

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

January 22, 2012

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: Peter Goerzen

Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Musician: Jordan Ortman

Song Leader: Andrew Voth

Worship Leader: Pastor Katherine

Gospel Stories and Parables: The Widow and the Unjust Judge
Gathering our Praise

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 based upon Psalm 121

One: I lift up my eyes to the hills: from where will my help come?

Many: My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

One: God will not let our feet be moved; he who keeps us will not slumber; the One who keeps us will neither slumber nor sleep.

Many: The Lord is our keeper. The Lord is our shade at our right hand.

One: The sun shall not strike us by day, nor the moon by night.
The Lord will keep us from evil; God will keep our life.

All: The Lord will keep our going out and our coming in from this time on and for evermore.

Gathering Prayer

Gathering Song *Sweet Hour of Prayer* Adult Choir

Offering Our Gifts Western District Conference

Hearing God's Story

Gospel Reading Luke 11:1-13 Tara Harms-Becker

Special Music *He's never failed me yet* Adult Choir
Soloists: Joshua Powell and Tara Harms-Becker

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

Gospel Reading Luke 18:1-8 Pastor Peter

Sermon *The Long Haul* Pastor Peter

Responding to the Story

- * **Songs of Response STJ No. 47** *Oh, Lord have mercy*
Hymn No. 353 *Lord, listen to your children*

Sharing Our Stories and Congregational Prayer

Sending

- * **Sending Song STJ No. 79** *As I went down to the river*

* **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 Marlene Bogard and the committee responsible for planning our annual assembly in Oklahoma City, July 6-8, as they develop a theme and invite leadership.

Mennonite Mission Network: Tomorrow, Service Adventure unit leaders will gather in San Antonio for a four-day meeting. Pray that these leaders will have a renewing time of fellowship as they reflect on the past year and plan for the months ahead. Service Adventure is a MMN program.

Next Sunday's offering will go to Camp Mennoscah. Last summer WDC delegates voted to form a separate non-profit organization for our church camp - Camp Mennoscah. This change will enable both the Camp and the WDC to focus more intentionally on their missions. The Executive Board of WDC and the Camp Mennoscah Retreat Commission have drawn up a memo of understanding that will ensure that the organizations will continue to work with and serve each other. The mission of Camp Mennoscah will stay the same and our primary constituency will be WDC churches. The Camp Mennoscah Association will be responsible for their own finances and fund raising. In order to continue Camp programming, Camp will need the intentional and ongoing financial support of churches and individuals in our constituent churches. Grace Hill has designated an offering for Camp Mennoscah on January 29. This offering will go directly to the Camp operating fund. Thank you for your continuing support of Camp Mennoscah!

Church Events

Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. Worship Council meets at church.
at 7:00 p.m. Spiritual Council meets at church.

Wednesday **7:00 – 8:00 p.m.** Junior Dept. Programming
 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Youth Programming
 7:00 p.m. Adult Choir
 7:00 p.m. Adult Book Study with Pastor Peter

Next Sunday at 11:30 a.m. The youth group will serve a fund-raiser meal.

Next Sunday at 12:45 p.m. Annual Church Business Meeting. Minutes from the semi-annual meeting on September 18, 2011 will not be read at the meeting. The minutes will be emailed to the congregation this week or for those who don't have email, the minutes are posted on the bulletin board in the foyer. Please read the minutes ahead of time so corrections and/or approval can be made at the meeting.

February 12 Mentor/Mentee Lunch: All mentor/mentee pairs are invited to stay after church for a pizza lunch and afternoon of games on Sunday, February 12.

Announcements

Please turn in your Congregational/Pastor Reviews today.

Remember to sign the cover sheet and place the review in a sealed envelope. Please return your review to the box on the table in the foyer marked “Reviews”. If you have questions, please contact the Pastor Relations Committees: Kim Claassen, Carol (Kendall) Claassen, Lisa Harms, Joyce Stuart or Ken Wiebe.

