JULY 6 - ONE WORSHIP AND PICNIC

Extend your Fourth of July celebration weekend and come and enjoy the M&M Home Concert! Mark your calendar for Sunday, July 6, for the M&M Home Concert and Annual Pot Luck Lunch.

10am - M&M Worship Service
Welcome back the Mission and Music Trip participants and hear about their experiences as they lead worship and share their music. The theme is “Finding Home.” They traveled to Washington, DC. The worship will be filled with moments of prayer and praise. Your spirit will be moved. Your heart will be touched. Your faith will be engaged.

11:15am (or so) - All Church Picnic
Immediately following the service will be a potluck lunch for everyone. Fried chicken and beverages will be provided. Bring your own plate service (plates, cups, silver), and a side dish, salad or dessert to share (your choice). You may bring some cash to offset the cost of the chicken. And don’t let bringing something stop you, there will be plenty. Your attendance is the most important part. You may also volunteer for the “Green Team” to wash dishes after the meal (contact Kimby Young or Lynn Long to volunteer). The meal starts in Heartland Hall. If weather permits, we will overflow into the garden area and lawn.

Don’t miss this wonderful day for fellowship and fun.
Volunteers are needed for set-up, serving, and clean-up. Sign-up sheets will be posted outside the kitchen.

For more information or questions, please contact Lynn Long or the church office.

Children
Children are encouraged to participate fully with their parents in all parts of the morning. Worship will be active and child-friendly. The nursery will be open to children in second grade or younger during worship, but children should be picked up to join their families before the picnic.

Bring a friend
This casual creative service and picnic will be a great time to invite a guest to share in the community of Grace Covenant as we worship, eat and fellowship together. Think about who you might be able to invite to join us.
Dear Ones:

On Sunday, January 26, I invited a friend from Jackson, Mississippi – Rev. Lynn Miller – to paint one of our stained-glass windows in our Sanctuary during the worship experience that day. I shared with her the anticipation and excitement of that day – a day that the leadership of Grace Covenant would share many important projects including: a new strategic plan, a capital campaign, a new logo for the church, and the formation of a new not-for-profit organization serving disadvantaged youth in the region – Heartland 180.

I spoke with Lynn again recently and told her what this worship experience meant to me and others in the church. Also, I acknowledged the art work she created that day now hangs in the Narthex of our church. She said “Your call with the reminder of my visit to Grace Covenant was an uplifting moment. So thank you.”

On the phone, I asked Lynn: “What was the experience like for you the day you came to Grace Covenant and created this piece of art? What were some of your hopes and expectations in creating it? What would you hope and pray might happen for our congregation now?”

Here is what she shared.

There it is: a beautifully designed dove soaring through lines of waves and clouds and rainbows in the Covenant window. The dove represents the Spirit of God flying to and fro over the waters of creation. It is the creature that brought Noah the promise of an olive leaf. It came from heaven when Jesus was acknowledged as God’s beloved child. Throughout scripture we catch glimpses of the dove reminding the people of God’s love, presence and providence.

The dove from GCPC’s Covenant window was my immediate choice to be the centerpiece of the painting. As I sketched ideas I decided to use lines similar to the lead lines of the stained glass window (also echoed in the GCPC logo) as design elements. The circles echo the shapes of the sanctuary windows, and the arcs suggest the flight of the dove. The single vertical element is also an echo of the window design – the structural support though the value is changed from the silhouetted vertical support one sees when looking at the actual window to a yellow vertical that contrasts not only with the curves of the other lines but also contrasts a warm color with the painting’s predominantly cool color scheme.

In the course of my preliminary sketching the biggest struggle I had was how to place the dove. Should it echo the position of the dove in the window? Should it be in more of an upward glide? In the end I decided to keep the subject matter fairly simple, remembering John 3:8: The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. The painting’s absence of recognizable subject matter, I hope, leaves room for the Spirit to move where it will. It might be good for congregational interaction with the painting to occasionally turn the painting on the wall. Though it was painted with the dove echoing the window placement, it certainly does not have to stay that way. Try it “upside down” or 90 degrees to the right or 90 degrees to the left. Perhaps the painting will open up new meanings when that yellow vertical is a horizontal or when the flight arcs move up rather than down.

I hope, too, that the sparesness of the composition reminds the congregation that the Spirit will move where it will within the congregation of Grace Covenant and that it can and will move Grace Covenant to take God’s love to the world. I hope, too, that the painting also allows space for individuals to ponder where the Spirit is moving in their own lives and where the Spirit is calling them out of their own lives.

Spiritual Practice

Pray the Dove’s path: Remember the times that God’s spirit has led you. Offer prayers of thanksgiving for God’s Spirit moving in your life. Specifically you might give thanks for whatever it was that brought you to Grace Covenant.

Questions for Reflection

What are the signs that God has been leading the congregation...and that the congregation has been following the Spirit’s leading? What is the ‘sprig of hope and joy’ that Grace Covenant might uniquely carry to the Ark that is the world? What specific assets do YOU possess that would contribute to Grace Covenant’s ‘sprig of joy and hope’?

Montreat

Montreat, one of three national conference centers affiliated with the Presbyterian Church USA, is a contraction of the words “Mountain Retreat,” and the website prominently lists the following words:

Relationships • Renewal • Recreation • Rest

Montreat is visited annually by over 35,000 people seeking physical and spiritual renewal in the beautiful mountains of western North Carolina. Five GCPC youth and three adult leaders enjoyed a week of connecting with God and each other at Montreat in June. Jolee Webb, Sara Stowe Eskilson, Tatum Specht, Matthew Gwin, and Trent Amerine are grateful for the adult leadership of Samantha Johnson, Erich Amerine, and Brad Schmit on this life-changing trip. Thanks, Samantha, Erich, and Brad, for your leadership and guidance! Special thanks to Trey Bures for visiting the group at Montreat.

Car Wash Update

The annual June car was held on Father’s Day this year and was a great success! We washed over 35 cars and one dog. We raised exactly $600 which will be extremely helpful in supplementing the costs of our activities.

Mission and Music Trip

The youth greatly appreciate your prayers and support for our Mission and Music Trip! We look forward to sharing about the trip during worship on July 6 at 10am.

Canoe Trip

We are currently taking registrations from those who have completed 8th grade or above and would like to join us for a crazy fun weekend, July 11-13, canoeing in the Ozarks and praising God amidst the wonders of creation. Forms and more info are on the youth wall and website.

Survey Reminders

Youth Team sent out parent surveys and student surveys (two separate surveys). Please remember to fill these out and submit electronically, as member input and opinions are very important to Youth Team! If you misplace your survey or didn’t receive one, you can find the surveys at the links below: Student survey - https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SLV59HN Parent survey - https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SIXB7Y8.

