



**Service of Worship — August 17, 2025**

***“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:** Paul Bruns

**HEAD USHERS:** Berdine & Richard Eby

**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](mailto:karen.wright@gcpc.org)
- **Emily Nelson Dixon (Dir. of Christian Education):** [emily.dixon@gcpc.org](mailto:emily.dixon@gcpc.org)
- **Patrick O’Halloran (Interim Dir. of Music Ministries):** [patrick.ohalloran@gcpc.org](mailto:patrick.ohalloran@gcpc.org)
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- **Tara Hyder (Finance Admin.):** [finance@gcpc.org](mailto:finance@gcpc.org)
- **Jason Turner (Audio/Technical Dir.):** E-mail both [darktrainfilms@gmail.com](mailto:darktrainfilms@gmail.com) & [gcpc.media@gmail.com](mailto: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:** Tim Hayden

**Cancer Treatment:** Harold Farren, Tom Jennings, Mary Ann Weyforth

**Aging Challenges:** Lee Will, Stewart Nelson, 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:** First Presbyterian Church, Higginsville, MO

(If you have a prayer request you would like to include in the bulletin, please contact the church office at [office@gcpc.org](mailto:office@gcpc.org), or send to [gcpc.prayers@gmail.com](mailto:gcpc.prayers@gmail.com).)

**SPOTLIGHT**

**A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** for the purpose of electing at-large members to the Nominating Committee will be held next Sunday, August 24. This brief meeting will immediately follow worship.

**A JOYFUL MILESTONE IN THE LIFE OF GCPC** — Heartland Presbytery and the members of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church warmly invite you to attend a special and sacred occasion, the Service of Installation for Rev. Karen Wright, on Sunday, August 24, 3pm, at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, 11100 College Blvd., Overland Park, KS. A reception will follow in Heartland Hall. Childcare will be provided. This service of worship marks a significant moment in the life of our church as we formally install Rev. Karen Wright as our pastor. We will gather to give thanks for God's call, rejoice in community, and look with hope toward the future of our shared ministry. All are welcome to attend this joyful celebration! Come be part of this meaningful day — we would love to see you there!

**WORSHIP IN THE PARK:** Join us for worship on Sunday, September 7, 9:30am, at the Meadowbrook Park Grand Pavilion, located at 91st and Nall (SE corner) in Prairie Village. Worship will be followed by a potluck picnic. Brats, beef & veggie burgers and drinks will be provided. Please bring a side or dessert to share. Come together with your church family for worship and savor the fellowship and beauty of the park! We are an Earth Care congregation, so remember

to bring your own plates and silverware, and bring along camp chairs in case extra seating is required.

**RSVP FOR “STEWARDSHIP STORIES & SCRAMBLED EGGS”** Join us for a joyful and meaningful morning of fellowship, storytelling, and inspiration at our Generosity Town Hall on Sunday, September 14, following worship in Heartland Hall. We’ll enjoy a delicious brunch together and explore how your giving supports the heart of our ministry: missions, staff, programs, outreach, in the place we call home. Through shared stories, scripture and prayer, we’ll reflect on how generosity takes root and grows. This is more than a meal, it’s a moment to celebrate how far we’ve come and dream faithfully about where God is calling us next. We need a headcount to order food — RSVP by September 7 at [gcpc.org/eggs](http://gcpc.org/eggs).

**WEEKEND CRAFTERS FALL WORKSHOP** — GCPC Weekend Crafters will be hosting a Fall Workshop on October 3, 6–8pm in Heartland Hall. We welcome Katee Smith with The Barefoot Builder who will lead us through creating cute winter trees made of wood that measure 32" tall x 16" wide. Katee will assemble the trees for us ahead of time and we will be painting the trees at the workshop. Costs and registration can be found at [gcpc.org/crafters](http://gcpc.org/crafters). Registration ends Friday, September 23 at 10pm. *Invite a friend for a fun crafting evening out!*

## MUSIC

**LEARN TO RING HANDBELLS!** There will be a Handbell Workshop, Sunday, August 24, 10:45–11:45 in the bell room (next to the sanctuary). This is for anyone, age 10 and up, interested in learning to ring handbells (or refreshing old skills). All ages are welcome and there is no obligation to join a handbell choir afterwards (but you can if you want). Reservations are encouraged but not required. To sign up, or if you have questions, contact Kathy Bures, [kathy.bures@gmail.com](mailto:kathy.bures@gmail.com), 913-302-1755.

