

# GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

February 3, 2013

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: Peter Goerzen

Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Musician: Pastor Katherine

Song Leader: Gladys Reimer

Worship Leader: Pastor Katherine

## Gathering

### 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 from John 6

One: Jesus said, "I am the Bread of Life.

Whoever comes to me will never be hungry,  
and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

### Many: We have come to partake of the Bread of Life.

One: Do not work for the food that perishes,  
but for the food that endures for eternal life,  
which the Son of Man will give you.

### Many: We have come to partake of the Bread of Life.

One: Jesus said, "I am the living bread that came down from heaven.  
Whoever eats of this bread will live forever;  
and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.  
Those who eat my flesh abide in me and I in them."

### Many: We have come to partake of the Bread of Life.

One: The Bread of God is he who comes down from heaven  
and gives life to the world.

Many: Jesus, give us this bread always.

### Gathering Prayer

\* **Gathering Song No. 8** *Brethren, we have met to worship*

**Offering Our Gifts** Mennonite Church USA

## Listening

**Gospel Reading** John 6: 31-51

Lisa Schmidt

**Worship Music** *Unless a grain of wheat*

Penny Hiebert, Carine Claassen, Pastor Katherine

**Children's Story**

Pastors Peter and Katherine

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

**Gospel Reading** John 6: 52-71

Pastor Peter

**Sermon** *You Are What You Eat*

Pastor Peter

## Responding

\* **Song of Response No. 472** *I am the Bread of life* verses 1-3, 5

### Sharing Our Stories and Congregational Prayer

Sending for Pastors Peter and Katherine

Blessing for Weldon Martens Hymn No. 795

\* **Sending Hymn No. 545** *Be thou my vision*

\* **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

We give thanks for Weldon Martens, who will be ministering with the congregation while Pastors Peter and Katherine are on sabbatical, and for Ben Kreider who will be ministering with the youth group. May we uphold Weldon and Ben in prayer as we serve God together.

Dear Grace Hill, we thank you for this opportunity for study and for renewal. We will be completing 15 credit hours while we are at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary; following this semester we will only need to complete 15 more before we have completed the requirements for our MDiv degrees. We welcome your prayers during this time, as we also will be holding you in our hearts while we are apart. May God bless and keep you. May the very face of God shine upon you and be gracious to you. May God's presence embrace you and give you peace.

~Pastors Peter and Katherine, and Sophia

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**Western District Conference:** Pray for the nine Transitional Pastors currently serving WDC congregations. They will be meeting for their quarterly resourcing meeting on February 5.

**Mennonite Mission Network:** Today, Antonio Lucero, Eduardo Vargas, and Marie Voth are bringing to close a three-day Discerning Ministry Retreat in San Antonio, Texas. Pray for the young adult participants who have served as summer staff for the DOOR Network as they seek God's direction and practice what they have learned. DOOR partners with MMN.

## Sabbatical Blessing for Pastors Peter and Katherine

Church Chair: As Jesus withdrew from the crowds to be renewed before God for ministry, so you also enter a time of study, reflection, prayer and renewal. As a congregation we recognize this time apart as an expression of your call to serve the people of God. We will uphold you in prayer in your leaving, in your time away, and in your returning.

*Pastors Peter and Katherine: We are thankful to God and the congregation for the gift of this sabbatical. We will use this time wisely, in order to continue studying God's Word and discerning God's calling for our lives. We will miss you while we are away, and we look forward to returning for further ministry among you. May God watch over us while we are absent from each other.*

**Congregation: We commission you to accept this time as a gift of God for the renewal of your calling. We commit you, Peter, Katherine, and Sophia to God's loving care while you are away. We commit ourselves to respect your separation from us. We commit ourselves to using the spiritual gifts among us, thus making this a time of growth and discernment of God's call for us as well as for you.**

Church Chair: We look forward to your renewed ministry among us, and to the continued growth of this congregation's ministry to each other and to the world. In the name of Christ, AMEN.

### **CHURCH OFFICES**

Pastors' Office 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](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)

## Church Events

**Tuesday afternoon** Quilters are welcome to come to the church and quilt on the MCC quilt anytime from 1-5 p.m.

**Wednesday 6:15 p.m.** All Church Meal – everyone is invited!  
**7:00 – 8:00 p.m.** Junior Dept. Programming  
**7:00 – 8:15 p.m.** Youth Programming  
**7:00 p.m.** Adult Choir  
**7:00 p.m.** Adult Study with Pastor Weldon  
Cost of the meal: High School & Adults \$3.00 Children \$2.50

**Wednesday at 8:00 p.m.** Administrative Council meets.

**Thursday at 7:00 p.m.** Education Council meets.

**Monday, February 11 at 7:00 p.m.** Hands of Friendship will meet at church. **All men and women are invited.** Program: *The Petals of a Kansas Sunflower* by Melvin Epp; Hostess & Devotions: Pauline Toews and Joyce Stuart; Financial Project: Western District Women in Mission.