Youth Team will begin analyzing the data at the end of the month, so please don’t delay! Submit your survey today.

Youth Team Members

Youth Team is looking for new members to join us! We meet regularly and work to find new and creative ways to engage our youth as they walk their faith journeys. If you’re interested or would like more information, please contact Miles McDonald at (913) 345-1256 or Chris Specht at (913) 482-4130.

Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Upcoming Events

• M&M Led Worship – July 6
• Canoe Trip (High school and college) – July 11-13
• Worlds of Fun – July 16
• High School Bible Studies – July 8, July 22, and August 5
• Middle School “Situation Unknown” – July 2 and July 23
• Schlitterbahn – August 6

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SYMPATHY

Our deepest sympathy to:
- Sharon Rollins upon the death of her father, Fred Rollins, May 31, 2014.

Please keep these individuals and their families in your prayers at this time of grief.
If you wish to send a card of sympathy and don’t have a church directory, you may call the church office at 913-345-1256.

THANKS FROM THE JCC

Last month, the Session sent a letter to the Jewish Community Center of Greater Kansas City along with a gift of $250 in memory of the victims of the April 11 tragedy. On June 9, we received a letter of correspondence back to us, which we received at our June Stated Session Meeting. A portion of the letter reads: “The tragedy of April 13 struck the heart of the community in Kansas City. For us at the JCC, we were momentarily robbed of our collective innocence, of the belief that the world is devoid of hate bigotry. But we have not let this feeling overcome us today. When you visit the JCC, you’ll once again hear children’s laughter and songs, the grunts and groans of fitness workouts, the silly babble of hallway chit-chats. You’ll also see a fresh perspective of gratitude. Thank you for your gift of $250 in memory of the victims of the April 13 tragedy. All the best, Ken Sigman (Chair of the Board), Robin Sterneck (Chair of Development), and Jacob Schreiber (President/CEO).”

ADULT EDUCATION

Sunday Morning Classes – 10-11am

Naked Spirituality Group – Room 15
We are all on our own spiritual journey. This class tries to approach faith from a spiritual perspective and offers fellowship among diverse religious backgrounds and perspectives valuing everyone’s opinions and insights. We crave the breeze of the Holy Spirit and look for ways to become more aware and present with God.

Naked Spirituality Group will continue to meet in July, except for the first Sunday. Come join us as we explore Eckhart Tolle’s Living a Life of Inner Peace CD series. Come join us for great discussion. We are in Room 15, hope to see you there!

Parenting Class – Room 10.
The GCPC Parenting Class meets casually this summer each Sunday from 10 to 10:50am in Room 10 downstairs. Please join us to talk about a variety of subjects - spirituality, discipline, sibling issues, friends, teachers, activities, bullying, health issues for kids and parents, and more!

This is a lively group and the discussion is rich. Bring your stories, concerns, and questions to share as we explore diverse topics relating to raising young children. All are welcome, whether you come every week or just drop in once in a while. We would love for you to come join us!

If you have any questions regarding the class or suggestions for the topic ideas, please contact the class facilitators by phone or via email: Leigh Cummings 314-477-5561 or toddp.goldie@gmail.com or Chris Specht 913-851-9667 or specht.chris@gmail.com. We hope to see you soon in Room 10!

SAVING JESUS
Summer video and discussion series
Diana Butler Bass, Marcus Borg, Rita Nakashima Brock, Walter Brueggemann, John Dominic Crossan, Matthew Fox, Amy Jill Levine, Brian McLaren, Tess Sample, John Shelby Spong, Emily Townes, and others share reflections about Jesus, faith, the church and the world. Join us for 30 minutes of video and minutes of discussion each Sunday thru the summer. Each week stands alone and provides a lot to talk about. The next few weeks are about the “content” of Jesus life and message.

June 29 – Teachings of Jesus: Wisdom Tradition
July 6 – no class – one worship service – M & M led with brunch following
July 13 – Jesus’ Program: The Kingdom of God
July 20 – Jesus Ministry of Compassion
July 27 – Who Killed Jesus?
August 3 – The Atonement
August 10 – The Resurrection of Christ
August 31 – Why Jesus is Worth Saving

MCKELL GRANT RECIPIENTS

At the June Stated Session Meeting, the Session approved a motion from the Endowment Team to offer funds from Grace Covenant’s endowment to the Mission & Music Trip ($1,000) and the International Mission Trip ($1,500). The church’s policy states that endowment funds may be used to fund outreach and/or capital needs. The session received McKell Grant Applications for both trips with Jolee Webb and Jackson Hubble presenting on the Mission and Music Trip (M&M) and Kenzie Waechter, Nicole Becher, and Kyle Becher presenting on the International Mission Trip. For the M&M Trip, the funds will be given to the agencies who are hosting our youth allowing them to serve along with them. For the International Mission Trip, the funds will be offered for donations to those in Thwake, including a Communion Table for a new church, supplies and books for a school, and medicine kits.

Established in 2007, the McKell Grant encourages the youth of the congregation to identify a mission need, to plan a major project, and to implement that project to address the need. The grant application process fosters opportunities for the youth to apply their faith to real-life needs, gain experience in organizational skills and grant writing experience. Applications should be completed by youth representing those participating in the event.

PEW DWELLERS’S HEALTH NOTES

You and New Blood Pressure Guidelines
The series on sleep will continue in the August, 2014 issue in order to address a vital subject for individuals who are hypertensive (have high blood pressure) and who are below or above the age of 60. Perhaps, you have received information from media resources that you may no longer need to take medications to lower your blood pressure.

Listed below are three guidelines written by Harlan M. Krumholz, M.D. in The New York Times on December 18, 2013:

1) “First, the guidelines raise the systolic blood pressure (the top number of the blood pressure reading) threshold for drug treatment from 140 to 150 for people 60 and older. You may be familiar with the idea that hypertension should be treated when your blood pressure is higher than 140/90 mm Hg. Now, based on studies, the experts support a systolic blood pressure threshold for the drug treatment from 140 to 150 for people 60 and older. You may be familiar with the idea that hypertension has not changed.

2) “Second, there is insufficient medical evidence to recommend of this action is critical so that you and your physician can control your blood pressure with your physician. The necessity of this action is critical so that you and your physician can control your blood pressure with your physician.

3) In the third guideline, Dr. Krumholz states that the modification of the risk factor of hypertension with medication does not necessarily mean that you have reduced an individual’s risk for heart attacks, strokes, and premature death.

