



## Visioning Day 2019

**Who is this for?** Everyone – members, friends, officers, team members, staff – If following God’s lead into the future is important to you, you will want to attend! Your input is important to us. Church officers are strongly encouraged, well, expected to be there unless they are unable to attend.

**Gather with us on Saturday, February 23 from 10am to Noon in the Sanctuary, then from Noon to 2pm in Heartland Hall.**

The meeting will be led by Revs. Sue and Mitch who bring years of experience helping congregations discern and implement a common vision and mission. During the event, we will review the mission study, talk about our hopes and dreams, look at our structures and how they support our mission, and listen for where God is calling us.

**Contact the church office to sign up** and let us know of any dietary restrictions. We need to know how much food to prepare!



**Visioning Day 2019**  
**Here We Stand – There We Go**  
**February 23, 10am to 2pm**

“Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.” – *Hebrews 13:2*

**Visitors delight us.**  
**Our goal is simple: make all people feel welcomed, not overwhelmed.**

We were all visitors once and remember how it feels to try a new place of worship. Attend as often as you want. Visitors are welcome at all GCPC events, classes and small groups as well as in worship. We will always be glad to see you!

Join us for coffee in between our two services or grab a cup of coffee in Heartland Hall on your way to Sunday School class. Heartland Hall is located next to the Sanctuary. There are always people to visit with or things to learn about if you want to just hang out.

## Mardi Gras Pancake Supper

Bring your festive spirit and celebrate Shrove Tuesday with a Mardi Gras flair!

**Tuesday, March 5, 5:30 to 7:00pm**

Pancake supper provided by Chris Cakes

Music provided by our own Dixieland Band

Mardi Gras Bingo (there will be prizes!)

Trivia Time (win some beads!)

**\$5 per person (maximum \$20 per family)**

Proceeds support the work of the Children’s Ministry Team

Call the church office to reserve tickets (913-345-1256) or purchase tickets in Heartland Hall on the following Sundays between services: February 17, 24 and March 3

## REAL FAITH REAL STORIES REAL GRACE

For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but a spirit of power, love and a sound mind.  
- 2 Timothy 1 v 7

11100 College Boulevard  
Overland Park, KS 66210

phone 913.345.1256  
fax 913.345.1198  
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## Sacraments, Rituals and Faith

Throughout my career I have known about the importance of multiple intelligences and sticky learning practices in spiritual formation; however, in recent years I have seen these practices increasingly cross into worship. That is a huge step for Reformed churches like the PCUSA! We grew out of a tradition that rejected images of Jesus in the Sanctuary. Our ancestors created worship focused on primarily words. Over time, music became more and more accepted and increasingly participatory. Images of religious symbols became more prevalent and children and youth were welcomed to the Lord's Table. These were important steps, but there is more that can be done!

In January, our congregation observed Baptism of the Lord Sunday by reclaiming our baptismal vows. Each of us dipped our fingers into this beautiful bowl of water. As we did so, breathing in we said, *"You have called me by name."* Exhaling we said, *"I am yours. I am baptized."* It was a tangible way to remember a covenant that is ours throughout our lives.

One of the best moments of that service was when the children came forward for their time together. Some of the children dipped their fingers again as they walked by the bowl to the front of the Sanctuary. What a wonderful way to feel included in the practices of the church!

This month, our second grade children will encounter the other Sacrament, The Sacrament of Communion, in the **Gather at the Table** workshops I will be leading. (See article on the right.) Together, parents and children will experience God's love in bread broken and a cup of juice. They are simple practices, but they can touch our hearts in profound ways. I wonder what other ways we might be able to incorporate more tangible practices in our worship and in our daily lives. I invite you to wonder with me. If you have an idea, please share it with me.

*Rev. Sue*



## You're Invited!

### Gather at the Table Workshop Series with Rev. Sue for 2nd Graders and Their Parents

Sharing the stories and practices of faith will have an impact on your child throughout a child's life. The Sacraments of Baptism and Communion are two of our treasured practices. I am inviting you to join me for a very special program about the Sacrament of Communion called, **"Gather at the Table"**. Together we will learn about Communion: what we do and why we do it. This is a family workshop and all families of 2nd grade age children are invited to attend.