## ADULT

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL** resumes today at 10:45 in Room 3. Kevin Johnson leads the class.

**PAGETURNERS IS KICKING OFF A NEW YEAR** with our annual salad supper on September 4, 6:30pm at Jan Cumming’s house (9815 Broadmoor St). Please bring an appetizer, salad or dessert to share, or just bring yourself! Our September book is *The Next Ship Home* by Heather Webb. Please RSVP to Jan at [cjan1950@gmail.com](mailto:cjan1950@gmail.com), 913-269-4164 or GCPC PageTurners page on FB. All are welcome! Please come even if you haven't read the book.

## CHILDREN

### UPCOMING FOR CHILDREN’S MINISTRY:

- **Today** — First ATW, and regular Sunday school classes of the school year for all ages!

- **SMASH** — End-of-Summer celebration! Please wear your swimsuit, bug spray, and sunscreen. Bring a towel! (K–5<sup>th</sup> grade, 4–6pm)

## MISSION

**SPARE CHANGE?** On August 24, we'll collect a Noisy Offering for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, to aid recovery efforts related to the floods, fires, storms, and other disasters so far this year. Bring your spare change and hurl it into the buckets the children will carry around to make a joyful, faithful noise!

**KAIROS KLUES:** Be sure to take a look at the bulletin board outside Heartland Hall for more information.

- **ENVIRONMENT** — Check out the Johnson County Museum RIPPLE exhibit on water and read about the PEC Conference being held at Ferncliff (outside Little Rock), October 8–11, *Sacred Creation: Justice Flows Down Like Water*
- **PEACE** — The full letter from Jihyun Oh, Stated Clerk of the General Assembly (PCUSA: “Gaza has become one of the most devastating [humanitarian crises](#).” Rooted in this witness and grounded in the Gospel, we pray for peace that is rooted in justice and justice that leads to lasting peace.
- **JUSTICE** — Hunger in our community is growing due to many funding changes. Check out more information on the ReNewed Hope Food Pantry and how YOU, with other GCPC members, can make a difference (no matter how small) in alleviating hunger. (Contact Knute Rosche for details.)

**THE RETURN OF WORK WITH HABITAT KC AT GCPC!** We have one remaining date set up for eight GCPC members to volunteer at the Habitat KC construction site in southern Olathe — August 26. If you're interested in the August date, register at the link below by noon on Friday, August 12. If you have questions, reach out to Mikki at [michala.walker@gmail.com](mailto:michala.walker@gmail.com).  
<https://build.habitatkc.org/reservations/21409?auth=1750174782>

**AUGUST DONATION PARTNER — CROSS-LINES:** The mission of Cross-Lines is to provide people in the Kansas City area affected by poverty with services and opportunities that encourage self-confidence, meet the needs of today, and provide tools for future self-sufficiency. You can help Cross-Lines by donating one of the items from their basic needs list below. Please leave your donation in the Weekday Entrance bin anytime during August.

diapers (especially sizes 4, 5, and 6)  
 shampoo  
 deodorant  
 toothpaste

razors  
 laundry detergent  
 dish soap

**AUGUST COMMUNION OFFERING RECIPIENT — HABITAT FOR HUMANITY KC:** Due to unforeseen changes in the Mission Co-Worker program by PCUSA, we are re-directing the August Communion Offering to Habitat for Humanity KC. Habitat KC takes a holistic approach to reducing

poverty and improving equity in the Kansas City community. Habitat KC is focused on affordable housing, because safe and stable homes free families and individuals from instability, stress, and fear — encouraging self-reliance and confidence. If you'd like to support Habitat KC, just use the "Communion" option in the online portal or write "Communion Offering" on your check or envelope and turn in your donation by August 30.