Before you skip some or all doses of your prescribed medications, discuss the new guidelines and your need to control your blood pressure with your physician. The necessity of this action is critical so that you and your physician can define the acceptable blood pressure readings for you and the best treatment. The need to monitor your diet, salt intake, and exercise has not changed.
Childcare Update from Children’s Ministries

You may or may not have noticed that childcare has been provided more often this past year. We’ve been able to provide care for Eve Circle meetings, all the services during Holy Week, Young Member meetings, and evening concerts in addition to Sunday mornings. This fall we would like to offer childcare for more events, and our hope is that if these times are publicized, we will be able to serve more than one group from the church.

Childcare will now be offered from 6-6pm to care for children whose parents are in bells. We are also looking at extending the nursery hours on Sunday morning two times a month to 1:30pm. (These are for church activities, not so parents can go out to brunch!) Other times are also being considered. If you are a member of a group who would benefit from having childcare provided at the church, please consider meeting during these times!

And finally, this fall we will also be enhancing the Early Childhood Sunday morning nursery experiences - more to come in our August Grace Notes. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Carolyn (carolynchaffin@ymail.com) or Cindy (cindy.huston@gcpc.org).

Summer SAIL is continuing the units of The Creation Story, led by Julie Webb. Children are invited to attend whenever they can for a variety of fun hands-on learning activities...and snacks! Here are the topics in July.

- July 6-No Sunday School-M&M Worship at 10am
- July 13-Day Five-Fish and Birds
- July 20-Day Six-Animals and People
- July 27-Day Seven-Seven (my favorite)

Calendar Reminders:

- July 13, 20, & 27 - Summer SAIL at 10am
- August 10 - Bless the Backpacks at both services
- August 11 - Children’s Ministries Program Kickoff Party/ Meeting at Cindy’s
- September 7 – Program year activities start

REFORMATION PROJECT

On Monday, July 21, at 7pm, in Heartland Hall, the Reformation Project will be holding a kick-off meeting at GCPC for volunteers interested in helping the organization plan and execute a regional conference in Kansas City in April next year. The Reformation Project is a non-denominational organization that works to reform church teaching on sexual orientation through Bible-based education. Grace Covenant’s own Paul Creekmore chairs the steering committee for the upcoming conference and will be discussing opportunities for participation and leadership in the development of all aspects of the event, including workshops, worship, promotions, prayer, hospitality, childcare, fundraising and several others. Questions? Contact Paul at trp.creekmore@gmail.com or visit www.reformationproject.org.

SUMMER GIVING

Summer is for vacation time with lots of trips and fun activities! You can ensure that your regular giving continues while you are out having fun in the sun. Sign up with our easy online banking giving. Contact Johnnie if you have questions.

PRESBYTERIANS AROUND THE WORLD

“Many of our faith communities are in the process of becoming, and many are changing.” - Robert Dermody

Jerry L. Van Marter, in a publication from Presbyterians Today, defined the need of the Presbyterian Church to “Grow Christ’s Church Deep and Wide.” This was an initiative endorsed by the last two General Assemblies. His article, written before June 14, 2014, stated that the Presbyterian Church now had a new initiative—to grow the Church deeper and wider in the next 10 years.

The article also noted that membership in the Presbyterian denomination, since mid-1960, had declined. The article named Robert Dermody, Deputy Executive Director for Mission of the General Assembly Mission Council, as the promoter of the concept in 2013. Dermody’s idea was the development of new communities. He predicted that churches would flourish and identified the need for the development of new places in which people could worship.

A June 14, 2014 publication of the Presbyterian Mission Agency stated that a celebration was in order at the 221st (2014) General Assembly in Detroit because of the development of 247 new worshiping communities. The Presbyterian Mission Agency is the mission arm of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

The publication states that, “With a goal of 1,001 new worshipping communities in 10 years, the initiative was first approved at the 220th General Assembly (2012) in Pittsburgh.” According to the Presbyterian Mission Agency, “1,001 new worshiping communities is an innovative way of thinking outside the Church as people and sanctuary—how to meet
MUSIC NOTES  (cont.)

Our entire group will also be working at 2 mission sites:

A Wider Circle (Monday-Wednesday)

The mission of A Wider Circle is to end poverty. Each day, A Wider Circle provides basic needs items to families transitioning out of shelters or simply living without life's necessities. They furnish the homes of more than 1,000 children and adults every single month, all free of charge. Our group will serve at their community center. Their peak time (when clients visit) is between 9:30am and 2:30pm. We will be sorting donations, stocking shelves, and assisting clients to "purchase" furniture and household goods. Most client visits last about an hour. Sometimes they bring children who we can play with as well as help to pick out some toys that they can keep.

Interfaith Works (Thurs & Fri)

They have several shelters, a Women's Center & Clothing Center. We are scheduled to prepare 180 sack lunches including small drink, snack, and fruit cup but not including a sandwich which will be added later. We are scheduled for Mission only group to work at the Clothing Center on Thursday and Friday.

Friday, June 27 @ 7:30pm

Exaltation! will sing at the National Cathedral. We will sing 10 songs with a massed choir composed of students from around the country, and then, because Est was honored to receive the "Spirit of Cue" award from YouthCUE (a national organization for the promotion of youth choirs); we will sing 4 songs by ourselves during the concert.

Saturday, June 28

We will tour Arlington Cemetery and then begin the trek back home to Overland Park.

Sunday, June 29 @ 12pm

Return to GCPC

One Week Later - Sunday, July 6 @ 10am

M&M Led Worship @ GCPC + Lunch

Come hear & see our songs & stories in worship.

We can't wait to share it with you!

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Dear Members:

The Session would like to thank everyone who pledged, attended a campaign event, or served on a committee. As of June 17, 187 pledges have been received totaling $865,062 towards our goal of $1,200,000. Of this pledged amount, $138,583 has been contributed to date. Our Campaign consultants from Church Development communicated recently that our Capital Campaign raised funds that amount to 90% of our annual budget, which is a great achievement.

Every area of the church mentioned during the Campaign receives upgrades including the roof, HVAC, organ and youth facility renovations. We are now getting more detailed bids and fine tuning the projects. These will begin as the church receives contributions.

As the Capital Campaign Communications Teams has said, the primary Capital Campaign fundraising period ends June 30; however, you may make a gift to the Campaign at any time. If you have not yet made a pledge, you can do so here - http://gcpc.org/capital-campaign-card/ or send an email to johnnie.baker@gcpc.org. Campaign envelopes will arrive with your July offering envelopes or you may pick one up in the narthex to begin fulfilling your pledge now.

Thank you for your support of our 2014-2017 Capital Campaign: Equipping Grace... Today and Tomorrow!

-The Session

OUTREACH NEWS

GATHER

Communion in kind donation this month is books for Rosehill School. New or used are appreciated.

