



Grace Hill Mennonite Church

January 1, 2017

Worship – 9:30am
Sunday School – 10:45am

First Sunday Of Christmas

Prelude

* Gathering Song *"God is Here Among Us"* HWB 16

Greetings & Announcements

- Gathering Interlude -

Gathering Litany

LEADER: Jesus, you came that we might have life, and have it abundantly.

ALL: Precious Jesus, we offer you our praise and thanks.

LEADER: You poured living water into lives that were parched and thirsty. You fed souls that were hungry with the bread of life.

ALL: Precious Jesus, we offer you our praise and thanks.

LEADER: You brought healing through a touch that knew no prejudice or barrier. You brought a means through which humankind could be made right again with its Creator.

ALL: Precious Jesus, we offer you our praise and thanks.

LEADER: You brought comfort to the sorrowing and liberty to the poor. You enable broken lives and relationships to be made whole again. You accept us as we are, and mold us into the people we were meant to be.

ALL: Precious Jesus, we offer you our praise and thanks.

* *"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"* HWB 46

Offering to God Mennonite Church USA

Offertory

* *Doxology* (Psalm 100) HWB 119

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

* Scripture John 14:1-6; Mark 8:34; John 18:36; Matthew 7:12-14

Sermon *"Signs of Jesus"*

* *"My Hope is Built on Nothing Less"* HWB 343

* Benediction

*Indicates those comfortable in doing so, please stand.

- After the Children's story children to age 5 may be dismissed to the library for childcare.
- At the conclusion of the worship service we invite the adults to be seated and take a few moments to greet one another while the children are dismissed to their Sunday school classes.
- The Adult Sunday School classes will begin 10 minutes after the service is over. Everyone is welcome!

Serving in Worship

Pastor	Weldon Martens
Guest Preachers	Doug & Jude Krehbiel
Worship Leader	Kaye Penner
Scripture Reader	Doug Claassen
Keyboard	Ellen Mosiman
Greeters	Allen & Elaine Patterson
Ushers	Dean Patterson/Lucas Goossen/Terry Klassen
Nursery	Katherine Claassen

For Sharing and Prayer

Welcome to Doug and Jude Krehbiel and thank you for sharing with us this morning!

Western District Conference: Pray for all WDC congregations during this coming year, that God may empower us to witness and invite others to faith in Jesus Christ, dwell in just and loving relationships, and connect to God's mission in the world.

Mennonite Mission Network: Linda Oyer, serving with Mennonite Mission Network, is waiting for surgery to remove her gallbladder after severe attacks of cholecystitis last month. Pray for rest and peace as she regains health in her home near Paris, France, so she can be ready for the operation this month.

Church Events

Today - Congregational Meeting: We will have a short meeting immediately after Sunday School today for a congregational vote to affirm the members of the Leadership Council for 2017. This is consistent with our new organizational structure process. All members of Grace Hill are encouraged to attend. If you have questions please contact Tim Harms, Leadership Council Chairperson.

Thursday at 7:30 p.m. Missions Council will meet.

Next Sunday at 6:00 p.m. Hospitality Council is on a roll again and planning a fun evening of BUNCO for all! A light snack supper will be served.

January 29 at 12:45 p.m. Grace Hill Annual Business Meeting.

Announcements

The Whitewater & Potwin Food Pantries are in need of items throughout the year. A basket for goods is located in the foyer by the front entrance.

Nursery Next Sunday: Tammy Regehr and Bethany Regehr

Greeters Next Sunday: Judy Janzen and Marianne Eichelberger

Ushers Next Sunday: Doug Hiebert and Russell Janzen

Offering Christmas Eve: Community Playschool \$819.50

Harvey Co. Health Ministries \$819.50

Offering Last Sunday: Western District Conference \$829.00

Offering Next Sunday: Local Church

CHURCH OFFICES

Pastor's Office Hours:

Tuesday & Thursday - Mornings, Wednesday - Afternoon, Friday - day off

Pastor: Weldon Martens

Email: weldon.martens@gmail.com

Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen

Secretary's E-mail: secretary@gracehillmc.org

Et Cetera

Friends of the MLA presentation, January 10 at 7 p.m., Ben Goossen, "Mennonites at War: Military Service, Ethnic Cleansing and Global Migrations During and After the First World War," Kauffman Museum, North Newton.

The Bethel College Alumni Choir is looking for more singers interested in getting together for music, fun and fellowship. The next concert will be Sun., Feb. 5, 3 p.m. (you'll be out in time for football!), with one rehearsal, Sat., Feb. 4, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. If you're a Bethel choir alumnus and want to be involved, contact Andrew Voth, votha@usd411.org; see "Bethel College Alumni Choir" on Facebook for more information.

Centering Prayer continues to meet every Monday from noon-1 p.m. in Agape Center in Richert House on the Bethel College campus. Try it once, come occasionally or join us regularly – all are welcome, with no previous experience required. For more information, contact Nathan Koontz, 2nathankoontz@gmail.com, or Melanie Zuercher, mzuercher@bethelks.edu. (For help locating Agape Center in Richert House, see www.bethelks.edu/why-bethel/location/campus-map/)

Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp brochures for upcoming Snow Camps and the annual Men's Retreat are available in the foyer.

The Conference Resource Library is open Monday through Friday, 8 am - 5 pm. As of January 4, Resource Librarian Jennie Wintermote will be in the library Wednesdays and Fridays from 8:00-Noon. (Other WDC Staff can assist you when Jennie is not here.)