heartland Hall.

Page Turners, June 3

Please join us for Page Turners on Thursday, June 3, 7–9pm at the home of Teresa Ilten, 12691 S. Hagan St., Olathe, KS 66062 (913-515-1087). The book for this month is *The Nickel Boys* by Colton Whitehead. Happy Reading!

(From Teresa: Our home is between Pflumm and Blackbob, right off of 127th. The subdivision is directly north of Olathe East High School. If you come from the Pflumm Street side, you can turn directly on our street. Our house is the second one on the right. If you come from the Blackbob side, turn on to Alcan into the subdivision, and then drive around to the east side of the small subdivision.)

Music Notes

Music in Worship for June 2021

2ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, JUNE 6TH

Chancel Quartet hymns (*live*), Charter Ringers II "Be Thou My Vision" arr. Jason Krug & Kat Mason, flute "Sonatina, mvt. 1" by Eldin Burton (*pre-recorded*)

3rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST JUNE 13TH – VBS SUNDAY!

VBS Children & Leaders will share some of the songs from their "Knights of North Castle" themed Vacation Bible School

4TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, JUNE 20TH

Praise Team led & Christopher Callender, acoustic guitar "The Spirit Song" by John Wimber & "Here Comes the Sun" by George Harrison & Eric Clapton (*live*)

5TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, JUNE 27TH

Chancel Quartet hymns (*live*), Chancel Singers III "Holy, Holy, Holy" arr. Dan Forrest (*pre-recorded*) & Donna Heer and Caroline McDonald, violin duet (*live*)

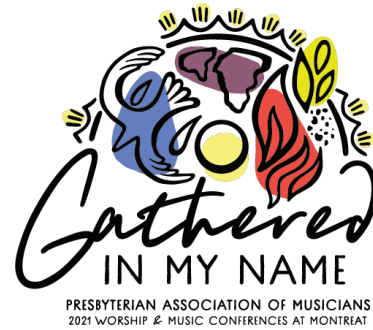
Today's anthem was donated by Marilyn Roderick, MD in honor of her mother, Juanita Roderick Latham, PhD (Elem Ed), 12/29/24, 96 y.o. and still loving music, storytelling, and children. (Marilyn found GCPC serendipitously during the COVID crisis.)

THEN STAY AFTER WORSHIP ON SUNDAY, JUNE 27TH FOR SCOOPS OF ICE CREAM & A HYMN SING OF SOME OF YOUR FAVORITE HYMNS!

On June 27th write down one of your favorite hymns and drop it in our collection bag.

We'll then draw out titles you submitted & sing 1 stanza of as many hymns as we can in 30 minutes.

Oh, and did you read the part about eating scoops of some of your favorite ice cream, too!? *Oh, yeah...this is gonna be fun!*



I am going to be attending the **Virtual/Online Version of the 2021 PAM (Presbyterian Association of Musicians) Conference** at Montreat which begins Sunday evening, June 27 and ends with a closing concert on Friday evening, July 2.

"Thank you, GCPC, for offering opportunities like this to your staff for continuing education, renewal, & inspiration."

—Your partner in ministry, Rebecca Prater, Director of Music Ministries

Blood Drive July 1

Blood Donors are Always Royal. Kansas City Royals and Community Blood Center Celebrate 'Royals Week' During Critical Blood Emergency

Please make a life-saving blood donation at our upcoming blood drive. Present to donate and receive your choice of a limited edition Royals t-shirt or hat, or a pair of vouchers redeemable for tickets to a Royals home game at Kauffman Stadium (while supplies last).

Book your appointment today at savealifenow.org/group, enter Group Code: IM. Or click https://donate.savealifenow.org/.../drive_schedule/75770

For additional details contact Sarah Byrd at (913) 909-1559 or swbyrdks@gmail.com. Medical eligibility questions? Call 1-800-688-0900.

Nursery Supplies Needed

It's been a year since we've had children in the nursery and we are in need of some fresh supplies. You can help us out by ordering from our Amazon wish list. **Check out this link and place an order.** We greatly appreciate your help.

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3AK6AAXZ3IKYM?ref=wl_share

Summer 2021!

This summer will be different than many summers in past years, but it is encouraging that most of our youth are now able to get vaccinated! We can now get back to more regular meetings together and even do some traveling. We have some new opportunities planned for the coming months. See below for details.

Youth and Family Canoe Trip, June 18–19 (20)!