Grace Community Food Pantry: Please remember the food pantry for your contributions this month. Let's fill up our weekend entrance bin with food. School has come to a close and now many kids are with out their school breakfast & lunches during summer vacation break.

SEND

Interfaith Hospitality Network Volunteer Training

As usual it is held in the old numbered months. Saturday July 12, from 9:30am – 12 noon. Training will be held at Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, located at 15915 West 143rd Street in Olathe. Get your training now so you can help out August 2-10 at GCPC.

Rosehill/ MVP Tutors

One of the great ways to get involved at Rosehill School is to serve as a volunteer mentor, tutor, or classroom assistant through our My Volunteer Pal (MVP) program. As we prepare for the 2014-15 school year, we have scheduled training sessions for individuals interested in becoming an MVP and would be pleased to have you. Training is at the McEachen Administration Center (7235 Antioch Road):

Training

Morning: Thursday, June 26 9-11am
Afternoon: Tuesday, July 22 2-4pm
Thursday, July 10 9-11am
Tuesday, Aug. 19 2-4pm
Thursday, Aug. 7 9-11am

Please RSVP’s (email volunteer@smsd.org or call 993.6411) to ensure the sessions don’t get overcrowded. If sessions fill up, we will add more dates, which can be found on our SMSD volunteer webpage http://www.smsd.org/community/pages/volunteering.aspx. The application is also on the volunteer webpage aforementioned.

Any questions or for additional information, please contact Rachel Larsen rachellarsen@smsd.org 913.993.6411. See also the Sign-Up Board!

Vacation Bible School Helpers needed

July 21-25 9 am–3 pm

If you are interested joining Bond Faulwell and Jane Knoche in helping with the First Olathe Presbyterian Church Vacation Bible School, contact Jane Knoche at 913-940-9226 or jeknoche@att.net. FOPC congregation offering totaled $896! And the car wash event resulted in $600 worth of clean auto's!

We have such self initiative in our members – Terri Jones-Meinke submitted a Presbyterian Women Grant request for $1000 for 2 medical kits to take to Kenya on the International trip. It was approved and she will be getting Heart to Heart International Kite. Way to go Terri! You are all already there in the midst of Disaster, Hunger and Self Development– the total keeps growing! Our One Great Hour of Sharing offering collected through June – $5576.47 – Thank YOU!

Our Red Bag Coordinator is… drum roll please… Angela Krug! Two groups signed on to help her with this project [Eve Circle (creating the posters for Red Bag gifts) and the Thursday Morning Bible Study (packing the bags)].

Interfaith Hospitality Network is moving to a new home with more space and outside play area! The new site has three staff offices, a large reception area, a reception desk, a large board room, a very large family lounge, as well as a kitchen two to three times the size of our current kitchen. In addition, it will have two large guest bathrooms, and a small staff and volunteer bathroom. The target date for moving to the new facility is July 1, 2014. Outreach voted to disburse the budgeted $750 to IHN last month to support their Pathways Home campaign. Three of our GCPC members continue on the IHN Board of Directors – Ellin Schoenfeld, Wendy Kor, and Joe Lillian.

Here is an update from one of the families that we supported during a couple rotations- Shauna and their four beautiful boys are doing very well! Cash and Cade obtained straight As on their grade cards. Colton continues always has a smile on his face, and finally, Cayson is walking on his own, and will soon be sharing a room with Cash.

Grace United Freedom School - Outreach Team voted to fund the cost of one child for the 6 week school ($500). The regional agency that has always arranged the funding for all summer Freedom Schools in the KC area, including Grace United since 2006, informed Grace United just four weeks beforehand that it was unable to fund this year’s programs as planned. For 18 of its 20 years, this agency received funds for Freedom Schools from the Kauffman Foundation, and more recently from the State of Missouri. Grace has received (and counted upon) this funding to cover all their 6-week, summer Freedom School costs except for food and overhead costs. They are working to provide for 80 students and have revised their plans and costs due to this funding shortfall.

EQUIP

July Communion Offering – Check out our Grace Garden this month. Your offering will support our 2015 Garden - a Kairos initiative! Take a moment and thank Lauren Bond and her garden team!

Blessings

THANK YOU for your support of this year’s M&M trip! The May Communion offering totaled $896! And the car wash event resulted in $600 worth of clean auto’s!

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Looking Ahead to Music & Worship Events
Summer of 2014

Sunday, July 6 @ 10am
M&M Led Worship @ GCPC + Lunch
Summer Choir will sing on
Sundays, July 13 & 27 & August 10. The choir is open to all singers 8th graders-adults. Just show up that morning for our warm up & sing with us. No robe required.

Sunday, August 3, in both Worship Services & a 3pm Recital and Reception
Patrick O’Halloran, tenor
“Our own” Patrick O’Halloran is taking the national opera scene by storm. Mark your calendar to hear him in our own sanctuary. All are welcome! Childcare will be provided for children in 2nd grade and younger. Also, there will be a love offering taken for Patrick & his accompanist. Check out this website to find out more about Patrick’s current accomplishments. http://ada-artists.com/artist-roster/patrick-ohalloran/

KC Men’s Ensemble will provide musical leadership on
Sunday, August 17, in both worship services. Having them sing is always a highlight of the summer.

The Senior High Mission & Music Trip
Sundays, July 13 & 27 & August 10 & Aug. 2.
No robe required.

As you are receiving the July newsletter we are at the half-way point on our trip.
Remember, you can get daily updates on the on the home page of our website: gcpc.org under “Upcoming Events” and like the Music & Mission Trip 2014 page on Facebook. Here is some of what is still happening:

Mock trial will be happening at the Public Defender’s Office.

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Sunday, August 17, in both worship services. Having them sing is always a highlight of the summer.

The Senior High Mission & Music Trip
Sundays, July 13 & 27 & August 10 & Aug. 2.
No robe required.

As you are receiving the July newsletter we are at the half-way point on our trip.
Remember, you can get daily updates on the on the home page of our website: gcpc.org under “Upcoming Events” and like the Music & Mission Trip 2014 page on Facebook. Here is some of what is still happening:

Mock trial will be happening at the Public Defender’s Office.

The choir is open to all singers 8th graders-adults. Just show up that morning for our warm up & sing with us. No robe required.

Sunday, August 3, in both Worship Services & a 3pm Recital and Reception
Patrick O’Halloran, tenor
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Kansas City Royals will celebrate their 42nd season at Kauffman Stadium in 2014. Kansas City has always been one of the crown jewel ballparks of Major League Baseball. Having hosted 72,389,223 fans since 1973, “The K”, with its signature look, has proudly stood the test of time.” (from http://kansascity.royals.mlb.com)

Go Royals!!

