



Service of Worship
January 10, 2021 10:00am

***“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: Nathan and Sylvia Littlejohn in the death of their cousin.

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: Maitland Presbyterian Church, Maitland, MO Eleanor King; First Presbyterian Church, Maryville, MO

(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

EPIPHANY STARS MAY BE PICKED UP ON TODAY FROM 11:15 A.M. UNTIL NOON after worship in a drive-thru event. Worship Team, and maybe surprise visitors will be under the portico to distribute them. Please let the helpers know the # of stars you need for your family as you approach. Unfortunately there are no special stars set aside for children this year. You are encouraged to use whatever star you receive for them as an opportunity for a teachable moment. Stars were handled as little as possible this year and all are "vintage" gifts having been created in past years. So if you have cut stars in previous years (color or white) your gift continues to be used. THANK YOU. Those not able to drive up on Sunday can request stars by contacting Patrick in the office, patrick.bell@gcpc.org, and they will be mailed to you. Looking forward to hearing your experiences with your 2021 star.

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

YOUTH

WISE GUYS: This Sunday is “Star Sunday,” and after worship (11:15) we will be handing out Epiphany stars in front of church to any and all who drive through our parking lot. It would be fun to have some Magi/Wise People from the East in costume to hand them out. Have you ever wanted to be a king? This could be your opportunity. Please let me (Miles) know ASAP if you are up for the gig.

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.

RELAX, REJUVENATE, REFRESH — THIS SUNDAY EVENING: This will be our first week back in person for the new year, and since it is just before exam time for many of you, we would love you to join us for a chill night of prayer, reflection, and meditation. We will have different stations set up for you to experience God in your life and in the world around you. Come and de-stress with us.

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 Exec. Director Vicki Dercher made the decision to house our guests in motel rooms. We now have a single mom, Mayra (30), with two children, Amaya (2.5) and Joshua (11 months), staying in a two-bed motel room. This means that we will not host at Grace Covenant, nor will we go to New Haven SDA Church to provide hosting duties.

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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