



GRACE COVENANT

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship — May 3, 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: Frank Slovick

HEAD USHERS: Mike & Susan Fitzgerald

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

Surgeries/Hospitalizations/Illnesses: Chris Frye, Donna Goeckler, Nathan Littlejohn, Ellen Mohr

Cancer Treatment: 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: Trinity Presbyterian Church, St. Joseph, MO; Presbyterian Christian Church, Stewartville, MO; Tarkio Presbyterian Church, Tarkio, MO; MQP Presbyterial (Maya Quiché PW equivalent) and its leaders

(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 DECORATING VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED! Let's get creative! Help create items that will transform our spaces for GCPC's Snowball Mountain Challenge VBS. Below are upcoming dates when we'll gather to work on decorations. **Please RSVP for any dates you plan to attend** to Kristy Shaw or Christy Soule (or the church office). And feel free to invite a friend to join the fun! All skill levels needed. **DATES:** Meeting in Room 13 (Basement): Wednesday, May 6, 9–11am; and Friday, May 15, 6–8pm. Meeting in Heartland Hall: May 26–May 30, 10am–Noon and 2–4pm; and May 31, after worship until finished.

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/QVESOZQ7U3OV?ref=wl_share

MUSIC

BELL FEST XXXVI: AMERICANA — IS TODAY AT 6PM, celebrating 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: Join us right after worship in Room 3 for Adult Ed at 10:45. Whether you come every week or have not made it down the hall lately, there is a place for you. We have a wonderful variety of classes this spring — thoughtful, practical, and engaging, with something new each week.

Today — *Why the Church Sings:* Why does the church sing? What does music do in worship beyond filling the room and helping us find the page number? This Sunday, our own music director, Patrick O’Halloran, will lead a conversation that weaves together a bit of church music history with reflection on how choral music can deepen the faith and life of a congregation. Patrick brings a rich background to this topic: he grew up in our church community and has returned to serve in this role. This should be a thoughtful and enjoyable class for anyone who loves worship, music, or simply wants to understand more deeply why singing matters in the life of the church.

Coming up next:

- **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.

PAGETURNERS meets Thursday, May 7, at 7pm at Vicki Peck's home. (The "NEW" address is 4801 W. 133rd St., Unit 303 in Leawood, 66209. It's between Nall & Roe and closer to Roe.) Our book is *The Faculty Lounge* by Jennifer Mathieu. Please come even if you didn't read the book! I suggest you carpool, but there is some good news. The police department will post signs showing which side of the street (133rd St.) you can park on. Our parking lot is rather small. Hope to see a lot of you! Call Vicki, 913-706-9679, if you have questions.

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.
- **9:30am** Worship and ATW
- **10:45-11:45am** ALL-music Sunday for 4yo-5th graders
- **6pm** BELL FEST (children participating)

COMING UP:

- **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:

- **9:30am** Worship
- **10:45–11:45am** Youth Sunday School, Youth Lounge and Rm 19
- **6pm** BELL FEST

COMING UP:

- **May 10** — Mother’s Day, Worship, Sunday School
- **May 17** — Last Day of Sunday school, 4–6pm Youth Group
- **June 1–5** — VBS
- **June 7** — VBS Sunday!

KAIROS

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

MAY DONATION PARTNER — STARFISH PROJECT: The Starfish Project is a nonprofit in Olathe that works to support to meet the basic needs of the community. They provide food, clothing, toiletries, haircuts, vision and dental screenings, services to help keep kids in school and grown-ups employed, training for new social workers, and more. They currently serve over 2,000 people a month! Please consider helping Project Starfish achieve their mission by donating any of the items below. Donations can be left in the Weekday Entrance bin anytime the church is open.

- hand-held label machine and supplies
- masking tape
- new kids’ underwear and socks
- 66-quart clear plastic tubs for storage
- fleece throw blankets

- peanut butter, canned chicken and ready-to-eat canned meals
- full-sized toiletries (especially shampoo and liquid body soap for boys and shaving gel/cream for both boys and girls). Use the [Amazon Wishlist](#) if you prefer to shop online. We will take open bottles of shampoo, conditioner, body wash (for example, products you tried but didn't like).
- travel-sized toiletries
- washcloths
- old T-shirts (can be stained or have holes, just need to be clean)
- fleece (used for dog toys and muzzle mats for the rescues)

MAY COMMUNION OFFERING RECIPIENT — CROP HUNGER WALK: CROP Hunger Walks are community-based fundraising events held in cities and towns across the United States. They support the global mission of Church World Service, a faith-based organization transforming communities around the globe through just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement and disaster.

The Crop Project began in 1947 when farmers were asked to donate food and seed crops to our hungry neighbors in post-World War II Europe and Asia. The first CROP Hunger Walks took place in Bismarck, ND (1969), and York, PA (1970). Since then, CROP Hunger Walk events have been held in hundreds of communities, large and small, raising millions of dollars to eradicate hunger and poverty.

Hunger is one of the greatest injustices facing our world, but it doesn't have to be this way. Ending hunger is possible in our lifetime. The Heart of America CROP Walk won't take place until this fall, but we can support the global CROP organization now. If you'd like to support the CROP Walk, use the "Communion" option in the online portal to make a donation, or write "Communion Offering" on your check or envelope and donate it during the offering before June 1.



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PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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GRACE COVENANT
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2026 Upcoming Events and Services

(Save these dates)

Bell Fest XXXVI
"Americana"

Sunday, May 3, 6pm
GCPC Sanctuary

VBS Decorating
May 26–May 30

10am–Noon and 2–4pm; and
May 31, after worship until finished
Meeting in Heartland Hall

Vacation Bible School

June 1-5, 9am-Noon
Register your child, or sign-up to
Volunteer!

gcpc.org/vbs

*(Children and Volunteers need to
sign-up by May 1 to get a t-shirt)*

Blood Drive

Wednesday, June 24
1-5pm

Ministry Fair

Sunday, August 9

Baker/Reynolds Golf Scramble

Sunday, September 20, 1pm

Stewardship Town Hall and Brunch

Sunday, September 27

Blood Drive

Thursday, October 29
1-5pm

~ Please be mindful of the following deadlines for our communications publications ~

Grace Notes Weekly email newsletter - articles due to the church office by 10am, each Wednesday

Weekly church bulletin - articles due to the church office by Noon, each Wednesday

Grace Notes Monthly Newsletter - articles are due to the church office on the 3rd Tuesday of the month

Please respect the timelines needed to produce these publications. Thank you!

Details on these events and services are shared in the midweek email, bulletin, newsletter,
and Facebook and Instagram. For an online church calendar, visit gcpc.org/calendar