

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

February 7, 2016
Worship 9:30 a.m.
Violin: Carl Goossen
Pastor: Weldon Martens

Whitewater, Kansas
Sunday School 10:45 a.m.
Guest Organist: Chelsea Vaught
Guest Preacher: Heidi Regier Kreider

Prelude

Sing Praise to God arr. Laubengayer
Rhosymedre Vaughan Williams
Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee arr. Hobby
Meditation on "Adoro te Devote" arr. Callahan

Welcome and Announcements Tim Harms

*Call to Worship & Prayer

Leader: Come, family of God,
come join the celebration of new life!
Left: Come, mothers and fathers,
Right: come, sisters and brothers,
Left: come, grandparents, friends and neighbors,
Right: come, family of God!
Leader: God is about to do a new thing.
Be glad and rejoice in what God creates!

**ALL: *We have come to witness a birth;
We have come to welcome new members to the body of Christ.
Praise God, the Giver of new life!***

Gathering Hymn *Move in Our Midst* HWB 418

Offering Mennonite Church USA
Offertory *The Lord's My Shepherd* arr. Berry

Hymn *Heart With Loving Heart United* HWB 420

Special Music *10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)*
Tara Harms-Becker, Valerie Klaassen, Curt Regehr

Children to age 5 may be dismissed to the library for childcare

Scripture Reading: Luke 9:28-36 Merrill Harms

Sermon *"Listen to Him"* Pastor Heidi Regier Kreider

Hymn *The Work is Thine, O Christ* HWB 396

Service of Installation for Weldon Martens as Pastor

Sharing and Prayer Valerie Klaassen

*Benediction Hymn *God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian* HWB 632

*Benediction

Postlude *Fugue in G Major* J. S. Bach

*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!

Welcome and thank you to Heidi Regier Kreider, the Western District Conference Minister, for sharing with us this morning. Also welcome and thank you to Chelsea Vaught for sharing her talents with us on this special day. Chelsea is a former organist at Grace Hill, and is currently the Director of Music at First Presbyterian Church, Fort Wayne, IN.

Next Sunday is the First Sunday of Lent. Lent is the 40-day season when the church commemorates the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness. This time apart was Jesus' season of preparation before beginning his ministry. The Biblical story is full of "40"- Moses and Israel's years of wandering before they entered the Promised Land, Elijah's journey to Mt. Horeb, and Noah's days and nights of rain on the ark. Every year Christ's followers are encouraged to embark on our own 40-day journey into this darker season as a way of preparing to receive and share more fully in the resurrection light of Easter Sunday.

Each Sunday during Lent, you will be offered to make a **Ritual of Response** to the worship and theme of the day. **Next Sunday** our worship will be guided by Psalm 91 and Luke 4:1-13 (the temptation of Jesus). You will have opportunity to respond on paper to the following question: *How do you acknowledge God as author of your story?* To call God as author of your story is to recall ways God has directed your life, your decisions, and your service.

...God bless our journey during Lent - Pastor Weldon

For Sharing and Prayer

Thank you for the warm farewell and so many expressions of kindness last Sunday. Thank you Social Committee for the reception. Thank you for the miniature White Mountain ice cream freezer - the perfect gift! It is a good feeling to have so many new friendships and a privilege to have been part of Grace Hill. Blessings on this important day for the congregation.
Randy and Ann Smith

Western District Conference: Pray for God's joy and blessing for Weldon Martens as he is installed today as pastor at Grace Hill Mennonite Church.

Mennonite Mission Network: Today, a delegation of 13 North Americans are worshiping with a congregation in Benin, the Eternal Sacred Order of the Cherubim and Seraphim. Thank God for partnerships developed through Mennonite Mission Network. Pray for Christ's body to be strengthened through relationships deepened on this two-week fellowship visit.

Church Family News

. . . The wall hanging in the foyer was made and loaned to us by **Katherine Claassen**. . . The wall hanging by the guest book is loaned to us by **Elfrieda Schmidt**. . .

Church Events

Today at 11:45 a.m. Everyone is welcome to stay for the meal prepared by the Social Council.

This afternoon at 1:30 p.m. Dr. Chelsea Vaught will give a program of organ music, including several congregational hymns, in our sanctuary.

Wednesday at 6:15 p.m. All Church Meal – everyone is invited! We are having meals every Wednesday through March 16.

Menu this week: Meatballs

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

Wednesday Family Night – we are studying parables this spring. All are invited to attend!

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Youth Group

Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. Adult Choir practice

Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. Gifts Discernment Council meets.

