

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

January 17, 2016

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Musician: Ellen Mosiman

Song Leader: Gladys Reimer

Transition Pastor: Randy Smith

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Randy Smith

Prelude to Worship

*Call to Worship

Psalms 145

I will exalt you my God and King;

I will praise your name forever!

**Every day I will praise you and
exalt your name forever.**

Great is the Lord and worthy of praise.

God's greatness no one can fathom.

One generation commends you to another.

They tell of your mighty acts;

They speak of the glorious splendor
of your majesty.

I will meditate on your wonderful works.

They tell of the power of your awesome works.

I will proclaim your great deeds.

They celebrate your abundant goodness

I will joyfully sing of your righteousness.

*Praise Hymns

Joyful, joyful we adore thee

Hymnal 71

For the beauty of the earth

Hymnal 89

*Prayer

The Good News of Forgiveness

Isaiah 57:15-18

Coming before God with Contrite Hearts

Psalms 36:5-10

There's a wideness in God's mercy

Hymnal 145

Affirmation of Faith

Galatians 5:22-25

The fruit of the Spirit is

***love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
gentleness, and self-control.***

Against such things there is no law.

***Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature
and its passions and desires.***

We live by the Spirit, so let us keep in step with the Spirit.

Offering and Offertory

Children's Story

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

Scripture

Levi Goossen

Galatians 5: 16-26

Sermon

The Fruity Church

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me

Hymnal 507

Sharing and Prayer

*Sending Hymn

Hymnal 420

Heart with loving heart united

*Benediction

Postlude

*Indicates those comfortable in doing so, please stand.

This morning's offering is designated for Mennonite Relief Sale.

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!

"Our vision at Grace Hill Mennonite Church is for a revitalized ministry seeking authentic community that honors Christ by:

discerning our gifting;

developing a leadership team;

deepening our core ministries of

care, education and hospitality."

The Seminar Class, led by Randy, today concludes a brief two session seminar overview of biblical authority and interpretation. The class meets in the fellowship hall and is open to anyone interested in a particular seminar.

For Sharing and Prayer

Western District Conference: Pray for God's wisdom and energy for interim pastors who serve WDC congregations in the midst of transition.

Mennonite Mission Network: Janet Stucky of Mennonite Mission Network and her colleague, Rigobert Sossa, are working with a nutrition program in Benin. Pray for safety in their travels to train 400 community leaders in 100 villages about food health and hygiene.

Church Family News

. . . **Pauline Balzer** has come home! After weeks of care at Newton Medical Center and Kidron-Bethel Pauline was able to return to her house on Tuesday . . . **Tara Harms-Becker** has been performing in "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" at the Wichita Scottish Rite Signature Theater . . . **Jeff** and **Theresa Toews** are visiting their family in Japan . . .

Announcements

We'd like to explore the possibility of having a craft night one to two times a month to build community, have fun and work on projects! We will meet at Valerie's home on Monday evening, January 25 at 7 p.m. to discuss how we should organize and how we should format the time together. There are no age or gender requirements for this group - all are welcome. Please bring ideas and a craft to work on (if you have one going)! If you have questions contact Valerie or Courtney.

Education Council is planning to have Sunday School on the fifth Sunday of the month. Exceptions will be when there is a church event or activity, such as January 31 with Pastor Randy's farewell.

A new year brings new opportunities to share your talents! If you'd like to provide special music in 2016 please talk to Valerie Klaassen.

Reports for the church yearbook – If you are responsible for a report, please get it to Debbie Claassen by January 24. E-mailed reports are preferred, if possible. Thank you!

Please let Kathy Balzer know if you have a pieced or quilted wall hanging that you would like to have on display in the foyer for a month or two. It is interesting to see the wonderful talents our church members have.

Nursery This Sunday: Tammy Regehr and Katrina Regehr
Nursery Next Sunday: Kathy Balzer and Lily Hilgenfeld

Ushers Next Sunday: Josh Patterson and Rob Schunn
Greeters Next Sunday: Galen and Roberta Harms

Offering Last Sunday: Local Church \$4,969.00
Offering Next Sunday: Western District Conference

CHURCH OFFICES

Pastor's Office Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 a.m.-Noon, Thursday 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Transition Pastor: Randy Smith
Email: transitionpastor@gmail.com

Director of Youth Ministry: Joshua Janzen
Email: joshuadjanzen@bethelks.edu

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

Church Events

Today at noon The Grace Hill Leadership Council plans to meet for a "Mini-Retreat" at Tim and Lisa Harms' home. We will join together for a meal at noon followed by a time of visioning, goal-setting and planning for the upcoming year. The Leadership Council members for 2016 are: Tim Harms (Chair), Pastor Randy, Debbie Claassen (Secretary), Katherine Claassen (Hospitality Council), Kim Claassen (Stewardship Council), Roberta Harms (Missions Council), Courtney Nethercot (Worship Council), Kaye Penner (Care Council), James Regier (Education Council), Deb Regier (Gift Discernment Council). Please pray for the Leadership Council to receive God's wisdom and guidance.

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Youth Group

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

Next Sunday Wes and Deb Bergen will be with us during the worship service and Sunday school hour sharing about the church in Ghana and their work through Mennonite Mission Network.