Jean Ensign is still in need of rides to and from church for the second service (1:05). I know the summer months are busy for all of us with vacations. If you are in town and could give Jean a ride or from church please go to the transportation train that has been set up http://www.meattrain.com/?id=m22dgov6wxlt to help. Jean lives at Vintage Park of Lenexa at 87th and Caenan.

You can help out please go to the above link and sign up for a Sunday. If there is a change in plans or a date changes, Diane Schmit will let you know. If you have any questions please contact Diane at 913-638-6275.

Jean has fed so many of us, let’s help serve her now.

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Jean has fed so many of us, let’s help serve her now.
Looking Ahead to Music & Worship Events

Summer of 2014

Sunday, July 6 @ 10am
M&M Led Worship @ GCPC + Lunch
Summer Choir will sing on Sundays, July 13 & 27 & August 10. The choir is open to all singers 8th graders-adults. Just show up that morning for our warm up & sing with us. No robe required.

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And from Caroline Becher to all who helped with the meal: “Thank you” to Caroline Becher who oversaw the delicious KC BBQ meal to feed 5,000 . . . or at least 100

And from Caroline Becher to all who helped with the meal: “Thanks to many “nameless” people that helped with the fantastic BBQ dinner enjoyed by the choir from Atlanta. We had a great BBQ feast that also included beans, slaw, fresh fruit / veggies / potato casseroles / lemonade / and desserts. It would be impossible to thank each individual baker as we handed out the aluminum trays so quickly — it’s a great way to get a lot of folks involved … but not easy to keep track of individual nameless!”

The other person who helped in a big way was Danielle Smith, who oversaw the housing of this mammoth group, “Thank you!”

And to all who hosted, here is a word from Danielle:
“I just want to thank you all again for graciously opening your homes to our guests. I hope that everyone found their hosting experience to be positive and hopefully, fun! Again, thank you for your generosity!”

All in all it was a delightful experience. Thank you, one and all!
MUSIC NOTES (cont.)

Our entire group will also be working at 2 mission sites:

A Wider Circle (Monday-Wednesday)
The mission of A Wider Circle™ is to end poverty. Each
day, A Wider Circle provides basic necessities to families
transitioning out of shelters or simply living without life’s
necessities. They furnish the homes of more than 1,000
children and adults every single month, all free of charge.
Our group will serve at their community center. Their
peak time (when clients visit) is between 9:30am and
2:30pm. We will be sorting donations, stocking shelves,
and assisting clients to “purchase” furniture and household
goods. Most client visits last about an hour. Sometimes
they bring children who we can play with as well as help to
pick out some toys that they can keep.

Interfaith Works (Thurs & Fri)
They have several shelters, a Women’s Center & Clothing
Center. We are scheduled to prepare 180 sack lunches
including small drink, snacks, and fruit cup. Technology
not including a sandwich which will be added later. We are
scheduled for Mission only group to work at the Clothing
Center on Thursday and Friday.
Friday, June 27 @ 7:30pm
Exaltation! will sing at the National Cathedral. We will sing
10 songs with a massed choir composed of students from
around the country, and then, because of our first grand
reception including the roof, HVAC, organ and youth
facilities, we are now getting more
tuned the projects. These will
begin as the church receives contributions.

As the Capital Campaign Communications Teams has said,
the primary Capital Campaign fundraising period ends
June 30; however, you may make a gift to the Campaign
at any time. If you have not yet made a pledge, you can
do so here - http://gcpc.org/capital-campaign-card/
or send an email to johnnie.baker@gcpc.org. Campaign
envelopes will arrive with your July offering envelopes
and you may pick one up in the narthex to begin fulfilling
your pledge now.

Thank you for your support of our 2014-2017 Capital
Campaign: Equipping Grace... Today and Tomorrow!

-The Session

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Dear Members:
The Session would like to thank everyone who pledged,
attended a campaign event, or served on a committee.
As of June 17, 187 pledges have been received totaling
$865,062 towards our goal of $1,200,000. Of this pledged
amount, $138,583 has been contributed to date. Our
Campaign consultants from Church Development
communicated recently that our Capital Campaign raised
funds that amounted to 90% of our annual budget, which is
a great achievement.

Every area of the church mentioned during the Campaign
receives upgrades including the roof, HVAC, organ and
youth facility renovations. We are now getting more
detailed bids and fine tuning the projects. These will
begin as the church receives contributions.

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at any time. If you have not yet made a pledge, you can
do so here - http://gcpc.org/capital-campaign-card/
or send an email to johnnie.baker@gcpc.org. Campaign
tenco operative is centered in becoming an MVP and would
be pleased to have you... Training is at the MCEachen
Administration Center (7235 Antioch Road):
Training
Morning Afternoon
Tuesday, June 27 9-11am Tuesday, July 22 4-6pm
Thursday, July 30 9-11am Thursday, Aug. 19 4-6pm

Please RSVPs (email volunteer@smsd.org or call 993.6411)
to ensure the sessions don’t get overcrowded. If sessions
fill up, we will add more dates, which can be found on
our SMSD volunteer webpage http://www.smsd.org/
community/pages/volunteering.aspx. The application is
also on the volunteer webpage aforementioned.
Any questions or for additional information, please contact
Rachel Larson racchellassen@smsd.org 913.993.6411. See
also the Sign-Up Board!

Vacation Bible School Helpers needed
July 21-25 9am-3pm
If you are interested in joining Bond Faulwell and Jane
Knoche in helping with the First Olathe Presbyterian
Church Vacation Bible School, contact Jane Knoche at
913-940-9226 or jknochejgatt.net. FOPC congregation
is rebuilding and sponsoring VBS in partnership with St.
Stephen PC Youth Mission Trip, Ft. Worth, TX.
If any children from Preschool (toilet trained ) to 6th grade
wish to attend. See the Flyer on the sign up board for a
registration form. Cost is Free, but you are asked to bring
your lunch and drink daily along with your swimsuit and
towel.

EQUIP
July Communion Offering – Check out our Grace Garden
this month. Your offering will support our 2015 Garden
– a Kairos initiative! Take a moment and thank Lauren Bond
and her garden team!