Thursday at 8:00 a.m. Senior Breakfast at Mom's Café in Whitewater.

Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Care Council meets.

February 15 at 7:00 p.m. The craft group will meet at Valerie Klaassen's home. (This is a change of date due to a conflict.) The group will meet on the second and fourth Mondays at 7:00 at Valerie's home.

Announcements

Wes and Deb Bergen have finished their term in Ghana. If you made a contribution to the Wes and Deb Bergen Mission Partner Fund at Grace Hill in the past year and do not want it to go to the new Mission Partner Fund, please let Marvin Harms or Debbie Claassen know by February 28.

The Whitewater & Potwin Food Pantries are in need of items throughout the year. A basket for goods is located in the foyer by the front entrance.

Help make comforter tops for the MCC Comforter Blitz. Pick up a bag of material in the foyer. Instructions included. Questions? Ask Kathy Balzer.

Nursery This Sunday: Lisa Harms and Bethany Regehr

Nursery Next Sunday: Joyce Wedel and Quinn Dove

Ushers Next Sunday: Doug Hiebert and Russ Janzen

Greeters Next Sunday: Russ and Kris Janzen

Offering Last Sunday: Camp Menno's \$1,809.86

Offering Next Sunday: Local Church

CHURCH OFFICES

Pastor's Office Hours:

Tuesday & Thursday - Mornings, Wednesday - Afternoon, Friday - day off

Pastor: Weldon Martens

Email: weldon.martens@gmail.com

Director of Youth Ministry: Joshua Janzen

Email: joshuadjanzen@bethelks.edu

Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen

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

Et Cetera

International Mission Workers in Newton to share about their work

You are invited to join MC USA staff in the Newton offices (718 N Main St.) to hear from Mennonite Mission Network workers Wes & Deb Bergen on Tuesday February 9 from 9-10 a.m. We will have coffee, and hear a presentation from the Bergens about their work.

Christopher Shaw organ recital, "Love, Lent and Lament," will be February 14 at 3 p.m., Administration Building chapel at Bethel College.

Nationally known Christian speaker and author Shane Claiborne will be featured at the Hesston College Anabaptist Vision and Discipleship (AVDS) conference February 19-21. *Not Just On Sunday* will explore what it's like to live a vibrant 24/7 faith by discovering spiritual practices that bring transformation. To register, use the printed brochure available on the bulletin board or go to www.hesston.edu/avds. (by Feb. 12) For more information, call 620-327-8109 or toll free at 866-437-7866.

Not Just On Sunday features a Saturday evening Celebration Concert with Bluegrass music by Hesston College alumnus Dave Miller and The Book of Jebb, 7 p.m. February 20 at Hesston Mennonite Church auditorium. Tickets are \$7.50 for adults and available at the Hesston College Bookstore at 620-327-8104 or at the door. Conference registrants and youth of all ages are free.

Mennonite Agri-Urban has just finished another successful year and you are invited to help us celebrate. Anyone interested in learning about our organization and everyone who donated feed and worked with Agri-Urban cattle is invited to a faspas on Sunday, February 21 at Eden Mennonite Church, rural Moundridge. Drop in between 3:30 and 5:00 p.m. Information about the organization, a financial report and written reports from our beneficiaries will be available. A special thanks to all those who raised cattle and donated feed again this year. Proceeds from the cattle sales benefit Western District Conference, Mennonite Church USA and Bethel College.

Please join us for Offender/Victim Ministries' Annual Dinner and Meeting on Thursday, February 25 at 6:30 p.m. at the d'Veers Family Center, 227 N. Main, in Elbing. Traditional German Buffet Dinner is \$15 per person and can be paid at the door. RSVP to 316-283-2038 or email ovm.ks@sbcglobal.net by Thursday, February 18.

Mennonite Relief Sale 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.

MCC Comforter Blitz: March 7 12:00- 5:00, March 8 and 9 9:00-5:00 at the Journey Mennonite church at the Yoder Campus. See the flyer on the bulletin board for more information.

MCC Quilters' Corner Opportunities: Volunteers are welcome and needed each Tuesday evening 6:30-8 pm at the MCC Center in North Newton to help sort and price items for the Sale as well as each third Saturday of the month (Feb 20, Mar 19) any time between 9 am - 3 pm. Quilting donations are also welcome and needed i.e. quilting fabrics, quilting supplies, vintage linens, unfinished quilting projects, etc. Donations may be collected by Sale liaisons at their churches and brought to Sale meetings or brought directly to the MCC Center with the indication that they are for Quilters' Corner. If you have questions contact Ann Yoder Smith, 919-604-3282, rws.ays@gmail.com.

