

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

January 9, 2011

Whitewater,

Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45

a.m.

Pastor: Peter Goerzen
Goerzen

Associate Pastor: Katherine

Musician: Carl Goossen

Chorister: Gladys Reimer

Worship Leader: Brian Hilgenfeld

Gathering and Praising

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

During this time we spend a few moments introducing our guests. We're glad you have come to worship with us. May you sense God's peace and direction as we meet together with our Creator and Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Call to Worship Psalm 29

Gathering Prayer

* **Gathering Hymn No. 407** *We are people of God's peace*

Offering our Gifts Local Church Missions

Hearing God's Word

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 42:1-9 Melinda Regehr

New Testament Reading Matthew 3:13-17 Melinda Regehr

Children to age 5 may be dismissed to the library for child care

* **Hymn No. 338** *I know not why God's wondrous*

Sermon *God's Servant* Marcia Yoder-Schrock

Responding to God

* **Hymn of Response No. 117** *Fairest Lord Jesus* verses 1-4

Sharing our Stories and Congregational Prayer

Sent by God

* **Sending Hymn No. 447** *O Jesus, I have promised*

Benediction

Postlude

*Indicates those comfortable in doing so, please stand

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!**

For Sharing and Prayer

Western District Conference: Pray for the Camp Mennoscah swimming pool funding and construction and the completion of the Vision 2012 financial goal.

Mennonite Mission Network: MMN's executive director, Stanley Green, and other church leaders of color are gathering in Tampa, Florida, today through Wednesday to evaluate Mennonite Church USA's movement toward becoming an anti-racist church. Pray that the decisions made during this gathering, "Hope for the Future," will guide our church into a truer modeling of Christ's body.

Pastors Peter and Katherine are on a trip to Jerusalem with a group from Tabor College and Bethel College January 3-23. During this time John and Marcia Yoder-Schrock will be our on-call pastors for emergency pastoral needs. For any care concerns, please contact Merril Harms, who will be coordinating pastoral care

Church Events

Today at 11:30 a.m. All-church carry-in dinner. All are invited to stay.

Today at 12:45 p.m. Tired of the same old Bible Stories? Engaging the emotional content of a Bible story helps kick the brain into high gear, thus helping us to connect in new and faith-forming ways. This is the stuff we will talk about at "What's the Buzz: Brain Friendly Ways to Form Christian Faith," a teacher-training workshop this afternoon with Marlene Bogard, WDC Minister of Christian Nurture leading us. Zion is also invited to attend.

Tuesday 1:00-5:00 p.m. Quilting at church.

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Youth meet at church to go visit residents at Kidron Bethel
7:00 p.m. Children and Junior Youth Programming
7:45 – 8:30 p.m. Adult Choir

January 30 at 12:45 p.m. Annual Business Meeting. The Youth will serve a fundraiser meal at 11:30 a.m.

Announcements

Reports for the church yearbook – If you are responsible for a report, please get it to Debbie Claassen by January 30. E-mailed reports are preferred, if possible. Thank you!

Please contribute recipes to the Grace Hill Cookbook. You may enter your recipes at www.typensave.com. Group login in: gracehill67154 Password:73kqy. If you are unable to enter your recipes on the computer, give them to Donna Balzer. Deadline is March 1.

You're invited to join "Prayers of the Church" each Sunday morning from 9:00 ó 9:10 a.m. in the classroom next to the kitchen. Please feel free to place prayer requests in the prayer box in the foyer.

Et Cetera

The 2011 annual meeting of Kansas Mennonite Disaster Service will be held January 16 at 2:30 p.m. at Bethel Mennonite Church, one and one-half miles south of Inman. Rosina Felipe from Grand Bayou, Louisiana will be the featured speaker. She will talk about the challenges of hurricanes and oil spills in the gulf area.

Discover Purpose and Creativity for Worship Planning and enjoy an evening of resourcing with Marlene Kropf, Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary professor on Friday night, January 21 at Faith Mennonite Church, Newton. Using the upcoming season of Lent as a framework, the workshop will explore ways to plan worship with vision and imagination. Bring your entire team: pastors, musicians, artists, leaders. See www.mennowdc.org for registration forms. Sponsored by AMBS-Great Plains and Western District Conference Resource Commission.

Western District Conference Choral Festival – January 22, 6:30 p.m. at Eden Mennonite Church, Moundridge. All singers are welcome even if you do not belong to a choir. Directed by Dr. Mark Suderman, Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities at Bluffton (OH) University. Schedule: 2-5 p.m. ó choral rehearsal, 5-6:15 p.m. - light meal (make reservation by Jan. 15 at wdc@mennowdc.org or 316-283-6300, suggested donation \$5), 6:30 p.m. ó worship service ó All are welcome.

You're invited to a special presentation at Hesston Mennonite Church on Sunday, January 23 at 7:00 p.m. Come to learn about Mennonite Central Committee's ongoing response to the Jan. 12, 2010 earthquake in Haiti. MCC has been humbled by the overwhelming response from our constituents to the people of Haiti. MCC's Haiti earthquake response is funded for a 5 year response at over \$13 million. John Stoesz, Executive Director for MCC Central States will present stories and photos of MCC's immediate relief distribution, our Haitian partners and the long-term plans for MCC's work in Haiti.