## GENEROSITY

### GENEROSITY FULFILLMENT AUGUST UPDATE — GENEROSITY THROUGH THE GENERATIONS:

Here is our Generosity fulfillment for Grace Covenant's pledges through July 2025. The Generosity Team is delighted to share our 2025 fulfillment numbers as of August 5th. We have received 61% of our total pledges and 58% of this 2025 year has gone by us. Often our summer giving drops due to travel, vacation and absences; so, it very refreshing to see everyone's summer commitment so strong. There is a slight revision in our pledge total due to some members having to decrease their pledge amount. We certainly understand and recognize the value of their update. **We continue to appreciate everyone who has contributed to Grace Covenant.** Here is our progress shown by numbers of pledges:

<i>Submitted Pledges (135)</i>	<i>March 31st</i>	<i>June 6th</i>	<i>August 5th</i>
<i>0-25% fulfilled</i>	<i>98</i>	<i>56</i>	<i>38</i>
<i>26-50% fulfilled</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>51</i>	<i>27</i>
<i>51-75% fulfilled</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>42</i>
<i>76-100% fulfilled</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>28</i>
<i>\$722,179</i>	<i>\$226,719</i>	<i>\$324,383</i>	<i>\$442,532</i>

Four groupings are used to show giving progress and calendar relationship. They are 0–25%, 26–50%, 51–75%, 76–100%. Each pledge falls into one of these groups.

Our Generosity team meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 8:30pm, in person or by Zoom. We are always glad to have new team members. The current team: Eileen Thomson, Jane Knoche, Rev. Karen Wright, Keith Langabee, and Kim Krueger. We are planning our Stewardship Stories and Scrambled Eggs on Sunday September 14. Mark this date on your calendar! Please contact Eileen if you are interested — we have room for *you*!

# Upcoming Events and Services

*(Save these dates)*

## **New Members Welcomed in Worship**

Sunday, August 17, 9:30am

## **Noisy Offering**

*Supports Presbyterian Disaster Assistance*

Sunday, August 24, 9:30am

## **Congregational Meeting**

Elect Nominating Committee Members

Sunday, August 24, 9:30am

## **Rev. Karen Wright Installation**

Sunday, August 24, 3pm

## **Worship in the Park**

Meadowbrook Park (91st & Nall)

Grand Pavilion (SE Corner) Prairie Village

*(Lunch following)*

Sunday, September 7, 9:30am

## **Generosity Town Hall**

### ***Stewardship Stories & Scrambled Eggs***

*"Sharing a meal, sharing our mission"*

*(Brunch following worship)*

Sunday, September 14, 10:30am

RSVP by September 7 at [gcpc.org/eggs](https://gcpc.org/eggs)

## **Weekend Crafters Mini-Retreat**

Friday, October 3, 6-8pm

Details and Registration

at [gcpc.org/crafters](https://gcpc.org/crafters)

## **Fall BBQ w/Dixieland Band**

Saturday, October 4, 5pm

## **World Communion Sunday**

Sunday, October 5, 9:30am

## **CROP Walk**

October 12, 2pm

## **Trunk or Treat**

Sunday, October 26, 11:45am-1pm

## **Intergenerational**

### **Friendship Bracelet Making Party**

Saturday, November 15, 1-3:30pm

Heartland Hall

RSVP at [gcpc.org/friendship](https://gcpc.org/friendship)

## **A Christmas Exclamation!**

Sunday, December 7, 6pm

## **The Longest Night**

Sunday, December 21, 7pm

## **Christmas Eve Worship**

Wednesday, December 24, 5pm and

8pm

## **Bingo Night**

Friday, January 23, Time TBA

## **Trivia Night**

Saturday, April 18, Time TBA



**GRACE COVENANT**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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](https://gcpc.org/calendar)