Blessings
THANK YOU for your support of this year’s M&M trip!
The May Communion offering totaled $9896! And the car wash
event resulted in $600 worth of clean autos!
We have such self initiative in our members – Terri Jones-
Meinke submitted a Presbyterian Women Grant request
for $1000 for 2 medical kits to take to Kenya on the
International trip. It was approved and she will be getting
Heart to Heart International Kits. Way to go Terri!
You are already there in the midst of Disaster, Hunger,
and Self Development– the total keeps growing! Our One
Great Hour of Sharing offering collected through June –
$5576.47 – Thank YOU!
Our Red Bag Coordinator is... drum roll please...Angela
Krug! Two groups signed on to help her with this project
[i.e. Circle (creating the posters for Red Bag gifts) and the
Thursday Morning Bible Study (packing the bags)].
Interfaith Hospitality Network is moving to a new home
with more space and outside play area! The new site has
three staff offices, a large reception area, a reception desk,
a large board room, a very large family lounge, as well as a kitchen
two to three times the size of our current kitchen.
In addition, it will have two large guest bathrooms, and a
small staff and volunteer bathroom. The target date
for moving to the new facility is July 1, 2014. Outreach
voted to disburse the budgeted $750 to IHN last month
to support their Pathways Home campaign. Three of our
GCPC members continue on the IHN Board of Directors –
Ellin Schoenfeld, Wendy Kor, and Joe Lillian.
Here is an update from one of the families that we
supported during a couple rotations- Shauna and their four
beautiful boys are doing very well! Cash and Cade obtained
straight As on their grade cards. Colton continues always
has a smile on his face, and finally, Cayson is walking on his
own, and will soon be sharing a room with Cash.
Grace United Freedom School - Outreach Team voted to
fund the cost of one child for the 6 week school ($500).
The regional agency that has always arranged the funding
for all summer Freedom Schools in the KC area, including
Grace United since 2006, informed Grace United just four
weeks beforehand that it was unable to fund this year’s
programs as planned. For 18 of its 20 years, this agency
received funds for Freedom Schools from the Kauffman
Foundation, and more recently from the State of Missouri.
Grace has received (and counted upon) this funding to
cover all their 6-week, summer Freedom School costs
except for food and overhead costs. They are working to
provide for 80 students and have revised their plans and
costs due to this funding shortfall.

OUTREACH NEWS

GATHER
Communion in kind donation this month is books for
Rosehill School. New or used are appreciated.
Grace Community Food Pantry: Please remember the
food pantry for your contributions this month. Let’s fill
our weekday entrance bin with food. School has come
to a close and now many kids are with out their school
breakfast & lunches during summer vacation break.

SEND
Interfaith Hospitality Network Volunteer Training
As usual it is held in the old numbered months. Saturday
July 12, from 9:30am – 12 noon. Training will be held at
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, located at 15915
West 143rd Street in Olathe. Get your training now so you
can help out August 2-10 at GCPC.
Rosehill / MVP Tutors One of the great ways to get
involved at Rosehill School is to serve as a volunteer
mentor, tutor, or classroom assistant through our My
Volunteer Pal (MVP) program. As we prepare for the
2014-15 school year, we have scheduled training sessions
for individuals interested in becoming an MVP and would
be pleased to have you... Training is at the McEachen
Administration Center (7235 Antioch Road):
Training
Morning Afternoon
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Thursday, July 30 9-11am Thursday, Aug. 19 4-6pm
Thursday, Aug. 7 9-11am
Please RSVPs (email volunteer@smsd.org or call 993.6411)
to ensure the sessions don’t get overcrowded. If sessions
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towel.
CHILDREN’S MINISTRIES

Information for ALL our members, not just those with young children!

VBS 2014 – Workshop of Wonders!
Imagine and Build with God Wrap Up

We had an amazing week, thanks to all our fantastic volunteers. We had two directors, a photographer, an assembly leader, 10 center leaders, 8 group leaders, two childcare providers, 27 youth and about 35 other adults who came to help ALL FIVE MORNINGS! We also had at least 15 - 20 people who helped on a morning-to-morning basis. I could calculate how many volunteer hours this included for just the week of VBS, but that sounds like a lot of math! But as you can see, we had tremendous volunteer support so THANK YOU! We had almost 100 participants, and more than half of those were guests. GCPC Vacation Bible School has a very good name out in the community, and it’s getting better every year.

Our outreach partner was the Mattie Rhodes Center, and we collected supplies and snacks for their summer program. In addition to $316.23 collected from lose change every day, we collected supplies and snacks for their summer program. In

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Children's Ministries would love some new members to join our fun, hardworking team. We meet the 2nd Monday at 7pm, and plan all children’s activities. There is a lot we routinely do, but a part of each meeting focuses on how to improve and enhance. If you have ideas and want to be a part of this ministry, or would just like to visit the August meeting because it's by Cindy’s pool with adult beverages, we would love to have you!

Childcare Update from Children's Ministries

You may or may not have noticed that childcare has been provided more often this past year. We’ve been able to provide care for Eve Circle meetings, all the services during Holy Week, Young Member meetings, and evening concerts in addition to Sunday mornings. This fall we would like to offer childcare for more events, and our hope is that if these times are publicized, we will be able to serve more than one group from the church.

Childcare will now be offered from 6-8pm to care for children whose parents are in bells. We are also looking at extending the nursery hours on Sunday morning two times a month to 1:30pm. (These are for church activities, not so parents can go out to brunch!) Other times are also being considered. If you are a member of a group who would benefit from having childcare provided at the church, please consider meeting during these times!

The “top age” will now be 2nd grade which will allow us to offer care to more children. We just had our first order of “Fat Brain Toys” delivered to keep these older children more engaged and stimulated.

And finally, this fall we will also be enhancing the Early Childhood Sunday morning nursery experiences - more to come in our August Grace Notes. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Carolyn (carolynchaffin@ymail.com) or Cindy (cindy.huston@gcpc.org).

Summer SAIL is continuing the units of The Creation Story, led by Julie Webb. Children are invited to attend whenever they can for a variety of fun hands-on learning activities… and snacks! Here are the topics in July.

July 6-No Sunday School-M&M Worship at 10am
July 13-Day Five-Fish and Birds
July 20-Day Six-Animals and People
July 27-Day Seven-Rest (my favorite)

Calendar Reminders:
July 13, 20, & 27 - Summer SAIL at 10am
August 10 - Bless the Backpacks at both services
August 11 - Children’s Ministries Program Kickoff Party/ Meeting at Cindy’s
September 7 – Program year activities start

REFORMATION PROJECT

On Monday, July 21, at 7pm, in Heartland Hall, the Reformation Project will be holding a kick-off meeting at GCPC for volunteers interested in helping the organization plan and execute a regional conference in Kansas City in April next year. The Reformation Project is a non-denominational organization that works to reform church teaching on sexual orientation through Bible-based education. Grace Covenant’s own Paul Creekmore chairs the steering committee for the upcoming conference and will be discussing opportunities for participation and leadership in the development of all aspects of the event, including workshops, worship, promotions, prayer, hospitality, childcare, fundraising and several others. Questions? Contact Paul at trp.creekmore@gmail.com or visit www.reformationproject.org.
SYMPATHY

Our deepest sympathy to:
- Sharon Rollins upon the death of her father, Fred Rollins, May 31, 2014.
- Melanie Mitchell upon the death of her father, M.D. Penny, May 16, 2014.

