

# GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

January 26, 2014

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: Peter Goerzen

Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Musician: Ellen Mosiman

Song Leader: Gladys Reimer

Worship Leader: Pastor Katherine

SOJOURN THROUGH SCRIPTURE: Visitors at Mamre  
*Sojourn Virtue: Hospitality*

## *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** Hebrews 12:28 – 13:2

### **Gathering Prayer**

\* **Gathering Song No. 1** *What is this place*

**Offering Our Gifts** Western District Conference

### *Hearing God's Story*

\* **Song No. 26** *Holy Spirit, come with power*

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

**Old Testament Reading** Genesis 18: 1-15 Rachelle Claassen

**Sermon** Pastor Peter

### *Responding to God's Story*

\* **Song of Response No. 307** *Will you let me be your servant*

### **Sharing and Congregational Prayer**

\* **Sending Song Sing the Journey No. 54** *Longing for light* vs. 1-4

### **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!**

The "I Love to Tell the Story" adult elective will not be meeting today so that the fellowship hall can be prepared for the fellowship meal.

### **For Sharing and Prayer**

**Western District Conference:** Pray for Marlene Bogard, Minister of Christian Formation, as she continues to develop and post resources on the Year of the Bible website that is available to all Mennonite Church USA congregations.

**Mennonite Mission Network:** MMN's Service Adventure unit leaders will conclude a four-day meeting in New Orleans tomorrow. Pray for physical and spiritual renewal as they share their joys and challenges and encourage each other for continued ministry.

**This summer** the youth group will be serving through DOOR (Discovering Opportunities for Outreach and Reflection) in Denver, CO during July 6-11. Some of the possible service assignments we will participate in includes preparing and serving meals at a soup kitchen; helping with children whose mothers may be looking for a job, in school, or living on the streets; lawn and building maintenance for seniors or organizations that temporarily house homeless families; stocking shelves in food banks; sorting donated clothing; meeting with and listening to groups that are working for change in the city; and conversing and singing with senior citizens. We look forward to this time as a time of growth through the different opportunities to serve those who God deeply cares about, the last, the least, and the lost. We also see this as a time of growth in our relationships with each other and with God and a time to help discern the ways that God may be calling us to serve God's kingdom.

We are hoping to raise between \$3,000 and \$3,500 for this trip. We greatly appreciate and are deeply grateful for your support of the youth, through financial gifts, through prayers, through encouragement, and through affirmation of our God-given gifts. Thank you!

## Church Events

**Today at 11:30 a.m.** The youth group will serve a fund-raiser meal. Everyone is welcome to stay!

**Today at 12:45 p.m.** Annual Church Business Meeting.

**This evening at 5:30 p.m.** The Menno-Nite Live activity for this evening, Stump the Pastors, has been moved to 5:30 p.m. out of respect for those who would like to hear the Bethel College Concert Choir program. All are warmly invited and encouraged to come with Scripture passages that you've always wanted to hear a sermon on, that you have found to be very confusing, or simply passages you'd like to try and "stump" our pastors with!

**Tuesday afternoon** Quilting on the MCC quilt from 1:30-5:00 p.m.

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

## Announcements

**Reports for the church yearbook** – If you are responsible for a report, please get it to Debbie Claassen as soon as possible. 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:** Debbie Claassen and Carine Claassen  
**Nursery Next Sunday:** Kris Goossen and Renata Goossen  
**Ushers Next Sunday:** Terry Klassen and Dean Patterson

**Offering Last Sunday:** Mennonite Relief Sale \$1,945.00  
**Offering Next Sunday:** Mennonite Church USA

## Et Cetera

**Bethel College Concert Choir end-of-European-tour home concert** will be this evening at 7 p.m. in Memorial Hall.

**The Western District Conference Resource Library** is now open the first Saturday of each month from 10 am to noon. Stop by to browse, drink coffee, enjoy story-time for the children at 10:30. See you on February 1 at 2517 N. Main, North Newton.

**Agri-Urban** invites all of its supporters and interested people to an appreciation dinner on February 1 at 6:00 p.m. in the Eden Mennonite Church Fellowship Hall, 4 miles west and 2 miles north of Moundridge. No reservations are necessary just come and enjoy a good meal.

**Mennonite Relief Sale Fellowship Meals** will take place on February 23 and March 2. You are encouraged to participate by either hosting a meal or being invited to another's home or church. Church groups are also encouraged to host meals. For more details, see the flier in the foyer. Registration deadline is February 2.

**February 7 and 8 – John McCabe-Juhnke's Prison Theater Pilot Project presents "Inside Story," 7:30 p.m. both nights in Krehbiel Auditorium.** Professor McCabe-Juhnke directed 10 Bethel College students and six inmates of Hutchinson Correctional Facility in putting together a collection of monologues and dialogues based on previously published stories and short dramatic sketches as well as their own journal entries during the month. "Inside Story" was presented twice at HCF; in the Bethel College version, students will take some of the roles played by inmates. (Tickets at Bethel College Bookstore, 316-284-5205, M-F, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., or at the door.)

**Summer Staff Needed! Camp Mennoscah** is currently accepting applications for the summer staff positions of office, crafts, lifeguard, nature, music, and grounds/maintenance. Information and forms can be found at [www.campmennoscah.org](http://www.campmennoscah.org) under Resources. We'll also be recruiting at Hesston, Tabor, and Bethel College on February 10-12 respectively. It's going to be a rousing, rootin'-tootin' summer!

**Take chances. Make mistakes. Get messy. Be challenged. Learn some things. Teach some things. Spend a year living somewhere that you never dreamed you'd go.** Each year, through the MCC Serving and Learning Together (SALT) program, more than 50 young people from Canada and the U.S. serve alongside MCC partners around the world. Visit [www.salt.mcc.org](http://www.salt.mcc.org) for more information.

**Mennonite Central Committee Leadership Openings for 2014:** In the coming year MCC has a number of Rep and Area Director positions to fill. These positions carry the primary administrative responsibility for MCC programs around the world and are central to the work of MCC. If you know of anyone who might be interested in serving with MCC in this capacity please help spread the word! All job descriptions can be found at [www.serve.mcc.org](http://www.serve.mcc.org). Openings include: MCC Representatives in Democratic Republic of Congo, North East Asia (China, ROK, DPRK), and Egypt; and Area Directors for Southern Africa and Central West Africa. You may direct questions, inquiries or candidate suggestions to Susan Wenger, HR AA-International Leadership Placement, [susanwenger@mcc.org](mailto:susanwenger@mcc.org), 717-859-1152, ext. 204.

**Western District Conference Assembly 2014** will meet in Waxahachie, Texas, July 4-6, celebrating our Year of the Bible and focusing on church planting. Resolutions must be submitted by March 3 to the Executive Board. See the full description of resolution policy at <http://mennowdc.org/conference-life/annual-assembly/>.

## 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](mailto:pastor@gracehillmc.org)

**Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen**

*E-mail:* [youthpastor@gracehillmc.org](mailto:youthpastor@gracehillmc.org)

**Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen**

*Secretary's E-mail:* [secretary@gracehillmc.org](mailto:secretary@gracehillmc.org)

The following books have been donated to our library:

Corinna Siebert Ruth, "The Tread of Pioneers" Story of the Mennonites from Russia to the U.S. in the 1870's.

Walter Wangerin, Jr "In the Days of the Angels" Includes short stories and hymns of Christmas.

Ronald J. Sider "The Scandal of the Evangelical Conscience" Discusses why are the Christians living just like the rest of the world.

Thornburg Melton "SAFE Sanctuaries for Youth" Guidelines in reducing the risk of abuse in youth ministries.