#### Workshop Dates:

Sundays, February 17 and 24

**Time:** 4:00-6:00pm

**Where:** Heartland Hall

The program will conclude with your child participating in the Sacrament of Communion (their first Communion) on Sunday, March 3 at both the 8:50am and the 11:05am services.

If you will be attending, please RSVP to me at [sue.trigger@gcpc.org](mailto:sue.trigger@gcpc.org)

*Rev. Sue*

# Music Notes

## Music Ahead in 2019

### 2/3 – Super Bowl Sunday’s Rehearsal Schedule

Rehearsals are 1 hour early because of Super Bowl

3pm Ex! Ringers

4pm Exaltation! & Jubilation! Ringers

### Symphony Orchestra Rehearsals:

Tuesday, 2/5 & Thursday, 2/7 from 7-8pm

### 2/10 – Music Appreciation Sunday

In both 8:50 & 11:05 Worship

*Our instruments will be tuned for praise!*

Symphony Orchestra, Combined Choir, Charter Ringers, and our largest choir – the Congregation

### 2/24 – Youth Sunday

One worship service at 10am

Music led by Exaltation!, Ex! Ringers, & Youth Band

## Mission & Music Happenings

### M&M Candy Tube Fundraiser and

### M&M Trip Registration

#### M&M Trip Registration:

**Sunday, February 10 - M&M Forms are available**

via: email, the youth wall, [gcpc.org/resources](http://gcpc.org/resources),

or [gracecovenantyouth.shutterfly.com](http://gracecovenantyouth.shutterfly.com)

**Sunday, February 24 (Youth Sunday)**

**M&M Forms and Fees are due**

#### M&M Candy Tube Fundraiser:

**Pick up your tube of M&M candy after worship on Sunday, February 10.** Enjoy the candy and return the tube to the **BIG GREEN M&M in the concourse with your check, cash, or coin contribution inside by Sunday, March 3.**

Thank you for helping our senior high students **travel to Corpus Christi, TX for a life changing experience: Friday, June 21<sup>st</sup> 10pm – Saturday, June 29<sup>th</sup>**

## Holy Week Music

4/18 – MAUNDY THURSDAY 7:30pm COMMUNION

Solos & Ensembles

4/19 – GOOD FRIDAY 7:30pm

Chancel Choir sings “Songs of the Cross”

4/21 – EASTER SUNDAY

8:50 Praise Team, Solos, & Ensembles

11:05am Chancel Choir, Charter Ringers, Chancel Brass, Strings, & Percussion

5/5– BELL FEST XXXI at 6pm

**This year’s theme is:**

*“I’m Gonna Ring When the Spirit Says Ring”*

Come and hear toe-tapping spirituals and gospel music on the bells. There will also be some dance numbers, sing-a-longs, and a humorous, funny, delightful (?) emcee! Stay for a reception to follow the program.

## “Thank You” Notes

Thank you to an anonymous donor for the gift of a handbell and clarinet arrangement of “Nobody Knows the Trouble I’ve Seen” arr. Robert Noland, to our handbell library. This piece was donated in honor of Laura Patton’s teaching career. *We are grateful.*

## Other Recognition of Music Gifts

Also, on Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> Chancel Choir and our instrumentalists presented “In the Bleak Midwinter” arr. Mark Hayes & “Ring Out, Ye Bells” by M. Garret, S. Carlton, and D. Forrest which were donated to our choral library in memory of Mary Ann Wilson from the Choral Music Fund Endowment established in her name.

If you would like to **donate a piece of music in honor or memory to a person or event, please contact Rebecca Prater.** We’ve just ordered new music, so now is a great time to donate music in honor or memory of a person or occasion. Thank you for giving!