## Announcements

**The Harvey County Food Pantry** is in need of items throughout the year. A basket for goods is located in the foyer by the front entrance.

**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:** Kris Goossen and Renata Goossen  
**Nursery Next Sunday:** Lisa Harms and Melinda Regehr  
**Ushers Next Sunday:** Doug Hiebert and Russell Janzen

**Offering Last Sunday:** Grace Hill Youth \$2,832.00  
**Offering Next Sunday:** Local Church

## Et Cetera

**Everyone is invited to the Kansas Mennonite Disaster Service Meeting** at Eden Mennonite Church, 401 18<sup>th</sup> Ave., Moundridge on February 3 at 2:00 p.m. Russ Gaeddert and some of his students from the Hesston College Disaster Management program will be sharing about their MDS experiences. Refreshments following the program. We promise to get you home in plenty of time for the Super Bowl kickoff.

**Agri-Urban** would like to invite all of its supporters and people who are interested in Agri-Urban to an appreciation dinner on February 16, at 6:00 p.m. in the Eden Mennonite Church Fellowship Hall, 4 miles west and 2 miles north of Moundridge. Please make reservation with Russell Entz, by February 10. Book of JEBB will be our entertainment for the evening.

**Mennonite Central Committee Central States** invites everyone to "The Loss of Turtle Island" a participatory exercise on the story of Indigenous people of this land on Friday, February 22 from 10 a.m.-noon at Shalom Mennonite Church (800 East 1st Street in Newton). There will be a lunch by donation following the event that will include a brief MCC meeting. Please RSVP for the event and/or the lunch with your name and email address, by Thursday, February 14 to Karin Kaufman Wall at [kkw@mcc.org](mailto:kkw@mcc.org).

**The MCC fellowship meals** are scheduled for February 24 and March 3, 2013. Brochures are on the table by the display cabinet. We encourage you to participate in this important event. The MCC Sale Committee

**MEDA's Kansas Chapter** (Mennonite Economic Development Associates) invites you to join us for "Building Peace in Business" with Loren Hostetter on February 28 at 6:30 p.m. Buffet dinner in the Schultz Student Center, Bethel College, North Newton. \$25 for dinner and presentation, \$5 for students, \$15 for beginning entrepreneurs. RSVP by February 25 by email to [carlawedman@harperindustries.com](mailto:carlawedman@harperindustries.com) or phone Carla Wedman at 620-896-7381.

**The Western District Conference Reference Council** and Mennonite Church USA Regional Immigration Gathering will be March 1-2 at Hope Mennonite Church in Wichita. *Citizens of God's Kingdom: Immigration and Christian Faith* is the theme. Reference Council is a gathering of WDC Executive Board, Commissions, Committees, Task Forces, Staff and Pastors. Others with interest in the theme can also attend. RSVP by February 22 to [wdc@mennowdc.org](mailto:wdc@mennowdc.org) or 316-283-6300.

**Get out your basketball shoes!** WDC's annual basketball tournament will be held the evenings of March 19, 21, and 22 (no Saturday games this year) at Bethel College in North Newton. Tournament fee is \$150 per team. Please register by March 1 to determine if there are enough teams to hold the tournament. Information has been sent to contact persons, and is available at: [www.mennowdc.org](http://www.mennowdc.org) (Upcoming Events).

**Development Associate** Mennonite Mission Network has an immediate opening for a full time Development Associate in Elkhart, IN or Newton, KS with regular travel to other U.S. locations. Candidates need a passion for God's mission, and the ability to build relationships, listen and motivate. Women and persons of color are encouraged to apply. The position description can be read online at [www.mennonitemission.net/About/Pages/StaffOpps.aspx](http://www.mennonitemission.net/About/Pages/StaffOpps.aspx). Interested persons please send a letter of interest and resume to Linda Krueger at [staffrecruitment@Mennonitemission.net](mailto:staffrecruitment@Mennonitemission.net).

### **Camp Mennosciah:**

- **A Century of Fun--in just a few days!** Camp Mennosciah's Retirees' Relaxation Retreat is April 22-24. We'll be covering "A Century of Change: In the Congo and Kansas" and spending hour upon hour laughing and having coffee breaks. This retreat is for retirees of all ages.
- **Scrapbooking Retreat!** We'd spend time coming up with something catchy for this retreat, but it's so popular that just letting you know when it is will be enough. Our Spring Scrapbooking Retreat is March 8-10. It's a great retreat for all levels of scrapbookers! For both retreats, the brochure is at [www.campmennosciah.org](http://www.campmennosciah.org) in our Retreats section or call 620-297-3290 for more information.
- **Framing Volunteers needed!** Renovations of the Bluestem house at Camp Mennosciah are progressing nicely. We are now ready for volunteers to help frame some walls. Give us a call at 620-297-3290 if you are interested in helping out. Once framing is completed, we'll move on to pulling wires and other fun stuff!