Volunteers are needed on a regular basis in the MCC Central States Warehouse in North Newton. Various tasks include recycling clothing, baling blankets, general clean-up and in the summer mowing the grass. If you are interested in volunteering some of your time when the MCC center is open, Monday-Thursday 8am-12pm and 1pm-5pm, or if you have questions please contact Maynard Knepp at 316-283-2720 or mknep@dcc.org.

Have you heard the good news? There are all sorts of things going on at Camp Mennoscahó a new swimming pool, a search for a maintenance coordinator, summer staff applications are out! Go to the Camp Mennoscah webpage at www.mennowdc.org/Camp.html or to our Facebook page and read about all the many cool things happening and how you can be involved.

Western District Conference is seeking a part-time Maintenance Coordinator for Camp Mennoscah, beginning February 1. This salaried position reports to the Camp Director and is a year-round commitment. Salary is negotiable, based on experience. Qualified applicants must have general maintenance skills and knowledge of grounds, plumbing, electrical, and carpentry. A job description and application form are available on the Western District Conference website, www.mennowdc.org, (click on Camp Mennoscah tab) or at the Conference office, 2517 N. Main, North Newton, KS 67117.

Attending College in the Fall of 2011? Consider applying now for an Everence College Scholarship by entering an essay before the February 28, 2011 deadline. A total of 36 Scholarships are awarded each year ranging from \$500 to \$2,500 each (Brett Klingenberg wrote a winning essay several years ago). Applications are open to adults and their direct dependents who are Everence members and are currently attending or plan to attend an accredited public or private college/university. Additional information is available on the foyer bulletin board or contact Tim Harms (Grace Hill Everence Advocate).

Men interested in singing in the Mennonite Men's Chorus – now is the time to enroll. Contact Willard Wiebe.

Nursery This Sunday: Tammy Regehr and Amanda Regehr
Nursery Next Sunday: Ashley Enns and Emma Hilgenfeld
Ushers Next Sunday: Mike Balzer and Kendall Claassen

Preaching Next Sunday: Kevin Goertzen
Musicians Next Sunday: Valerie Klaassen and Samantha Claassen

Offering Last Sunday: Mennonite Church USA \$1,487.00
Offering Next Sunday: Mennonite Relief Sale

The 200th Anniversary of the founding of the Grace Hill Church will be celebrated throughout 2011. This rich history of the church will be celebrated with time line sketches in our church bulletins through spring.

This summer during the Sunday School hour we will have church scholars with us to focus on Anabaptist Faith from its beginning in the 16th century, nearly 500 years ago, to the present. They will share foundations of faith, and how we interpret the teachings of Jesus Christ.

On Labor Day weekend, Saturday September 3rd and Sunday September 4th, we will celebrate the 200th Anniversary by inviting back former members and descendents of former members. In 1874 over 300 men, women and children traveled from the Ukraine to Germany, across the Atlantic, by train to Peabody and then to the open prairie land to build their homes and to continue this fellowship of believers.

A feature in many of our bulletins this year will be a history blurb to prepare us to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Grace Hill church. History Blurb No. 1 follows:

History Blurb #1: "Beginnings" of the Anabaptist-Mennonites

At the beginning of the Reformation in Zurich, Switzerland in the 1520's, the church leaders sought to restore the church based on New Testament principles. They sought to establish a believers' church, but soon their efforts came under the control of the state government. Those committed to the original goals were forced to withdraw if they wanted to build a church composed only of followers of Christ. These disciples sought to live in "the image of him that created him" (Colossians 3:10) and observe the "all things" taught in the New Testament.

These Bible Christians were soon tagged with the Anabaptist name because they rebaptized those who had been baptized as infants. This caused the state to persecute and put them to death under an A. D. 529 Roman law. These disciples never referred to themselves as Anabaptist and frequently objected to the term because of the criminal character associated with it. They would have preferred to be called Brethren or Bible-believing Christians, but their enemies' nickname stuck. Later they were called Mennonites after a beloved leader in this restored church, Menno Simons. He was the only early leader who died a natural death. All the other important early leaders died a martyr's death.

Excerpt from "Biblical Viewpoints Publications", 63100 County Road 111, Goshen, IN 46526

The following books have been donated by Grace Hill members. Thank you! Begin 2011 by reading some of the books in our library.

Jingle Bell Blessings by Bonnie K. Winn. A young boy wishes for a family this Christmas.

The Holiday Nanny by Lois Richer. A young girl wishes for her Daddy to be home for Christmas.

An Amish Christmas by Patricia Davids. A man loses his memory following a mishap and finds himself among the Amish.

The Marine's Baby by Deb Kastner. A dying friend wishes for Nathan to take care of his child.

Blessed are the Merciful by Al and Joan Lacy. A man seeks a new life after some difficult problems.

South Carolina by Yvonne Lehman. Four novels by Lehman are set in the Palmetto State: *After the Storm, Catch of a Lifetime, Somewhere a Rainbow, Southern Gentleman.*

CHURCH OFFICES

PastorsqOffice Hours:

Tuesday-Friday 9:00 a.m. . noon, 1:00 . 4:00 p.m. or by appointment

Pastor: Peter Goerzen

E-mail: pastor@gracehillmc.org

Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

E-mail: youthpastor@gracehillmc.org

Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen

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