We are excited to take a canoe trip this summer, similar to the trip we have taken many times in past years but this time we are inviting whole families. We have a few college students going, several high school students, and their parents too! Some will be staying both Friday and Saturday nights and some just Friday. There is still room for more, so contact Miles McDonald if you would like more information.

VBS June 7–11

Our youth have always been a very important part of the VBS experience for our younger children and this year is no exception! Youth helpers will be engaged in several different ways throughout the week. Contact Sue Trigger at sue.trigger@gcpc.org if you haven't already signed up to help.

Presbytery Youth Mission Week

June 21–24 will be a presbytery-wide local mission week for our youth. We will serve from 10am to 3pm each day (plus travel time) joining other 6th–12th grade youth from around our presbytery. We will have one to two service projects planned for each of those days and will meet at different locations in Kansas City and surrounding areas. Students can join for any or all those days. A registration form will be available soon that will list the locations and more details.

Montreat July 10–17

The Montreat Youth Conference is officially on for rising high school 9th–12th graders plus college freshmen. We will partner up with our beloved past intern Christina Rees-Fletcher and her group from Pine Ridge Presbyterian for the trip and housing. A registration form will be available soon. We are seeking an additional adult to travel with us.

Upcoming Events

- VBS Help — June 7–11
- Youth and Family Canoe Trip — June 18–19 (20)
- Presbytery Youth Mission Week — June 21–24
- Montreat — July 10–17

The **May 17, 2021**, Session meeting was held via Zoom with Reverend Sue Trigger serving as moderator. In addition to the ruling elders, deacon Karen Pack, Reverend Mitch Trigger, Chris & Meredith Cabe, Hilary & Jake Schmidt and church staff members, Rebecca Prater and Patrick Bell were in attendance. The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm and Tim Hayden offered a devotion and prayer.

Session approved the baptisms of Abigail Grace Schmidt, daughter of Jake & Hilary Schmidt, on May 23, and Drake William Cabe, son of Meredith & Chris Cabe, on June 13.

Consent agenda: The minutes of the April 19 Session meeting were approved, and Harold Frye was appointed to serve on the Christian Educator Certification committee for Sue's certification.

Nominating team: The team is recruiting elder candidates who will be elected at the June 6 congregational meeting.

Clerk's report: There were no changes in membership this month, so we have 400 members.

Deacons' report: Karen Pack reported that the deacons are ready for the building reopening.

Old business: Building reopening – In light of the recent change to CDC guidelines that vaccinated people do not need to wear masks, Session approved the following changes to our reopening protocols – we will no longer require reservations and the singers who sing the two hymns from the chancel will not need to be masked.

New business: Session approved allowing Rev. Heidi Peterson to baptize the son of Trey Ridlen, a former GCPC youth, in the back garden.

After sharing joys and concerns, the meeting adjourned at 8:15pm and Rev. Sue Trigger closed with a prayer.

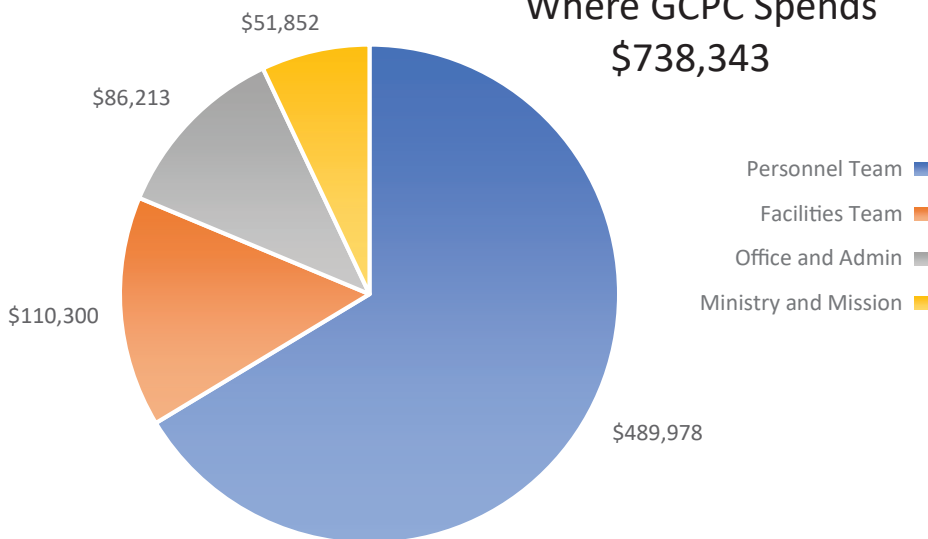
2021 Budget Report



We are our church, the hands of God on earth.