# Children's Ministries

## February Sunday School

February will focus on Jesus' ministry as children learn about some of the parables Jesus taught and events in his life.

**February 3, 10, 17**

**8:50am and 11:05am**

Awakening to Worship (Room 12)

**10:00am Sunday School**

**2's & 3's:** Lisa Cox and Tatum Cox (Room 23)

**Preschool 4's & 5's:** Danielle Dalton and Lara Schesser (Room 25)

**K-1st Graders:** Christy Soule and Katie Hearn (Room 14)

**2nd-5th Graders:** Matt McBride, Jenny Stromberg, Jerel Williams (Room 10)

**10:45am Choir - K-5th Grades:** Lara Schesser (Room 15)



### PLEASE NOTE:

There is no Sunday School on February 24. It is Youth Sunday and there is only one service at 10am.

## Explore God's Grace and Gratitude Each Day

When your children are at home, use these tools to explore God's grace and gratitude each day.

Find these tools at: [www.pcusastore.com/GGGdownloads](http://www.pcusastore.com/GGGdownloads)

**Grace Sightings:** the weekly Bible story and age appropriate activities for your family to do at home.

**Audio Recordings:** the weekly Bible story brought to life by endearing readings and sound effects.

**E-books:** the quarter's colorful illustrations, Bible stories and Grace Sightings, in iBook and Kindle formats.

## Children and Worship

Awakening to Worship is our wonder and worship program for children ages 4-1st grade and meets following the children's sermon weekly. We invite children in elementary school to continue participating and experiencing worship as they move into the sanctuary for worship with the wider family of Grace Covenant.

- **Worship Bags** are in place to help busy hands and hearts.
- **Worship Bulletins** are available from the ushers every week. There are on two age levels.
- **Worship Leaders** are invited to light the candles weekly, read in worship, and assist in other ways. Stay tuned on this one! Watch for more news about this in the new year.
- **Children's Choir** will sing in worship occasionally.



## February SMASH!

Sunday, February 10, from 4-6pm  
Heartland Hall

**Theme:** Kindness/Goodness

SMASH is for 1st through 5th graders ...Bring a friend and come for a great afternoon of fun as we grow with the fruit of the Spirit!

**SMASH** (Service, Music, Arts, Sports, Hangtime) is for all children in completed 1st-5th grades, and seeks to bring children and adults together to grow in faith through creative time together. Join us!



"Let the little children come to me..."  
Matthew 19:14, NIV

## Awakening to Worship Scheduling for February through May

It is time to fill our schedule for Awakening to Worship leaders!

We will need greeters and storytellers.

**To sign up please contact  
Kristy Shaw at:**

[kristinashaw@everestkc.net](mailto:kristinashaw@everestkc.net)

Thank you!

# Outreach Notes

**Grace Covenant will host homeless IHN guests** during IHN week February 3–10. Thank you to the volunteers who will be hosting and providing meals this week. We ask you to pray for our guests.

**Many thanks to those of you who served at KCK Hot Lunch program** in November and December 2018. We served 248 meals in November, 374 meals in December, and a total of 2,724 meals in 2018!

**Rosehill Elementary School will receive Grace Covenants' support in a variety of ways in February.**

- Rosehill will be the recipient of the February 10, Noisy Offering. Please bring your coins to worship and help fill up the collection buckets-money collected will be donated to Rosehill to purchase granola bars for the nurses' office.
- The February Communion Offering will also be donated to Rosehill and the school will also be our Donation Partner. Please place your donations in the collection box in the Weekday Entrance.

**We are collecting:** iPhone/iPad headphones, dry erase markers and also over-the-counter medications for the nurses' office to be distributed to students whose families are not financially able to purchase them.

**The following medications are needed:** Latex free Band-Aids of various sizes, children's acetaminophen, children's ibuprofen, children's cough and cold medicine (generics are acceptable.)



