

Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church

Asheville, North Carolina

www.gcpcusa.org

August 25, 2019



Sabbath is not rest for a privileged few while all others serve them – that's tourism.

Sabbath is the inviting of all creation to be still and imagine the coming of God.

~ Andrew Root

Prelude ✚

Prelude on Lobe den Herren

J. Wayne Kerr

*** Call to Worship** (*adapted from Psalm 71*)

In you, O LORD, I take refuge;

let me never be put to shame.

In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me;

incline your ear to me and save me.

Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress, to save me,

for you are my rock and my fortress.

*** Hymn 393**

O Day of Rest and Gladness

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

* **Affirmation of Faith** ✚ (*adapted from The Heidelberg Catechism*)

What is God's will for you
in the fourth commandment?

First,

**that the gospel ministry and education for it be
maintained, and that, especially on the festive day of
rest, we diligently attend the assembly of God's people
to learn what God's Word teaches,
to participate in the sacraments,
to pray to God publicly,
and to bring Christian offerings for the poor.**

Second,

**that every day of my life
I let the Lord work in me through God's Spirit,
and so begin in this life
the eternal Sabbath.**

Offering (*Please place prayer cards in the offering plate for the Prayers of the People*)

Offertory ✚

I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry
Roslyn Carney, flute

Michael Hassell

* **Doxology** ✚

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise Christ, all
peo-ple here be-low; praise Ho-ly Spir-it ev-er-
more; praise Tri-une God, whom we a-dore.

* **Prayer of Dedication**

God of us All,

**Each of us is a fragile miracle, evidence of your
creative hands, and amazing grace. We are each
unique, unrepeatable gifts to the world. We are proof
of your love and of your mercy. And so we who are the
gifts of creation now give gifts to our Creator. Gifts
brought in love. Please bless them to use in thy
service. Amen.**

Prayers of the People ✚

*Each section of the prayer will conclude: "God, in your grace"
Please respond: "Hear our prayer"*

The Lord's Prayer ✚

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

* Hymn 353

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

SOLID ROCK

* Charge & Benediction

* Postlude ✚

Toccata on Lobe den Herren

J. Wayne Kerr

(For some, the Postlude serves as festive music to accompany their going back out into the world. Others prefer to remain seated and listen. Please be mindful of these different needs as you depart. Thank you!)

✚ Indicates 10:15 worship only.

** Please Stand in Body or Spirit.*

We gather to worship God who is larger than all our imaginations!

We encourage all persons to sing the gender nouns and pronouns they prefer in referring to God.



Our Life Together...

Thank You!

8:15 Head Usher: David Bailey

10:45 Head Usher: Tim Hamel | **Liturgist:** Margaret Tierney

Deacon of the Week: Mary Berg, **email:** marhber@hotmail.com

Thank you to Jeannette Williams for the flowers that decorate the sanctuary this morning, given to the glory of God with prayers for the GCPC family as they prepare the new church calendar of events.

Next Sunday, September 1st, we are going to love the earth by going paperless!

Child & Youth Protection Policy Training | TODAY, August 25 | 9 – 10 AM | Fellowship Hall

If you are looking forward to working with Grace Covenant's children and/or youth this year and have not taken the Child and Youth Protection Policy Training in the last year, please plan to attend the (1 hr) training session on Sunday, August 25, 9:00-10:00 am. Please note that training must be renewed every two years.

Emma Maney ~ Young Adult Volunteer, Tucson AZ

Please keep GCPC member, Emma Maney, in your prayers as she prepares for a year of service as a Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) for the PC(USA) in Tucson, Arizona. If you would like to make a monetary gift to Emma, you can do so by writing a check to GCPC, with 'Emma Maney' in the memo line.

GCPC Palooza 2019 is almost here!

Come and celebrate, explore, and engage how the faith we practice together forms the lives we live.

How can your faith change the world?

How does the way of life we learn about at the Communion Table shape the lives we actually live?

These are the questions we will be exploring together all Fall at Grace Covenant.

And it starts at Palooza on September 7 and 8!

Saturday night is a night at The Improv! | 6:00 – 8:30 PM

Dinner and improv comedy will be full of laughs, food, fellowship, and new insights about how living faithfully means being able to improvise, adapt, and make life from where we are. You'll be entertained, engaged, and inspired! We'll be entertained by The Asheville Improv Collective and The Irreverends--an improv troupe of reverends--some of whom will be familiar to you!

Sunday will be full of celebration, inspiration, and opportunity!

One worship service at 10:15am in the Sanctuary with Spirit-filled worship and Communion starts the celebration. Then lunch is provided and we will enjoy everything from bouncy houses and games to new ways to make the practices of faith a part of your everyday life. Instead of one big day of service this year for Palooza, we will have many of our Ministry Partners, GCPC Teams, Committees, Councils, and Programs with us so that you can explore how to make service, growth, and community a regular part of our lives, not just one-time special events.

Oh, and ice cream from The Hop... with toppings!

GCPC Palooza 2019! See you there!

SERVE

VRQ Cook Team Needs YOU!