In doing God's work we use many resources. We provide countless hours of volunteer time to help feed the poor, house the homeless, care for the sick, comfort the grieving, and teaching the faithful. Along with these uncounted hours we contribute the skills we learned through school, work, life and study. These are the principal resources we use in our ministry. There are some resources that we use that are paid for by dollars. We budget for and count those dollars.

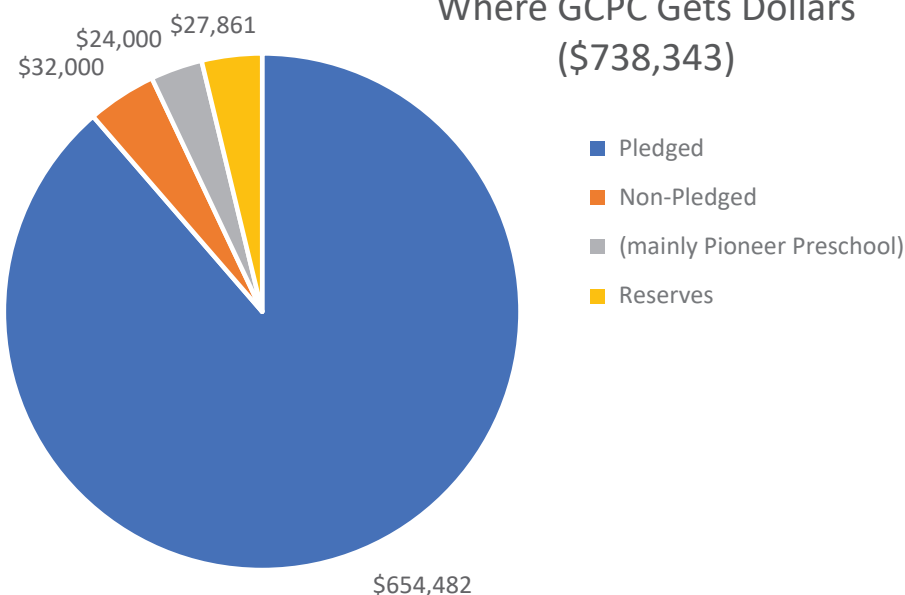
Where GCPC Spends
\$738,343



Here is the summary of our annual budget for this year 2021.

We're planning to use some reserves this year, as we have for each of the last five years. We've been blessed to have had a forgiven PPP loan and investment growth to offset our operating deficits, but those blessings aren't controllable or predictable. We hope to revitalize the church and stop using reserves through growth and generosity.

Where GCPC Gets Dollars
(\$738,343)



Current Status

Revenues exceeded expenditures for the year to date at April 30, 2021 by \$207,857. However; for the month of April, expenditures exceeded revenues by \$25,886. The church tends to receive most of the pledged donations in the first few months of the year and the last few months of the year. In addition, a PPP loan of \$89,200 was forgiven as part of the Covid 19 stimulus package and included in revenue in February of 2021. In laymen's terms: We get paid in the first quarter, have some slow months where we spend down our bank account and hope to get a Christmas bonus so we don't have to use too much of our savings.

Come to the North Castle!

Vacation Bible School is just around the corner!

June 7 – 11 from 9am – 12pm

It's not too late to register go to: gcpc.org/Quest

We can't wait to see everyone at the North Castle where we will learn how to strong in the Lord and in the strength of God's power by exploring how we put on the armor of God. We'll explore Old and New Testament stories and discover different pieces of protective armor — the Belt of Truth, the Breastplate of Justice, the Shoes of Peace, the Shield of Faith, and the Helmet of Salvation—at work in the lives of familiar Bible characters and explore how that armor works in their own lives as they follow and serve God. Get ready to take up the gauntlet and accept the challenge to “armor up” and be strong by remaining with God and sharing God's love in a world that needs it more than ever.

NOTICE: In order to maintain COVID-19 safety protocols, this year's VBS will be open to children and grandchildren of church members only. Next year we'll welcome everyone to join us.

We need plenty of supplies for VBS. If you would like to donate, please go to our sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E084CAEA829A0F94-vbsdonaions>. Bring your donations to the church as soon as you can.