## Christmas International House (CIH)

In December 2018, members of GPC hosted six of eleven international students in the Kansas Christmas International House (CIH) program. For the past 14 years, Grace Covenant has partnered with Village Presbyterian Church to provide 12–15 college students a place to stay for two weeks during their college's semester break. Hosts this year were the Purvis, Knoche and Bond families.

Our students came from various universities across the United States and are from India, South Korea, China, Japan, Malaysia, and Pakistan. You may have seen some of them at worship on December 23, 24, or 30. Among the various activities planned for the students this year were the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, the National World War I Museum and Memorial, Pickleball, volunteering at Thelma's Kitchen, ice skating, bowling, a Western Party, an international potluck, and a New Year's Eve Party. The Western Party included line dances, and square dances. Our Mission Team supported the effort by providing the pizzas. The students embraced the evening activities by wearing "experienced" square dance clothes.



The two photos above are from our Grace in Action event on Saturday, January 26. More details in the March issue.

# Grace Studies

## Adult Studies in Bible, Theology, Faith and Life, Christian Witness and Justice

February 3, 10, 17 and March 3

### Bible Study: Feasting on the Word

Are you interested in a Lectionary based Bible study? Feasting on the Word curriculum offers some of the best in biblical scholarship and theological reflection in a study designed for everyone.

- *This 7-week series will be led by Sarah Evans, Bond Faulwell, Barb Purvis and Don Wilson. Gather in Room 3.*

### Theology and Life: "Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again" by Rachel Held Evans.

Evans is a young American Christian columnist, blogger and author who will take you on an exploration of the magic of the Bible as she engages the old, familiar stories in new ways that honor the past and enlighten the present.

- *This book discussion will be led by Melanie Townsend. The class will meet the same dates as the Feasting on the Word Bible study. Books are still available from Rev. Sue or when you arrive at the class. Cost: \$10 Gather in Room 4.*



## From Islam to Christianity: A Journey of Faith

### Join us for a SPECIAL Grace Studies Class on Sunday, February 3 at 10am in Heartland Hall.

Come hear the story of our guest, Rabah Mohammed Seghir who will share his faith story about moving from Islam to Christianity. He is passionate about reaching out to refugees and immigrants living in the Overland Park area and will tell us about his evangelistic work. Rabah leads a prayer group of Algerian/French speaking immigrants who meet regularly here at GCPC.



## Journey Through the Wilderness: An Ash Wednesday Experience

March 6, 4:00-7:00pm  
in the Sanctuary

After Jesus' baptism he journeyed in the wilderness for 40 days. It was a time of fortitudinous testing and soul searching reflection. It was more than a wilderness of sand, it was a wilderness of the soul.

During the season of Lent we are encouraged to journey through the wilderness places in our lives; the places that challenge us. Relationships fail, confidence falters, fears loom, temptations grow, doubt increases. Bring all that challenges you to God in a journey through the wilderness on Ash Wednesday.

This service is a personal spiritual journey. There is no communal order of service. There will be a guided series of reflection tables in the Sanctuary. Come alone, come with a friend, come with your family. This is an intergenerational service. Come when you are ready. Allow yourself 30 minutes to journey through all of them. When you have finished, the Rev. Sue or Mitch will dismiss you with the imposition of ashes. Please plan to arrive no later than 6:45 p.m.

# PW NOTES

Thank you to Grace Covenant members for contributing \$440.00 to the Presbyterian Women Thank Offering. This offering allows several grants to be funded to help in a variety of ways in the US and throughout the world. Your participation in this offering is greatly appreciated.

There are four Presbyterian Women circles at Grace Covenant, Eve, Esther, Naomi, Ruth/Rachel that meet monthly. Their time is spent in fellowship. In addition some circles discuss the annual Bible Study written by a PCUSA minister and others select a book the women are interested in reading and studying. Also women have an opportunity to give a pledge or contribution to PW. Some of the money is used for operation of the Presbytery and Churchwide PW. In years past Grace Covenant women spent time together at a weekend retreat. The women have always given to mission or charitable groups locally, nationally or internationally.

