

OUR CHURCH BUILDING | HOW CAN WE KEEP FROM SHARING?

Your generosity allows GCPC to provide financial support to area and international ministry partners. While these direct donations can be tracked in the SERVE budget figures, there is a less obvious way our church contributes to local ministry efforts: free or low-cost use of our church building. Our parking lot is busy day and night with people coming and going to these life-changing programs.

Non-profits currently using the building more or less rent-free are: Aphasia Group, Boy Scouts, two Al-Anon groups, and two other twelve-step groups. Some of the non-profits make a quarterly donation to the church based on the number of people who attend. Additionally, we offer office space for a counseling practice and a spiritual direction practice.

Any of our many local ministry partners can hold meetings in our building rent-free. Recently we began hosting “G.R.A.C.E. for Teens Afterschool”, an enrichment program for students grades 6-12 developed and run by ministry partner Youth Transformed for Life (YTL). Every weekday afternoon in the Atrium, you can see teens do homework, receive tutoring, and learn lessons in life and leadership with caring adults.

One long-running ministry is the “nursery school” established in 1977 as an outreach to the community. In recent years it has become an independent non-sectarian entity, but the “Green-Certified Five-Star” Children’s Center at Gracelyn maintains a close connection to GCPC. Several of our members are on its board. The church discounts rent for the Center, and with this financial assistance, it is able to offer affordable early childhood education plus need-based scholarships.

Your pledges and gifts to GCPC go much farther than you realize. We aren’t just maintaining this building for our own use, which can be fairly extensive when you consider all the weekly church meetings and gatherings plus Sunday morning and evening activities. We also invite others who are changing lives to make use of this beautiful facility that we have made warm and welcoming for all engaged in the work of the Spirit. And so again we ask ourselves as we consider our pledges for 2019, “How can we keep from sharing?”