Relief Sale Service Opportunities: The Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale invites you to join our family. By tithing a little bit of your time each year, you have an amazing opportunity to impact your world by furthering the work of Mennonite Central Committee. There is variety of committee openings including Children's Activities – Coordinators for the Children's Activities in the Pride of Kansas Building, Feeding the Multitude cashier chairperson, Friday Night FTM Table Waiters, Kansas Crafts, New Year Cookies, Purchasing Committee, and Bohne Beroggi Baking committee. See your Relief Sale Contact liaisons, Mike and Kathy Balzer or Kim and Debbie Claassen, for details on these opportunities.

Have you always wanted to experience another culture while growing professionally, spiritually, and personally? Then MCC's SALT program is for you! We have upwards of 120 diverse assignments in over 35 countries waiting for the perfect applicants to fill them. Deadline to apply is Feb. 15. Make 2016 the year you will step out in faith and do it. Apply today at mcc.org/salt!

Kitchen helpers? All you folks who delight in chopping and stirring, we have a place for you! Camp Mennoscah is looking for people to help in the kitchen during our summer youth camps. A discount of up to full camp fees is available for your camper. Camps begin June 5 and run until July 29. Contact Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290 or office@campmennoscah.org to sign up! Great skill not needed, only a love of kids and a willingness to follow directions.

Volunteer position in Washington, DC - Volunteer staff are needed at The International Guest House in Washington, D.C. (3 months or full year) for the ministry of Christian hospitality. The Guest House (a ministry of Allegheny Conference) serves both international and US travelers. Volunteers are provided full room and board in the Guest House. Monthly stipend of \$140. Health insurance paid for full year volunteers if needed. Hospitality duties include welcoming guests, hosting breakfast and tea, cleaning, laundry, maintenance, baking. Great location for sightseeing and exploring the many facets of the National City. For information and an application contact: Judy Nord judy-marknord@verizon.net (301-9856-858) or International Guest House igh.dc.us@gmail.com (202-726-5808).

**Service of Installation for
Weldon Martens, Pastor
Grace Hill Mennonite Church – February 7, 2016**

Conference Minister: There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is above all and through all and in all. But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. The gifts God gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ. (Ephesians 4:4-7, 11-12)

Congregation: We are the Body of Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit. We worship, care for each other, offer hospitality, nurture faith, and proclaim the good news of Jesus in word and deed.

Congregational Chair: We call our pastor to guide us in becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus in the world. Today we celebrate that God has led us to call Weldon Martens to exercise his gifts in ministry as Pastor at Grace Hill Mennonite Church.

Search Committee Chair: As a search committee, we had a significant role in calling Weldon to our congregation. We looked at needs, gifts and different persons, praying that God would speak. God is a faithful guide, and today we give thanks that God has led us together. Weldon, we pray that the sharing of our gifts and our work together with you will fulfill God's purposes in our congregation, community and world.

Conference Minister: Weldon, seeing that the grace of God has called you into pastoral leadership in this church I now ask you: Do you affirm the promises you made at your baptism and ordination? And do you believe that this calling and your acceptance of it are in response to the leading of the Holy Spirit?

Weldon: With God's help, I do.

Conference Minister: Will you seek to be faithful in prayer and spiritual growth, in setting forth the Scriptures, and in seeking the good of this congregation? And will you seek to live honestly, openly, and justly with your brothers and sisters in this congregation, and to work harmoniously with other congregational leaders?

Weldon: With God's help, I will.

Conference Minister (*to congregation*): Sisters and brothers, you have heard the commitment Weldon has made in accepting the call to pastoral ministry in this church. Do you receive Weldon as your Pastor, to help guide you in the life and work of Christ?

Congregation: As God's Spirit calls and the church commissions, we affirm Weldon Martens as our Pastor. Weldon, we will seek to live honestly, openly and justly with you. We pledge our support to you, as you in turn, support our ministries.

Conference Minister: Based on this covenant between the congregation and you, Weldon, I now install you as Pastor at Grace Hill Mennonite Church. On behalf of Western District Conference, I celebrate and affirm your call to be pastor of this congregation. We are prepared to support you and the congregation in ways that will make your ministry here both fruitful and joyful. May the God of peace make you holy and whole – spirit, soul, and body – to keep you fit for the coming of our Master, Jesus Christ. The One who calls you is faithful, and will do it. (1 Thessalonians 5:23-24).

Conference Minister: (Prayer of Installation)