In 2018 we allotted \$2000 to mission giving. Each circle decided where to give \$500. Recipients received from \$100 to \$250. The recipients were: Red Bag, Safe Home, Free Hot Soup, Books for Rwanda (Lukas McCamon's school), SowHope, Johnson County Christmas Bureau, Heart to Heart International, Happy Bottoms, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for Disaster Relief Refugees Emergencies in the US, and Mission and Music (GC Youth) Auction.

**If any women are interested in a circle, please contact the circle leader for more information. The contact information in on the PW bulletin board in the concourse.**

**We are grateful for all the ways in which we help one another.**



**Once again, the Star Cutters and preparers came through with “flying stars!” — enough and more! Thank you!**

So as you begin your new year with a special word to consider for your life — reach out and share your stories with others about how such a small thing to ponder (your word) has appeared in strange and wonderful ways in 2019!

An Epiphany is a time to awaken to something special you haven't seen before. May it be so with your word.

**The helpers this year were:**

- |                       |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Cheryl Johnson        | Nancy Taylor           |
| Johnnie Baker         | Amy Sweeten            |
| Mauri Turner          | Marcie Monrad          |
| Terra Howard          | Lara Schesser          |
| Laurie Callender      | Jody McCamon           |
| Michelle Frye         | Mary Ann Weyforth      |
| Sarah Lodge           | Judy Hook              |
| Diane Schmit          | Jo Randolph            |
| Jan Cummings & Family | Lisa Feyh              |
| Lisa Cox              | Julie Webb (Kid Stars) |

As in the past, deepest gratitude to Chelly King who assists in the trimming and assembly of the stars.

God Bless All! — Nancy Kalesz



**For the consideration of those around you and for those leading worship, please turn off your cell phones, tablets and other electronics when you enter the sanctuary, or place on silent. - Thank you!**

# PRESBYTERIANS AROUND THE WORLD

## Discovering the Arapaho - Part VI

Do you know that the Presbyterian Church(USA) has Native American churches that operate within designated synods? For these churches, the 223rd General Assembly (2018) "Doctrine of Discovery: A Review of Its Origins and Implications for Congregations in the PC (USA) and Support for Native American Sovereignty" has significant meaning. The 2014 publication, the *Native American Congregational Support Directory*, lists the names of Native American churches in each Synod and Presbytery. For example, the Dakota Presbytery, within the Synod of Lakes and Prairies, identifies 20 Native American churches. Since 2014, these numbers may have changed. According to the 223rd General Assembly, there are 95 Native American churches in the PC(USA). This number represents a decrease of 15 churches since the General Assembly Task Force Report in 2000.



The General Assembly report in 2018 on the Doctrine of Discovery recommends that the PC(USA) "Go beyond repudiation" of the Doctrine of Discovery. To enhance this recommendation, the 2018 General Assembly report includes the following statement: "It is essential to replace the colonial Doctrine of Discovery with contemporary international human rights standards and engage in just and collaborative processes of redress."

A vital section of the 2018 report called "How PC(USA) congregations can support Native Americans in their ongoing effort for sovereignty and human rights," describes 18 actions that leadership organizations on all levels of the PC(USA) and members can take to implement these supportive measures. The following list contains two of these actions:

- Item 13: Direct the Presbyterian Mission Agency to include the Doctrine of Discovery and the histories of Indigenous peoples and current issues facing Indigenous peoples in its antiracism training efforts.
- Item 18: Support funding for the Native American Consulting Committee so that it can fully carry out its role in serving as a consulting body for the denomination on issues of Native American ministry and issues regarding Native Nations.

## Thank you!

The family of Bob Bonney is most appreciative of all the cards and expressions of condolences that have been received in response to the news of the recent death of Bob's 94-year-old mother, Sylvia Bonney. What a caring community we have at GCPC!  
—Bob and Gay Lee Bonney

# PEW DWELLERS' HEALTH NOTES

NOTE: Part III of the article on "Two Health Questions" will continue in the March issue of Grace Notes. The article describes age and inactivity as factors related to the risk of developing type 2 diabetes.