For many years a team from GCPC has cooked a meal at the Veterans Restoration Quarters (VRQ) on the first Tuesday of every month. The VRQ houses 240 veterans in a re-purposed motel in the Oteen area of Asheville. The GCPC Cook Team shops for the food and prepares a meal of 240 grilled hamburgers with coleslaw and beans or potato salad. ***We need several new team members to help us get the job done.***

We have two shifts:

- A preparation crew who arrives at 4:30 to cook and prepare the meal.
- A serving crew who arrives at 5:30 to serve the meal, cafeteria style.

Crew members will tell you, spending time at the VRQ is a great gift. If you are interested, please contact Bill Neeriemer at bill.nmer@gmail.com.

Haywood Street Clothing Bin Volunteers Needed

Have you noticed the blue bin in our parking lot? Have you ever wondered about what happens to the clothes that are donated? Here is your opportunity to find the answers and volunteer in a very meaningful way. Volunteers are needed to deliver donations to the Haywood Street Congregation once a week for one month.

Volunteers are needed for September, December and every month next year.

Please email nancy kramer at nancykramer1981@gmail.com to claim your slot.

Habitat for Humanity Shifts

The 2019 Presby/UMC house is underway. Anyone wishing to volunteer for the construction of the house should contact Bill Ryan, bill73ryan@gmail.com.

(Minimum age to volunteer at a work site is 16.) **We have scheduled slots on:** Thursday, August 29 and Monday, September 9.

Education

Presbyterianism 101 - Brown bag lunch discussion | Sunday, August 25 | 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM | Choir Room

Who are Presbyterians? How are we different from other denominations? Come with your questions as we delve into our rich, complex, and sometimes contentious tradition. Bring a brown bag lunch if you would like. Email Richard at rcoble@gcpcusa.org with questions. Childcare will be provided.

Summer Women's Memoir Series | Monday, August 26 | 6 PM | Garden Rm

Open to all women of the church. A copy of each book is in the church library.

- *If the Oceans Were Ink: An Unlikely Friendship and a Journey to the Heart of the Quran* by Carla Power | Facilitator: Amber White

Sunday, September 15 | Education Kick-Off /First Day of Classes | 9:15 am

Summer Bible Study has ended. Please join us for our regular Wednesday lectionary Bible Study, which will resume on September 18.

GCPC Community

SAVE THE DATE!

Wisdom in the Woods | Nov. 8-10, 2019 | Lake Logan, NC | Leader: Carol Hovis

Are you a woman who has a few decades under her belt? Would you like a chance to connect on a closer level with each other than sometimes it feels like life and schedules allow? This will be a time for fellowship and also digging deeper into our faith together with Carol Hovis who will lead us in programming. *Stay tuned for registration info soon!*

Men @ GCPC | Thursday, August 29 | 8 AM | HomeGrown (371 Merrimon Ave.)

For our August meeting, we will be discussing guns and violence in conversation with Adam Gopnik's thought-provoking New Yorker article, "After El Paso and Dayton, Three Ways to Think about Mass Shootings." You can find the article at <http://bit.ly/AfterElPaso>. Contact Richard, rcoble@gcpcusa.org with questions.

Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI) Group | Wed., Sept. 4 | 12 PM | Garden Rm

This support group introduces techniques for daily living with such issues, led by Paul Rogers, a retired physician in our congregation. We meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of every month. **New participants welcome at any time.* Contact Richard, rcoble@gcpcusa.org, with questions.

Centering Prayer | Wednesday Nights | 6:30 - 7:00 PM | Sanctuary

Sign up now for “Dine with Nine”

Who? Open to all

What? A rotational supper club for individuals and couples who want to be part of a fellowship group of folks from GCPC.

When? TBD. Each group determines the frequency and the timing of their gatherings. Groups stay together for one year.

Where? Private homes and /or restaurants. Group members do not have to be able to host the group in order to participate.

Why? To more tightly bind the fellowship of our congregation.

How? Sign up at Palooza on September 8 or email nancykramer1981@gmail.com.

Youth News

All GCPC Youth Events (for grades 6 – 12) will kick-off on Sunday, September 15th! Don't hesitate to dive into a year of fun, fellowship and faith growth alongside caring peers and adults. Get ready for a transformative and exciting journey together!

- Sunday, Sept. 15: **Youth Breakfast, Sunday School & Choir: 9:00-10:15am**
Youth Group: 5:00-7:00pm

Youth Committee Meeting | Thursday, September 12 | 6 – 7 PM | Garden Room

All Youth, Adults and Parents are invited to join the Youth Committee, where we will work together to ensure that that this will be a meaningful year for GCPC youth. We will discuss programming, youth leadership and more. Come lend your voice to this meeting or feel free to jump in another month. See you then!