Please keep these individuals and their families in your prayers at this time of grief.

If you wish to send a card of sympathy and don’t have a church directory, you may call the church office at 913-345-1256.

THANKS FROM THE JCC

Last month, the Session sent a letter to the Jewish Community Center of Greater Kansas City along with a gift of $250 in memory of the victims of the April 11 tragedy. On June 9, we received a letter of correspondence back to us, which we received at our June Stated Session Meeting. A portion of the letter reads: “The tragedy of April 13 struck the heart of the community in Kansas City. For us at the JCC, we were momentarily robbed of our collective innocence, of the belief that the world is devoid of hate bigotry. But we have not let this feeling overcome us. Today, when you visit the JCC, you’ll once again hear children’s laughter and songs, the grunts and groans of fitness workouts, the silly babble of hallway chit-chats. You’ll also see a fresh perspective of gratitude. Thank you for your gift of $250 in memory of the victims of the April 13 tragedy. All the best, Ken Sigman (Chair of the Board), Robin Sternecker (Chair of Development), and Jacob Schreiber (President/CEO).”

ADULT EDUCATION

Sunday Morning Classes – 10–11am

Naked Spirituality Group – Room 15
We are all on our own spiritual journey. This class tries to approach faith from a spiritual perspective and offers fellowship among diverse religious backgrounds and perspectives valuing everyone’s opinions and insights. We crave the breeze of the Holy Spirit and look for ways to become more aware and present with God.

Naked Spirituality Group will continue to meet in July, except for the first Sunday. Come join us as we explore Eckhart Tolle’s Living a Life of Inner Peace CD series. Come join us for great discussion. We are in Room 15, hope to see you there!

Parenting Class – Room 10.
The GPGC Parenting Class meets casually this summer each Sunday from 10 to 10:50am in Room 10 downstairs. Please join us to talk about a variety of subjects - spirituality, discipline, sibling issues, friends, teachers, activities, bullying, health issues for kids and parents, and more!

This is a lively group and the discussion is rich. Bring your stories, concerns, and questions to share as we explore diverse topics relating to raising young children. All are welcome, whether you come every week or just drop in once in a while. We would love for you to join us!

If you have any questions regarding the class or suggestions for the topic ideas, please contact the class facilitators by phone or via email: Leigh Cummings 314-477-5561 or todd.p.goldie@gmail.com or Chris Specht 913-851-9667 or specht.chris@gmail.com. We hope to see you soon in Room 10!

SAVING JESUS
Summer video and discussion series
Diana Butler Bass, Marcus Borg, Rita Nakashima Brock, Walter Brueggemann, John Dominic Crossan, Matthew Fox, Amy Jill Levine, Brian McLaren, Tes Sample, John Shelby Spong, Emily Townes, and others share reflections about Jesus, faith, the church and the world. Join us for 30 minutes of video and minutes of discussion each Sunday thru the summer. Each week stands alone and provides a lot to talk about. The next few weeks are about the “content” of Jesus life and message.

June 29 – Teachings of Jesus: Wisdom Tradition
July 6 – no class – one worship service – M & M led with brunch following
July 13 – Jesus’ Program: The Kingdom of God
July 20 – Jesus Ministry of Compassion
July 27 – Who Killed Jesus?
August 3 – The Atonement
August 10 - The Resurrection of Christ
August 31 - Why Jesus is Worth Saving

MCKELL GRANT RECIPIENTS

You and New Blood Pressure Guidelines
The series on sleep will continue in the August, 2014 issue in order to address a vital subject for individuals who are hypertensive (have high blood pressure) and who are below or above the age of 60. Perhaps, you have received information from media resources that you may no longer need to take medications to lower your blood pressure.

Listed below are three guidelines written by Harlan M. Krumholz, M.D. in The New York Times on December 18, 2013:

1) “First, the guidelines raise the systolic blood pressure (the top number of the blood pressure reading) threshold for drug treatment from 140 to 150 for people 60 and older. You may be familiar with the idea that hypertension should be treated when your blood pressure is higher than 140/90 mm Hg. Now, based on studies, the experts have redefined the acceptable blood pressure readings for you and the modification of the risk factor of hypertension with medication does not necessarily mean that you have premature death.”

2) “Second, there is insufficient medical evidence to support a systolic blood pressure threshold for the drug treatment of people younger than 60. The authors of the guidelines also, given the lack of evidence, settled on a treatment of people younger than 60. The authors of the guidelines also, given the lack of evidence, settled on a 150/90 or higher. ”

3) In the third guideline, Dr. Krumholz states that the modification of the risk factor of hypertension with medication does not necessarily mean that you have reduced an individual’s risk for heart attacks, strokes, and premature death.

Before you skip some or all doses of your prescribed medications, discuss the new guidelines and your need to control your blood pressure with your physician. The necessity of this action is critical so that you and your physician can define the acceptable blood pressure readings for you and the best treatment. The need to monitor your diet, salt intake, and exercise has not changed.

At the June Stated Session Meeting, the Session approved a motion from the Endowment Team to offer funds from Grace Covenant’s endowment to the Mission & Music Trip ($1,000) and the International Mission Trip ($1,500). The church’s policy states that endowment funds may be used to fund outreach and/or capital needs. The session received McKell Grant Applications for both trips with Jolee Webb and Jackson Hubble presenting on the Mission and Music Trip (M&M) and Kenzie Waechter, Nicole Becher, and Kyle Becher presenting on the International Mission Trip. For the M&M Trip, the funds will be given to the agencies who are hosting our youth allowing them to serve along with them. For the International Mission Trip, the funds will be offered for donations to those in Thwake, including a Communion Table for a new church, supplies and books for a school, and medicine kits.

Established in 2007, the McKell Grant encourages the youth of the congregation to identify a mission need, to plan a major project, and to implement that project to address the need. The grant application process fosters opportunities for the youth to apply their faith to real-life needs, gain experience in organizational skills and grant writing experience. Applications should be completed by youth representing those participating in the event.
Dear Ones:

On Sunday, January 26, I invited a friend from Jackson, Mississippi – Rev. Lynn Miller – to paint one of our stained-glass windows in our Sanctuary during the worship experience that day. I shared with her the anticipation and excitement of that day – a day that the leadership of Grace Covenant would share many important projects including: a new strategic plan, a capital campaign, a new logo for the church, and the formation of a new not-for-profit organization serving disadvantaged youth in the region – Heartland 180.