## Date/Night Change for February Bunco

Since our regular second Thursday of the month Bunco falls on the most popular "date night" of the year (February 14), we are moving our game night to Wednesday February 13, at 7pm. Please mark your calendar ladies!

We will go back to the usual schedule on March 14. If you are interested in joining us that evening, please contact Jane Knoche, [jeknoche@att.net](mailto:jeknoche@att.net), beforehand so we can set up our tables of four more easily.

## Fair Trade Items

Fair Trade Sales on Sunday, February 3. Come by our display at the entrance to Heartland Hall between services and 15 minutes following the 11:05 service. Purchase coffee, tea, chocolate and more! Great items for gifts or your desk drawer.

This is a program of your Kairos Team: Peace, Justice, and Earth Care.

# Clerk's Corner

Session met on January 21, 2019 in room 5, with Reverend Mitch Trigger serving as moderator. In addition to the elders, Deacon Meredith Watson was present. Reverend Sue Trigger was excused since she'd had surgery on the preceding Friday.

**Team minutes:** Tim Hayden reported that the Mission team wants to have a party sometime in the spring to mark the 25th anniversary of the partnership between the Maya Quiche and Heartland presbyteries, as well as celebrate the commitment to another 5 years. More details will follow. It's possible that Welcoming team will be involved too.

Aaron Soule reported that the Finance team reviewed the insurance coverage on the church's facilities. Aaron also reported there will be a discussion about pledge receipts at the annual meeting, followed by letters to the congregation. The cutoff date for submitting a pledge to be included in the budget discussions will be February 10. Session approved operating under last year's budget figures until the new budget is in place.

KDO tuition increases were approved: enrollment fee from \$65 to \$75; half-day program – from \$75 to \$80/month; full-day program – from \$110 to \$120/month. This brings KDO rates in line with other programs in the area.

**Consent agenda:** The minutes of the December Session meeting and several membership requests were approved (total membership is now 494). Session approved February 23, 2019 as the Visioning Day and the Elder on Duty program has been reinstated with updated responsibilities.

**Deacons' report:** Meredith Watson reported that the deacons were trained at their retreat last weekend. They are all looking forward to the annual meeting and potluck.

**Old business:** Session heard a report from the Nominating Team.

**New business:** Reverend Mitch Trigger, Nelson Townsend and Cheryl Johnson will work on updating the GCPC bylaws so they can be approved at the congregational meeting to be held in May to elect new elders. Reverends Sue and Mitch are going to work with the deacons to train them to offer communion to homebound members. After sharing some joys and concerns of the congregation, Mitch closed the meeting in prayer and the meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.

## Notice Regarding Kitchen Use

**PLEASE know that if you leave food on the COUNTERS, in the FREEZER or REFRIGERATOR UNMARKED** is will be considered for general use or disposal as necessary. Opened bottles of soda **NEED** to be taken home or dumped. There are shelf assignments so please be aware of where you are putting unlabeled items, or they won't be there when you want them. **WE** are **ALL** responsible for maintaining the kitchen. **USE it DON'T ABUSE it.** Thank you!

## Sanctuary Flowers

The 2019 Sanctuary Flowers Chart is up and awaiting your flower requests. Please sign up on the date you would like or contact Chelly King.

## Staff Office Days

The staff directory on the back of this newsletter lists the days that our Pastors, Directors and Administrators are in the church office. Make a note for your reference!

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### Quick list of upcoming events

#### February 3

- From Islam to Christianity: A Journey of Faith; 10am; HH
- Fair Trade items; between services
- Souper Bowl of Caring

#### February 10

- Cut off day for submitting a pledge to be included in budget discussions.