Next Sunday the youth will provide the meal before the annual meeting as a fundraiser for a summer mission trip.

Next Sunday at 12:45 p.m. Annual Church Business Meeting

January 31 Randy's Farewell Reception during the S.S. hour.

February 3 Wednesday Evening Programming will begin on February 3! Come join us for outstanding table fare and meaningful Bible study. We will be studying parables this spring - please come and invite your family, friends and neighbors to join us as well!

On February 7, for our worship service and installation service for Pastor Weldon Martens, our guest organist will be Dr. Chelsea Vaught. There will be a 15 minute prelude for the morning service. Chelsea is a former organist at Grace Hill, and is currently the Director of Music at First Presbyterian Church, Fort Wayne, IN. That afternoon, at 1:30 p.m. she will do a program of organ music, including several congregational hymns, in our sanctuary. Invite your friends to join us.

Et Cetera

Mennonite Disaster Service Annual State Meeting will be held January 17 at 2:00 p.m. at Whitestone Mennonite Church, 629 Crescent Drive, Hesston. Come join us for the annual meeting as we review activities from the last year and highlight projects in our region. Refreshments to follow. Questions? Contact Jordan Miller at 316-212-3255 or jordan@millerconstruction.org.

In honor of the life and legacy of Martin Luther King Jr., Bethel College offers two special events: Sunday, January 17, 7 p.m. – screening of *In Prison My Whole Life*, an award-winning 2007 documentary on the court case of imprisoned political activist Mumia Abu-Jamal, with open discussion to follow with Jerrell Williams, director of Prison Ministries for OVM-Newton; **Monday, January 18, 7 p.m.** – “The New Jane Crow,” a program with keynote speaker Michelle Armster, executive director of Mennonite Central Committee-Central States. Both events are in Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center, and both are free and open to the public with a freewill offering taken Monday to support the work of Newton Community for Racial Justice.

WDC Women in Mission will sponsor a Sister Care Weekend at Bethel College Mennonite Church, 2600 College Ave in North Newton on January 29 and 30. Come spend Friday evening (7-9 pm) and Saturday (9 am-4:30 pm) at a seminar that will provide tools for ongoing personal healing, for recognizing and celebrating God's grace in our lives, and for responding more confidently and effectively to the needs of others. Registration can be found on the WDC website (<http://mennowdc.org/sister-care-seminar-january-29-30-2016/>) or contact: Pam Schrag 317-217-1448; schragps52@gmail.com OR Nancy Krehbiel 620-245-2471, stevekrehb@mtelco.net.

Your life story is an unrepeatable journey that only YOU can tell! First Mennonite Church in Newton is sponsoring two life stories workshops this year called "Story Matters" led by Laurie Oswald Robinson which will provide tools to help people write their own stories or the stories of a loved one. The workshops will be held February 19-20 (6:30 - 9 pm Friday and 8:30 - 3:30 Saturday) and April 1-2. Choose the one that best fits your schedule. The cost is \$60 per person which includes workshop materials, snacks and lunch. The workshops are partially funded by a Loaves & Fishes Grant from Western District Conference. To register, send an e-mail to Wendy Funk Schrag at pwschrag@cox.net. Registration is due February 1 for the February workshop.

Do you enjoy singing? You are invited to join a community choir to present “The Messiah” on Saturday evening, March 26 at the Remington High School Auditorium. Anyone high school and older is welcome to be part of the choir practices and performance! Practice will be on Sunday afternoons 3:00-4:30 p.m. beginning January 17 at the Remington Middle School (east entrance), 317 E. Central, Whitewater. Questions: call Traci Hutchinson (316-648-2487) or Sharon Entz (316-799-2362).

Looking for all you super staffers! Camp Mennoscah will be recruiting for summer staff at Goshen College on Feb. 5 and at Hesston, Tabor, and Bethel Colleges on Feb. 8, 9, and 10 respectively. There will be a pizza meal/gathering on Feb. 10 at 6:15pm-ish at Papa John's in Newton for those interested in being on summer staff and all former summer staff. Questions? Contact us at 620-297-3290 or olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org! We think summer staffers are a hoot!

Mark your calendars!! The Mennonite Relief Sale will be April 8-9, 2016 at the State Fairgrounds in Hutchinson. **Fellowship meals** are scheduled for **February 28 and March 6**. Fellowship meals are shared experiences in giving, hosts invite someone to their home to “come and dine” and guests visit another family’s home. The Relief Sale Fellowship Meals Committee finds guests for you to invite, or hosts to invite you. See registration forms in the foyer. Registration deadline is February 8.

Serve Mennonite Central Committee and your local community by volunteering at Newton Et Cetera Shop! Currently needed: volunteer clerks (especially 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Monday-Friday); volunteers to check electronics, tag clothing, shoes, housewares, other. Times are flexible. For more information call 316-283-9461.

Harvey County Homeless Shelter Executive Director James Wilson has received questions about the Homeless Shelter in relation to the New Jerusalem Mission that opened recently in Newton. See the excerpt on the bulletin board for his response. Also if you would like to send contributions to the Homeless Shelter, please send to HCHS, PO Box 978, Newton, KS 67114 or give online at www.hchs-ks.com/donate.