I spoke with Lynn again recently and told her what this worship experience meant to me and others in the church. Also, I acknowledged the art work she created that day now hangs in the Narthex of our church. She said “Your call with the reminder of my visit to Grace Covenant was an uplifting moment. So thank you.”

On the phone, I asked Lynn, “What was the experience like for you the day you came to Grace Covenant and created this piece of art? What were some of your hopes and expectations in creating it? What would you hope and pray might happen for our congregation now?”

Here is what she shared:

There it is: a beautifully predominant cool color scheme. In the course of my preliminary sketching the biggest struggle I had was how to place the dove. Should it echo the position of the dove in the window? Should it be in more of an upward glide? In the end I decided to keep the subject matter fairly simple, remembering John 3:8: The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. The painting’s absence of recognizable subject matter, I hope, leaves room for the Spirit to move where it will. It might be good for congregational interaction with the painting to occasionally turn the painting on the wall. Though it was painted with the dove echoing the window placement, it certainly doesn’t have to stay that way. Try it “upside down” or 90 degrees to the right or 90 degrees to the left. Perhaps the painting will open up new meanings when that yellow vertical is a horizontal or when the flight arcs move up rather than down. I hope, too, that the spareness of the composition reminds the congregation that the Spirit will move where it will within the congregation of Grace Covenant and that it can and will move Grace Covenant to take God’s love to the world. I hope, too, that the painting also allows space for individuals to ponder where the Spirit is moving in their own lives and where the Spirit is calling them out of their own lives. Spiritual Practice

Pray the Dove’s path: Remember the times that God’s spirit had led you. Offer prayers of thanksgiving for God’s Spirit moving in your life. Specifically you might give thanks for whatever it was that brought you to Grace Covenant.

Questions for Reflection

What are the signs that God has been leading the congregation...and that the congregation has been following the Spirit’s leading? What is the ‘spur of hope and joy’ that Grace Covenant might uniquely carry to the Ark that is the world? What specific assets do YOU possess that would contribute to Grace Covenant’s ‘spur of joy and hope?’

Montreat, one of three national conference centers affiliated with the Presbyterian Church USA, is a contraction of the words “Mountain Retreat,” and the website prominently lists the following words:

Relationships • Renewal • Recreation • Rest

Montreat is visited annually by over 35,000 people seeking physical and spiritual renewal in the beautiful mountains of western North Carolina. Five GCPC youth and three adult leaders enjoyed a week of connecting with God and each other at Montreat in June. Jolee Webb, Sara Stowe Eskilson, Tatum Specht, Matthew Gwin, and Trent Amerine are grateful for the adult leadership of Samantha Johnson, Erich Amerine, and Brad Schmit on this life-changing trip. Thanks, Samantha, Erich, and Brad, for your leadership and guidance! Special thanks to Trey Bures for visiting the group at Montreat.

Car Wash Update

The annual June car was held on Father’s Day this year and was a great success! We washed over 35 cars and one dog. We raised exactly $600 which will be extremely helpful in supplementing the costs of our activities.

Mission and Music Trip

The youth greatly appreciate your prayers and support for our Mission and Music Trip! We look forward to sharing about the trip during worship on July 6 at 10am.

Canoe Trip

We are currently taking registrations from those who have completed 8th grade or above and would like to join us for a crazy fun weekend, July 11-13, canoeing in the Ozarks and praising God amidst the wonders of creation. Forms and more info are on the youth wall and website.

Survey Reminders

Youth Team sent out parent surveys and student surveys (two separate surveys). Please remember to fill these out and submit electronically, as member input and opinions are very important to Youth Team! If you misplaced your survey or didn’t receive one, you can find the surveys at the links below:

Student survey - https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SLV59HN

Youth Team will begin analyzing the data at the end of the month, so please don’t delay! Submit your survey today.

Youth Team Members

Youth Team is looking for new members to join us! We meet regularly and work to find new and creative ways to engage our youth as they walk their faith journeys. If you’re interested or would like more information, please contact Miles McDonald at (913) 345-1256 or Chris Specht at (913) 482-4130.

Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Upcoming Events

- M&M Led Worship – July 6
- Canoe Trip (high school and college) – July 11-13
- Worlds of Fun – July 16
- High School Bible Studies – July 8, July 22, and August 5
- Middle School “Situation Unknown” – July 2 and July 23
- Schleitterbahn – August 6
JULY 6 - ONE WORSHIP AND PICNIC

Extend your Fourth of July celebration weekend and come and enjoy the M&M Home Concert! Mark your calendar for Sunday, July 6, for the M&M Home Concert and Annual Pot Luck Lunch.

10am - M&M Worship Service
Welcome back the Mission and Music Trip participants and hear about their experiences as they lead worship and share their music. The theme is “Finding Home”. They traveled to Washington, DC. The worship will be filled with moments of prayer and praise. Your spirit will be moved. Your heart will be touched. Your faith will be engaged.

11:15am (or so) - All Church Picnic
Immediately following the service will be a potluck lunch for everyone. Fried chicken and beverages will be provided. Bring your own plate service (plates, cups, silver), and a side dish, salad or dessert to share (your choice). You may bring some cash to offset the cost of the chicken. And don't let bringing something stop you, there will be plenty. Your attendance is the most important part. You may also volunteer for the “Green Team” to wash dishes after the meal (contact Kimby Young or Lynn Long to volunteer). The meal starts in Heartland Hall. If weather permits, we will overflow into the garden area and lawn. Don't miss this wonderful day for fellowship and fun.

Volunteers are needed for set-up, serving, and clean-up. Sign-up sheets will be posted outside the kitchen.

For more information or questions, please contact Lynn Long or the church office.

Children
Children are encouraged to participate fully with their parents in all parts of the morning. Worship will be active and child-friendly. The nursery will be open to children in second grade or younger during worship, but children should be picked up to offset the cost of the chicken. And don't let bringing something stop you, there will be plenty. Your attendance is the most important part. You may also volunteer for the “Green Team” to wash dishes after the meal (contact Kimby Young or Lynn Long to volunteer). The meal starts in Heartland Hall. If weather permits, we will overflow into the garden area and lawn. Don't miss this wonderful day for fellowship and fun.

Volunteers are needed for set-up, serving, and clean-up. Sign-up sheets will be posted outside the kitchen.

For more information or questions, please contact Lynn Long or the church office.

Bring a friend
This casual creative service and picnic will be a great time to invite a guest to share in the community of Grace Covenant as we worship, eat and fellowship together. Think about who you might be able to invite to join us.