#### February 10

- Music Appreciation Sunday; 8:50am and 11:05am
- M&M Trip Registration
- M&M Candy Tube Distribution
- SMASH; 4-6pm; HH

#### February 17 & 24

- Gather at the Table Workshop; 4-6pm; HH

#### February 23

- Visioning Day; 10am-2pm; HH

#### February 24

- Youth Sunday; One Service at 10am
- No Sunday School

#### March 5

- Mardi Gras Pancake Supper; 5:30-7pm; HH

#### March 6

- Journey Through the Wilderness, An Ash Wednesday Experience; 4-7pm; Sanctuary

#### Holy Week, April 18-April 21

- Maundy Thursday Worship; 7:30pm
- Good Friday Worship; 7:30pm
- Easter Sunday; 8:50am and 11:05am

#### May 5 - Bell Fest XXXI; 6pm

#### June 3-7- Vacation Bible School

#### June 22-29 - M&M Trip to Corpus Christi

#### July 10-15 - Massanetta; 6-8th grade

#### July 15-20 - Triennium; 8-12th grade

# Youth Page

## ***“Behind the Scenes”***

### **Youth Sunday - February 24**

Youth Sunday is soon and this year we are just having one service at 10am. Please mark your calendars for Sunday, February 24! Our seniors and youth are planning this special service that is completely created and led by our youth. We know about all the great programs and activities at church, but what is God doing in our lives “behind the scenes”? See you in church on February 24!

### **Summer Intern Position Open**

GCPC welcomes applications for the Summer 2019 intern position. If you are interested in the position or know someone who is, please contact Miles McDonald for more information on the application and interview process.

### **“Souper” Bowl of Caring**

GCPC is partnering with Harvesters again this year for the “Souper” Bowl of Caring, and once again we are lining the halls to see how many yards of food we can collect. Please bring non-perishable food items to church through February 3 and place them anywhere you see green tape near the wall. Thanks for supporting our hungry friends and neighbors and Harvesters! Thanks to Lindsay Callender and Lina McCamon for heading up our effort this year!

### **Peer Ministry**

This year we are handling our peer ministry program a little differently by having presentations monthly during our Connect time on Sunday evenings rather than at a separate time as we have done in the past. We continue to bring in experts from our community to gain a better understanding of the tough issues facing their peers and gain knowledge about how to deal with those issues as a Christian and as a friend. The difference this year is that all of our students are exposed to these topics and discussions, not just a small group.

### **M&M Trip to Corpus Christi**

Planning is going well for our high school Mission and Music Trip this June! Registration Forms will be available February 10 and our candy tube fundraiser will start the same day. See the music page for more details.

### **Upcoming Events**

February 3 Super Bowl Party  
February 24 Youth Sunday

### **Summer Planning**

June 3-7 VBS - need volunteers of all ages  
June 22-29 M&M Trip to Corpus Christi - completed 8-12th grade  
July 15-20 Massanetta - completed 6-8th grade  
July 15-20 Triennium - completed 8-12th grade



# Lucas McCamon Update



Dear GCPC friends,

As an 8th grader, before Barack Obama was a household name, and before I even knew what a smartphone was as a youth in worship at GCPC, I remember asking what “Church” does. We invite various farm animals into the sanctuary on Christmas and wear colorful shirts for M&M, sure. We eat donuts on Sunday mornings and support each other when someone in the family gets sick, sure. I can see the actions of GCPC. But what do we really do?

To love one another unconditionally, someone told me. Though I can’t remember the face of that specific interaction, I remember the response ringing in my ears. It felt true, but at the time, I couldn’t quite understand the breadth of what it meant.

In the years since, and especially so since moving to Rwanda to instruct and support English literacy in the fall of 2017, I have felt that unconditional love. The selfless giving and support from the GCPC congregation (*especially from the Page Turners, Esther Circle, and my great parents*) to support my school’s goal of building a library that fosters curiosity has reinforced the belief I have in universal human dignity, our collective work towards a more fair world, and the importance of having a community behind you.

My students, my fellow teachers and administration, and I send our collective thanks from Rwanda. Murakoze cyane!

