

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

February 26, 2012

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: Peter Goerzen

Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Musician: Linda Harms

Song Leader: Penny Hiebert

Worship Leader: Kendall Claassen

First Sunday in Lent: Where do I sign?

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

One: We lift our souls to the Lord

Many: and in God we put our trust.

One: We seek to know God's ways

Many: and desire to follow in God's paths.

*All: Today and every day, may God lead us in truth
and teach us how to follow;
for our salvation is in God alone.*

Gathering Prayer

* **Gathering Hymn No. 76** *Praise, I will praise you, Lord*

Offering Our Gifts Western District Conference

Hearing God's Story

Old Testament Reading Genesis 9: 8-17 Rachelle Claassen

Drama *God and Gabriel*
Lisa Schmidt and Ken Wiebe

Children's Story Cole Claassen, Grant Claassen, Steven Harms, Paul Janzen

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

Gospel Reading Mark 1: 9-15 Rachelle Claassen

Drama *God and Gabriel*

Sermon Pastor Katherine

Responding to the Story

Song of Response *My dear Redeemer and my Lord*
Carine Claassen and Pastor Katherine

Sharing Our Stories and Congregational Prayer

Celebrating Holy Communion

Sending

* **Lenten Theme Song STJ No. 44** *The love of God*

Benediction

Postlude

*Indicates those comfortable in doing so, please stand

**The Adult Sunday School classes will begin
10 minutes after the service is over.
Everyone is welcome!**

For Sharing and Prayer

Adrian Jon Wiebe was born to Chris and Catina Wiebe on Sunday, February 19, 2012 at 6:14 p.m., weighing 2 lbs., 11 oz., 13 ½". We would like to thank everyone for keeping our family in your thoughts and prayers. Adrian is in the NICU at Wesley and will be there for a while. Please continue to pray for us as we travel back and forth in the next weeks/months and for the health of our son.

Chris & Catina Wiebe

Emily Burch will be serving this summer on an International Service Team in La Preciosita, Mexico. A letter is posted on the bulletin board with details about her trip. Emily would greatly appreciate support during this opportunity! Any monetary donations would be helpful, as she is in charge of funding the project herself. Checks can be made out to Kansas State University with a memo that says "IST-Emily Burch" so they can be put in an account set up for Emily. Please give checks to Bonita Schroeder. Thoughts and prayers are also welcome! Feel free to contact Emily at eburch@ksu.edu or 316-251-2322.

Western District Conference: Pray God's wisdom and grace for the pastors of WDC. Pray for the Pastor's Day Apart on March 1 regarding "The Pastor's Role in Difficult Discussions."

Mennonite Mission Network: Pray that God would grant peace of mind, health and wisdom to Radical Journey Director Darrell Gascho as he travels to China, England, Paraguay and South Africa to visit each of the teams and their hosts as they serve and learn together. Radical Journey is a MMN program.

Announcements

Offender Victim Ministries (OVM) Dillon's certificates/gift cards will be available next Sunday from Ed Harms and Pauline Toews.

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: Barbara Schmidt and Kylee Schunn

Nursery Next Sunday: Joyce Wedel and Katrina Regehr

Ushers Next Sunday: Terry Klassen and Dean Patterson

Offering Last Sunday: Grace Hill Youth Group \$2,310.00

Offering Next Sunday: Mennonite Church USA

Church Events

This morning after worship there will be a brief congregational meeting to vote on the contract extension for Pastors Katherine and Peter. The motion that will be presented will read: “Based upon the results of the Congregational/Pastoral Review conducted with the help of Dorothy Nickel Friesen, Western District consultant, the combined Pastor Relations committees for Pastors Katherine and Peter recommends renewing their call and presents the following motion. Move that Grace Hill Mennonite Church extend a call to Pastor Katherine Goerzen and Pastor Peter Goerzen for five years from August 1, 2012 to July 31, 2017.” If you have questions, please contact a member of the Pastor Relations Committee: Carol (Kendall) Claassen, Kim Claassen, Lisa Harms, Joyce Stuart, Ken Wiebe.

Tuesday 1:30-5:00 p.m. Quilting on a quilt for Pastors Katherine and Peter's baby. Quilters are needed.

Wednesday 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Junior Dept. Programming
7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Youth Programming
7:00 p.m. Adult Book Study with Pastor Peter
No Adult Choir practice this week.