Want to volunteer to help during VBS? Contact Rev. Sue at sue.trigger@gcpc.org.



VBS Celebration Sunday, June 13 at 10am

Join us as we dance and celebrate at North Castle one more time! We will learn about the wonderful ways God helps us to be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. (Ephesians 6:10). Following the service, we will enjoy some VBS activities and refreshments for our intentional fellowship time. Join us! It's going to be amazing!

Online Giving!

Give via text messaging!

1. Text 'Give2GCPC' and the amount you want to give to 73256.
2. Click the returned link. Our donation page will open. Enter your credit card information and select which fund you wish to give to.

3. Complete your gift through our secure online portal Realm.
4. A confirmation email is sent.

Realm®, our online church giving portal, offers new and easy ways to give financially to support our ministries. Whether you want to set up a recurring gift or split your donation among different funds, Realm makes it safe and secure to give online. We hope you take advantage of this convenience.



GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church celebrates God's grace for everyone.

We gather to worship.
We equip ourselves
to share faith.
We send ourselves to serve.

In-Person Worship at 10am.
Masks required.

Read about our In-Person
Worship Guidelines [HERE](#).

Online worship will continue
indefinitely on Facebook
and Zoom. Online worship
services information
can be found [HERE](#).

REAL FAITH
REAL STORIES
REAL GRACE

11100 College Boulevard
Overland Park, KS 66210
913-345-1256

office@gcpc.org
gcpc.org





GRACE COVENANT

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Inclusive. Family Oriented. Welcoming.

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Phone: 913-345-1256
Fax: 913-345-1198

gcpc.org



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Facebook: facebook.com/GraceCovenantPresbyterian

Twitter: @GraceCovPres

Instagram: @gcpc_overlandpark

CELEBRATING GOD'S ALL ENCOMPASSING LOVE!

CHURCH STAFF

Co Pastors

- Office hours: Monday-Thursday
Mitch Trigger, mitch.trigger@gcpc.org.....ext.18
Sue Trigger, sue.trigger@gcpc.org.....ext.15

Director of Music Ministries

- Office hours: Monday-Wednesday, Friday
Rebecca Prater, rebecca.prater@gcpc.org .. ext. 13

Church Administrator

- Office hours: Monday-Friday
Patrick Bell, patrick.bell@gcpc.org ext. 10

Director of Youth Ministries

Technical Director of Worship
- Office hours: Monday-Thursday
Miles McDonald, miles.mcdonald@gcpc.org.. ext. 17

Finance Administrator..... Tara Hyder
Mon. 8-4; Tues./Weds. 8-12; /Thurs./Fri. by Appt.

Organist..... Linda Dover

Contemporary Music Coord...... Carrie DeVries

Contemporary Music Drummer..... Daniel Cole

Child Care Coordinator..... Carolyn Chaffin

Wedding Coordinator..... Lara Schesser

Funeral Coordinator..... Mary Sue Thomas

ELDERS

Jim Byrd	Mike Mattix
Ric Cummings	Terri Monrad
Andrew Frye	Diane Schmit
Tim Hayden	Sophie Shaw
Cheryl Johnson	Jenna Soule
Terry Kolich	Susan Sutherland
Lynn Long	Marcia Turner

SUPPORT STAFF

Deacon Moderator.....Anita Hadel
Operating Committee.....Tim Hayden,
Cheryl Johnson, Susan Sutherland, Mike Mattix,
Diane Schmit
Newsletter Editor/Marketing..... Kim Krueger
Prayer Chain.....Cheryl Johnson
Website Administrators .. Kim Krueger/Patrick Bell

MINISTRY UNITS

Congregational Nurture Unit Moderators

Connections and Care.....Vacant
Worship and Music.....Melanie Townsend,
Katie Hearn

Education Ministry Unit Moderators

AdultMaggie Blankers
Children Erin Frye, Angela Krug
Youth.....Kaki Conti

Reach Out Ministry Unit Moderators

Kairos Rick Randolph
MissionMikki Walker
Welcoming Vacant

Supportive Ministry Unit Moderators

FacilityMarc Feyh
GenerosityDavid Sutherland
Finance.....Jim Byrd
Personnel Kevin Mason

Worship Schedule

10am Online Worship
until otherwise announced.
Visit gcpc.org/online for links

Upcoming Newsletter Article Deadlines

July 2021 issue - Deadline, June 22
August 2021 issue - Deadline, July 20