*Lucas McCamon*

**Inclusive. Family Oriented. Welcoming.**

11100 College Boulevard  
Overland Park, KS 66210  
Phone: 913-345-1256  
Fax: 913-345-1198  
[gcpc.org](http://gcpc.org)



**Follow us on Social Media!**

Facebook: [facebook.com/GraceCovenantPresbyterian](https://facebook.com/GraceCovenantPresbyterian)  
Twitter: @GraceCovPres  
Instagram: @gcpc\_overlandpark

**CELEBRATING GOD'S ALL ENCOMPASSING LOVE!**

**CHURCH STAFF**

**Co Pastors**  
- Office hours: Monday-Thursday  
[Mitch Trigger](mailto:mitch.trigger@gcpc.org), [mitch.trigger@gcpc.org](mailto:mitch.trigger@gcpc.org).....ext.18  
[Sue Trigger](mailto:sue.trigger@gcpc.org), [sue.trigger@gcpc.org](mailto:sue.trigger@gcpc.org).....ext.15

**Director of Music Ministries**  
- Office hours: Monday-Wednesday, Friday  
[Rebecca Prater](mailto:rebecca.prater@gcpc.org), [rebecca.prater@gcpc.org](mailto:rebecca.prater@gcpc.org)... ext. 13

**Church Administrator**  
- Office hours: Monday-Friday  
[Patrick Bell](mailto:patrick.bell@gcpc.org), [patrick.bell@gcpc.org](mailto:patrick.bell@gcpc.org) ..... ext. 10

**Director of Youth Ministries**  
- Office hours: Monday-Thursday  
[Miles McDonald](mailto:miles.mcdonald@gcpc.org), [miles.mcdonald@gcpc.org](mailto:miles.mcdonald@gcpc.org).. ext. 17

**Finance Administrator**..... Debbie Miller  
- Office hours: Mon. afternoon, Fri. 9:30-3:30pm

**Organist**..... Linda Dover

**Contemporary Music Coord.**..... Denice Trawicki

**Contemporary Music Drummer**..... Daniel Cole

**Technical Director for Worship**..Miles McDonald

**Child Care Coordinator**.....Carolyn Chaffin

**Kid's Day Out Director** .....Kathy Connor

**Wedding Coordinator**.....Lara Schesser

**Funeral Coordinator** .....Mary Sue Thomas

**ELDERS**

Jacob Battaglioli	Bryan Evans
Harold Frye	Donna Goeckler
Tim Hayden	Judy Hook
Terry Kolich	Lynn Long
Julie Passet	Hilary Schmidt
Aaron Soule	Josh Sutherland
Nelson Townsend	Marcia Turner
Cheryl Johnson, Clerk of Session	

**SUPPORT STAFF**

Deacon Moderator .....Kathy Williams  
Executive Committee .....Bryan Evans, Donna Goeckler, Cheryl Johnson, Julie Passet, Nelson Townsend  
Newsletter Editor ..... Kim Krueger  
Prayer Chain.....Cheryl Johnson  
Presbyterian Women Moderator .....Vacant

**MINISTRY UNITS**

Congregational Nurture Unit Moderators  
Connections and Care..... Lisa Feyh  
Worship and Music..... Sarah Evans, Barb Purvis, Anne Stroud

Education Ministry Unit Moderators  
Adult ..... Pat Collins  
Children ..... Diane Schmit  
Youth.....Susan Sutherland

Reach Out Ministry Unit Moderators  
Kairos .....Dave Pack  
Mission .....Mikki Walker  
Welcoming and Marketing .....Rosemary Gibson, Kim Krueger

Supportive Ministry Unit Moderators  
Facility .....Marc Feyh  
Generosity and Finance..... Matt McBride  
Personnel .....Linda Bridges

**Worship Schedule**

8:50am - Praise Team Led Worship  
10am - Church School All Ages  
11:05am - Choral Led Worship  
Childcare is provided during Worship.

**Upcoming Newsletter Article Deadlines**

March Issue - Deadline February 19  
April Issue - Deadline March 19