

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

January 16, 2011

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: Peter Goerzen

Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Keyboard: Debbie Claassen

Chorister: Gladys Reimer

Musicians: Valerie Klaassen and Samantha Claassen

Worship Leader: Kim Claassen

Gathering and Praising

Prelude Duo No. 1

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 40:1-11

Gathering Prayer

* **Gathering Hymn No. 37** *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

Offering our Gifts Mennonite Relief Sale

Offertory Canon

Hearing God's Word

Old Testament Reading Psalm 29 Grant Claassen

* **Hymn No. 356** *Breathe on me, breath of God*

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

Special Music Ave Maria Samantha Claassen & Valerie Klaassen

New Testament Reading Revelation 5:11-14 Grant Claassen

Sermon *Insulated from God* Kevin Goertzen

Responding to God

* **Hymn in Preparation for Prayer No. 352** *Gentle Shepherd, come and lead us*

Sharing our Stories and Congregational Prayer

Sent by God

* **Sending Hymn No. 100** *Praise him, praise him!*

Benediction

Postlude Duo No. 1, 3rd mvt.

*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

Welcome to Kevin Goertzen this morning. Kevin joined the Church Relations team of Mennonite Mission Network in May 2007. Goertzen works to develop ministry support teams, which enable congregations and individuals to partner with and support the persons God is calling into international ministries. He and the Church Relations team members seek to increase interest and engagement with Mennonite Church USA congregations. Kevin relates primarily to congregations within Central Plains, North Central, South Central and Western District Mennonite conferences.

Western District Conference: Thank God for pastors and their work in Christian formation in our churches. Thank God for persons who plan and lead us in worship Sunday after Sunday. Pray for the upcoming Pastors Resourcing Day with Marlene Kropf on January 21 in these two areas of congregational life.

Mennonite Mission Network: Pray for an end to the persecution of Christians in Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. Mary Raber of MMN, who teaches in theological seminaries in the Ukraine, asks that God would give the brothers and sisters there the courage to be faithful.

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 Merrill Harms, who will be coordinating pastoral care. Merrill's phone number is 316-804-4049.

Church Events

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

Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Administrative Council meets at church.

Wednesday 6:10 p.m. All Church Meal – everyone is invited!

7:00 p.m. Children's and Youth Programming

7:00 – 7:40 p.m. Adult Bible Study

7:45 – 8:30 p.m. Adult Choir

Cost of the meal: High School & Adults \$3.00 Children \$2.50

Wednesday at 7:20 p.m. Business Council meets.

Thursday at 6:30 a.m. Men's breakfast at Whitewater Café.

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

Announcements

Church Pictorial Directory: If you are still missing your portraits please contact Lifetouch customer service at 1-888-313-1746. If you missed having your picture taken, you may submit a quality 5x7 or smaller photo to Katherine Claassen. If this photo has a copyright see Katherine Claassen about a release form. Lifetouch would like us to finish our book by January 30. Thanks for your patience on this project.

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!

You're invited to join "Prayers of the Church" each Sunday morning from 9:00 – 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.

Nursery This Sunday: Ashley Enns and Emma Hilgenfeld
Nursery Next Sunday: Catina Wiebe and Rachelle Claassen
Ushers Next Sunday: Caleb Regehr and Rob Schunn

Preaching Next Sunday: Ron Moyo
Keyboard Next Sunday: Linda Harms
Special Music Next Sunday: Adult Choir

Offering Last Sunday: Local Church \$5,434.00
Offering Next Sunday: Western District Conference

CHURCH OFFICES

Pastors' Office Hours:
Tuesday-Friday 9:00 a.m. – noon, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. or by appointment

Pastor: Peter Goerzen (for emergencies)
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

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 #2 – Anabaptist Beginnings, cont'd

Anabaptist beginnings in Switzerland – Some of their contemporaries saw them as devout eccentrics, the state church saw them as dangerous heretics, and the authorities saw them as insurgent rebels. Throughout Europe, they faced discrimination and persecution and were arrested and tortured, disinherited and dispossessed, banished and executed. And nowhere as long as in the Emmental, Switzerland. A minority, though, saw them as people, who were serious about being Christians, and valued them as dependable neighbors because they tried to live what they believed...

From the beginning of the Anabaptist movement, the religious and political authorities of Europe felt that their power and influence were being threatened. They reacted with extraordinary severity to the emergence of new teachings and practices that included the following core themes:

- the voluntary nature of beliefs and church membership
- the rejection of infant baptism and the practice of believer's baptism
- the founding of congregations independent of state authorities
- the refusal to swear oaths or perform military service
- the call for conversion and faith, and to "follow Jesus."

*by Hanspeter Jecker, teacher at Bienenberg Theological Seminary,
Liestal, Switzerland*

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.

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. – 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. – worship service – 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.

We're in for the long haul! Camp Mennoscah is looking for volunteers during the week of January 24th to haul tons and tons of gravel for the new swimming pool. We're looking for folks with semi trucks with end dumps or, at the minimum, tandem axle grain trucks. Contact Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290 or campmno@mennowdc.org to volunteer or with questions.

Looking for a cook—Camp Mennoscah is looking for someone who would be willing to cook for approximately 10 pool volunteers on January 22nd. Meals would be lunch and supper and be simple camp fare. Camp Mennoscah would provide the menu and all supplies needed. Contact us at campmno@mennowdc.org or 620-297-3290.

Campbell's labels and Boxtops for Education may be taken to the Western District Conference Office in North Newton, or Whitestone Mennonite Church in Hesston by January 24, for delivery to the school. A car will be going to Hopi Mission School on January 25.

The M-2 (Match Two) program of Offender / Victim Ministries seeks new volunteers to be involved in prison visitation at the Hutchinson Correctional Facility. Ministry in prison requires a training session given by both prison staff and the M-2 director. The upcoming training will be Monday, February 7 from 6:00 -10:00 p.m. at HCF. These trainings are held every month so keep it in mind for another time if you can't make this one. In March it is Saturday the 12th. M-2 is a supervised in-prison friendship program. Your friendship, compassion and concern can be a crucial element in a successful life following incarceration. Most of the inmates in M-2 receive no other visits than those of their M-2 friend. More than 60 men are waiting to be matched. A volunteer commits to visit one evening per month. No special skills are needed to be a friend. Contact OVM (316-283-2038) or email (ovm.ks@sbcglobal.net) for further information or to submit your name and other required information so that clearances may be obtained for admission to training. Please contact us by January 31. Training for new volunteers takes place each month.

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.