CALENDAR

Aug.	Sunday	25	8:15 AM	Worship
			9:00 AM	Child & Youth Protection Policy Training
			9:15 AM	Summer Choir Rehearsal
			10:15 AM	Worship
			11:15 AM	Courtyard Fellowship
			11:30 AM	Presbyterianism 101
	Monday	26	6:00 PM	Summer Women's Memoir Series
	Tuesday	27	9:00 AM	Prayer Group
			5:00 PM	Presbytery Planning Mtg.
			6:15 PM	Session
	Wednesday	28	8:00 AM	Wednesday Garden Day
			5:30 PM	Stew Crew Mtg.
			6:30 PM	Centering Prayer
			7:00 PM	Chancel Choir
	Thursday	29	8:00 AM	Men @ GCPC
	Saturday	31	8:00 AM	Saturday Garden Day
Sept.	Sunday	1	8:15 AM	Worship
			9:15 AM	Summer Choir Rehearsal
			10:15 AM	Worship
			11:15 AM	Courtyard Fellowship
				Monday

Prayer List

[Concerns will stay on this list for a month unless we hear otherwise. Please keep us updated.]

Iglesia Jerusalem congregation; Pat Cocks (Les Stradley's friend); Deborah Strong (Robin Gaiser's cousin); Nancy and Richard Schaadt (Donna Robertson's sister and brother-in-law); Louise Seitz (Janet Schifflin's friend); Jeffrey Ferris (Mary Lou Nash's son); Robin Smith (Beth Robrecht's sister); Rebecca Wells' brother, Jamey; Natalie C.; West Asheville Presbyterian Church; Jeff Combs (Bill McNeff's friend); Louise Hill (Geneva Neeriemer's mother); Nicholas Kmecca (Carolyn Haag's husband); Terry Arthur (Anna Jarvis' friend); Evan Maxwell (Anna Jarvis' friend); Sarah Ralston (Susie Bleckley's mother); Marcia Zuzel (friend of Kim Hottle and Melissa Shook); Nicolle & Scott McCoy and family (Family of Melissa Hicks); Hettie Lou Garland; Betty Smith; Margaret Rada; Bob Higgins; Joyce Summerlin; James Harwell; Cory Hartbarger; Mary Ellen Horne; Penny & Ray Ponder; Doris Prak; Jack Smith; Steve & Florence Riedesel; Walt Justice; Donna Robertson

Our sympathy and support are extended to the Dean family following the death of Ray Dean on Saturday, August 17th. A Service of Witness to the Resurrection and Thanksgiving for the Life of Rayburn Dean will be held at GCPC on Saturday, September 7 at 1:00 pm. Please keep the family in your prayers.

Next Sunday, September 1, 2019

**Worship service at 8:15 & 10:15 AM
Courtyard Fellowship at 11:15 AM**

**Sermon: "Heart Problems" by Marcia Mount Shoop
Scriptures: Sirach 10:12-18; Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16**

SESSION

Class of 2019

Omar Bolivar
Frank Callison
Jay Hill
Bonnie Parker
Peggy Rada
Amy Wiesner

CLASS OF 2020

John Clark
Paul Rogers
Carley Stein
Laurie Stradley
Debby Vance

CLASS OF 2021

Sheryl Aikman
Ken Fisher
Melissa Hicks
Roger Meade
Margaret Tierney

MODERATOR:

Marcia Mount Shoop

ASSOCIATE PASTORS:

Samantha Gonzalez-Block
Richard Coble

CLERK: Kelley Griffith

TREASURER: Joe Brumit—
treasurer@gpcusa.org

Scan this code
for fast, secure
online giving.
Thank you!



BOARD OF DEACONS

CLASS OF 2019

Walt Justice
Ryan Madamba
John Mount Shoop
Ed Parker
Anne Sayers
Matt Stradley
Caroline Wyrosdick-Webb

CLASS OF 2020

Ann Brown
Gordon Gaiser
Nancy Kramer
Lynn Milner

Marcy Onieal
Betsy Rhodes
Peter Rosal

CLASS OF 2021

Mary Berg
Earl Fowler
Nancy Gaskin
Mike McCauley
Lynne Meacham
Louise Root
Amber White

WELCOME STATEMENT

Trusting that God's grace embraces and desires covenant with all people, Grace Covenant seeks to be an inclusive and hospitable place of spiritual growth. All persons are welcomed into this fellowship and membership regardless of age, sexual orientation, ethnic, racial, or gender identity, economic position, residency status, or political affiliation. We trust that God is always at work transforming each life and our life together, helping us to better follow Christ's example of love and courageous welcome.



GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

789 Merrimon Avenue
Asheville, NC 28804
www.gpcusa.org
828.254.3274

STAFF

Ministers: All the Members

Pastor/Head of Staff: Marcia Mount Shoop—mmshoop@gpcusa.org

Associate Pastor: Samantha Gonzalez-Block—sgblock@gpcusa.org

Associate Pastor: Richard Coble—rcoble@gpcusa.org

Music Ministries: Jeff Jones—jjones@gpcusa.org

Children's & Family Ministries: Heather Ferguson—hferguson@gpcusa.org

Operations Administrator: Sherrie Meehan—smeehan@gpcusa.org

Communications: Anna Louise Murchison—almurchison@gpcusa.org

Financial Administrator: Natalie Weaver—nweaver@gpcusa.org

Maintenance & Repair Technician: Cliff Schlegelmilch—cliff@gpcusa.org

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