Reports for the church yearbook – If you are responsible for a report, please get it to Debbie Claassen by January 29. 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: Catina Wiebe and Rachelle Claassen

Nursery Next Sunday: Debbie Claassen and Carine Claassen

Ushers Next Sunday: Terry Klassen and Dean Patterson

Offering Last Sunday: Mennonite Relief Sale \$2,330.00

Offering Next Sunday: Camp Mennoscah

CHURCH OFFICES

Pastors’ Office Hours:

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

Pastor: Peter

E-mail: pastor@gracehillmc.org

Associate Pastor: Katherine

E-mail: youthpastor@gracehillmc.org

Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen

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

Et Cetera

Kauffman Museum Open House to mark the closing of the special exhibit "...the eyes of a stranger: India photos and experiences by Cookie Wiebe," this afternoon from 1:30-4:30 p.m. with remarks by Dave Wiebe at 3:30 in the museum auditorium. The museum is located in North Newton.

Christopher Shaw will lead a Hymn Festival entitled *Arise, Your Light Has Come* at the Bethel College Mennonite Church, North Newton, this evening at 7:00 p.m. (note change in time). The recital is the final one in a series celebrating the 50th anniversary of its 22 rank Moeller pipe organ. The Festival is an epiphany celebration of word and song, featuring the Bethel College Mennonite Church Chancel Choir, Chancel Bells and instrumentalists. A free-will offering will be received to cover expenses and to ensure the future of the organ. A reception will follow.

Chelsea Vaught will be performing her final full-length doctoral organ recital on Tuesday, February 7 at 7:30 p.m. at Bales Recital Hall on the University of Kansas Campus in Lawrence. She will be performing works by J.S. Bach, Georg Böhm, Franz Liszt, Ethel Smyth and Carl Nielsen. Chelsea will be completing her Doctorate of Musical Arts degree in Church Music this spring at the University of Kansas.

Offender Victim Ministries Prison Arts' Choir Men are needed to assist in Offender/Victim Ministries' Prison Arts' Choir at the Hutchinson Correctional Facility. Practices are on Tuesday evenings beginning February 21 with performances on the weekend of April 21. Volunteer training is needed in order to work in the prison and will be given Monday, February 20 from 12-4 pm for new volunteers. Returning choir members can receive your annual training on February 6, 2-4 at HCF or Feb. 13, 7-9 at KIPCOR in Newton. Contact Nathan Koontz at OVM, 316-215-1758 or nathan.ovm@sbcglobal.net.

Young adults ages 18-26: are you looking for a purposeful year-long service experience? Check out *Radical Journey*. This Mennonite Mission Network program takes you to places like China, Paraguay, England or South Africa to join in God's work. Upon return, take a month to reflect on your experience and share it with your home community. For info or an application, visit Service.MennoniteMission.net.

Prepare now to participate in the Mennonite Relief Sale Fellowship Meals which are planned for Sundays, February 26 and March 4. These fellowship meals are to raise money for the upcoming Relief Sale on April 13 and 14. The Fellowship Meal brochures will be available soon.

The Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale is scheduled April 13 & 14, 2012 at the Kansas State Fairgrounds in Hutchinson. The Relief Sale's sole purpose is to raise funds for the Mennonite Central Committee—a world relief organization (www.mcc.org). The sale annually generates between \$250,000 to over \$400,000. It takes a whole host of individuals playing their part in order that we might carry out the Lord's bidding to care for the "least of these" found in Matt. 25. In the few short months leading up to the Relief Sale, we call upon our supporting churches to donate toward the sale budget so that every dollar raised at the sale can go to MCC. We call upon quilters to complete their quilts and to gather extra supplies to donate to Quilters' Corner. We call upon individuals to donate items to the General Auction, Silent Auction and even our Kid's Auction. During the cool winter months, house plants can be divided and vegetable plants started to sell at Plants and Things and tea towel sets completed for Kansas Crafts. Each year, people make the pledge to work out more. Challenge yourself to participate in the Run for Relief, a 5K run/walk the Saturday of the sale and spend the winter months gathering your pledges. After the sale in May, motorcyclists are invited to participate in the MCC Ride for Relief. For more information about the sale, go to www.kansas.mccsale.org or contact Becky Blough at publicity@kansas.mccsale.org or 620-345-3088.

◆ **An open house for the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale House Against Hunger** is scheduled Sunday, January 22 from 2 - 4 p.m. at 543 S. Lorraine Ave., Wichita. The proceeds from the sale of the home are donated to MCC.