Thursday at 7:00 p.m. The Mennonite Relief Sale planning meeting will be held at Grace Hill.

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

Next Sunday Bluffton University student's will present "Shining Through" for the worship service. An offering plate will be available at the back of the sanctuary for Bluffton University.

Next Sunday We will have a carry-in meal following the Sunday School hour. All are welcome to stay.

Next Sunday 12:45 – 1:45 p.m. Focus groups will meet for in-depth congregational evaluation. An email will be sent to all that indicated interest in participation on the congregational/pastoral review. Everyone else is invited to participate as well.

Wednesday, April 25 at 6:30 p.m. All church bowling party at Play-Mor Lanes in Newton! (In place of the skating party – skating rink has closed.) More details as the date gets closer.

Et Cetera

This afternoon at 3:30 p.m. Kauffman Museum: Timothy Weston, historic preservation archaeologist in the Cultural Resources Division of the Kansas Historical Society, will present a free lecture, "Waldo Wedel's Kansas Sites, Then and Now"; also official opening of new special exhibition at Kauffman Museum, "In the fields of time: The impact of two Kansas boys on American archeology," which looks at the lives and work of Waldo Wedel and Emil Haury.

The Goshen College Men's Chorus, *Light in the Darkness*, will sing at Shalom Mennonite Church, 800 E. First St., Newton, Sunday evening, February 26th at 7:30 pm. Please come and hear this remarkable group of 45 students share a variety of music related to the theme "Light in the Darkness!" The choir is directed by Dr. Scott Hochstettler, see web address: www.goshen.edu/choirtour.

Friday, March 2, and Saturday, March 3, 7:30 p.m. in Krehbiel Auditorium, Bethel College Music and Theater Departments present Aaron Copland's opera *The Tender Land*, with the guest artistic director Brian Luedloff from the University of Northern Colorado; tickets at Thresher Bookstore in Schultz Student Center during regular business hours, by phone at 316-284-5205 with credit card, or at the door subject to availability.

The Bethel College Academy of Performing Arts presents Global Art Charity Concert on Sunday, March 4 at 6:30 p.m. at Memorial Hall on the Bethel College campus. The evening of music and dance will support the Shoroq wa-Amal "Sunrise and Hope" Children's Center in Khan Younis Refugee Camp in Gaza, Palestine, an MCC Global Family program (globalfamily.mcc.org). The Children's Center provides a safe and nurturing space that offers leadership training and healthy self-expression for children. Admission is by donation and all proceeds will go to "Sunrise and Hope".

Comfort Blitz- It is time for the annual Comfort Blitz!! It will be held at Journey Yoder Campus, one mile north of Yoder. Dates and times are Monday, March 5, noon-9 p.m. and Tuesday March 6, 9-5. All are welcome including youth groups. Check flyer on the bulletin board for more details.

Please join us for Offender/Victim Ministries' Annual Dinner on Monday, March 5 at 6:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Catholic School in Newton. Special guest speaker Dr. Gregory Ellison of the Candler School of Theology will speak about *A Strange Freedom (Revisited)*. Dinner will be provided; donations appreciated. RSVP to 316-283-2038 or email ovm.ks@sbcglobal.net by Monday, February 27.

On Friday March 9 Wheat State Manor is having a fund raising dinner at Emmaus Mennonite Church. Information was in your mailboxes; if you have questions, talk to John Claassen. Your support for this fund raiser is encouraged.

It's time to plan for Mennonite Women Spring Supper again! The evening of fellowship and inspiration will be held Thursday, March 15, at Eden Mennonite Church, near Moundridge. Supper will be served at 6:00 p.m. and the program featuring guest speaker Michele Hershberger will be at 7:00 p.m. Cost is \$6.00, paid at the door, and an offering for Mennonite Women USA will be taken. This event is for women of all ages from South Central Conference and Western District Conference and their guests. Reservations are required: sign up sheet is posted on bulletin board in the foyer.

Like playing basketball? Gather some folks together from your congregation and form a team for the WDC Tournament to be held March 15-17 at Bethel College. Enjoy some friendly competition and fellowship with others from WDC churches! See: www.mennowdc.org - Upcoming Events. Register by March 5.

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

Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

E-mail: youthpastor@gracehillmc.org

Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen

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