

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

March 18, 2012

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: Peter Goerzen

Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Musician: Tara Harms-Becker

Song Leader: Pastor Katherine

Worship Leader: Pastor Peter

Fourth 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 Psalm 19

Gathering Prayer

* **Gathering Hymn No. 16** *God is here among us*

Offering Our Gifts Grace Hill Scholarship Fund

Hearing God's Story

Old Testament Reading Exodus 20: 1-17

Kris Goossen

* **Hymn No. 163** *Obey my voice*

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

Gospel Reading John 2: 13-22

Kris Goossen

Sermon *House Cleaning*

Pastor Peter

Responding to the Story

* **Hymn of Response No. 544** *When we walk with the Lord*

Time of Silent Reflection

We know that "the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved, it is the power of God." (1 Cor. 1:18)

What "foolish" action is God calling me to sign up for in my life?

Sharing Our Stories and Congregational Prayer

Sending

* **Sending Hymn STJ No. 44** *The love of God*

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 God's grace and wisdom for the new pastors in WDC. A New Pastor Orientation will be held on March 22 and a Prevention of Clergy Misconduct Training on March 23.

Mennonite Mission Network: Pray for Lawrence Coetzee, a leader of the Grace Community Churches in South Africa. Lawrence makes an eight-hour round trip to attend Bethany Bible School to help his congregations, who are MMN partners, better understand what being Anabaptist means.

Announcements

An offering will be taken for Wheat State Manor Auxiliary today in the Adult Sunday School Classes. The offering will be used to purchase items that are beneficial to the residents of the Manor. Hands of Friendship is sponsoring this offering.

College Meal: If anyone is interested in hosting a meal for college students in March or April, please see Pastor Katherine. 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: Deb Regier and Katie Regier

Nursery Next Sunday: Kaye Penner and Camille Claassen

Ushers Next Sunday: Josh Patterson and Rob Schunn

Offering Last Sunday: Local Church \$5,511.00

Offering Next Sunday: Western District Conference

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

Church Events

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

Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. Spiritual Council meets at church.

Wednesday Spring Break – no programming, no meal.

Next Sunday at 4:00 p.m. Wheat State Manor Vesper Service.

Next Sunday, March 25 at 5:00 p.m. Eugene Thieszen, pastor of Herold Mennonite Church in Cordell, OK, will lead a seminar on human sexuality. This will be an item of discussion at the Western District Conference assembly this summer. We value our relationship with WDC and the opportunity it provides us to join the larger church in service, partnership, and witness to the Gospel, and we want our delegates to the annual assembly this summer to be informed and able to represent our congregation. This is also an opportunity for us to grow in "humility, gentleness, patience, bearing with one another in love, and making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (Eph. 4:2-3), as we immerse ourselves in the Scriptures together, learn, grow, and discuss together, and pray together that we might yield before the will of God. The session will begin with a fellowship meal at 5 p.m., provided by the Social Council. If you would like to do additional study before this event, a resource sheet is available on the desk in the church library. Please see a member of Spiritual Council if you have any questions or concerns. **Please see sign-up sheet in foyer if you are willing to bring food for the meal.**

March 28 – April 3 Grace Hill/Zion week at the Harvey County Homeless Shelter. The volunteer and meal sign-up is on the bulletin board.

Saturday, March 31 at 8:00 a.m. Work day at church. Plan to install new curtains in the fellowship hall and other jobs.

Sunday, April 1 Holy Week Services: Palm Sunday evening, there will be a worship service at Grace Hill Mennonite Church starting at 7 p.m. as part of our joint Holy Week services with Zion Mennonite Church. The speakers for the evening will be Maynard Knepp and Carol Duerksen. All are welcome!

Thursday, April 5 All are invited to a **Maundy Thursday service** on April 5, shared between the Grace Hill and Zion congregations, to be held at Zion. We plan to observe a traditional Jewish Seder service (including full meal) ending with the Lord's Supper. Jewish Passovers are traditionally family celebrations, so we are planning interaction to engage all ages. The program will begin at 6:30 p.m.; including the meal, plan on 1½ - 2 hours. In order to prepare adequate food, we request that those planning to attend sign-up on the sheet on the bulletin board *no later than Sunday, April 1*. The service and meal are free, although donations to help with expenses will be accepted.

October 20-21 Church Retreat at Camp Mennoscah

The money you spend/donate to the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale April 13 and 14 at the Hutchison State Fair grounds can provide the following:

\$10 helps provide school books and uniforms.

\$15 helps cover the cost of moving books among four library locations for students in Nicaragua.

\$20 provides materials and transportation for one person in Indonesia to attend training on recycling spoiled fruit into cooking fuel.

\$28 pays for the daily medications sold at a hospital pharmacy in the Congo.

\$35 helps buy one female goat in Kenya.

\$35 helps people heal from trauma in Colombia through the arts, drama and storytelling.

\$60 helps purchase tree seedling so people can grow trees and improve their communities in other sustainable ways.

\$100 helps cover transportation expenses for mobile medical clinics in Ukraine.

Et Cetera

Bethel College Concert Choir home concert – Sunday, March 25, 7:00 p.m., Memorial Hall; free, with freewill offering taken.

Be a part of making the Verenike and Bohne Beroggi for the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale. Beroggi Making Day scheduled Saturday morning April 7 at the Moundridge High School. Verenike Making Day is scheduled Tuesday, April 10 in the Hillsboro 4-H Building starting at 8 a.m. through early afternoon. See sign-up sheet on table in foyer.

Sign-up sheets for the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale are on a table in the church foyer. 1000+ volunteers are needed throughout the week of the sale. There are sit down jobs, food preparation jobs, set-up, cashiers and more. There are opportunities to make New Year's cookies during the sale, bake bread, pies and zwieback prior to the sale. Look over the table and see how you might like to help! **Cal Frye also needs help in the cherry moos booth – please see him if you're willing to help!**

Trip to Paraguay - The Retirees' Relaxation Retreat will be "visiting" Paraguay, April 23-25, in our time with various speakers and presenters. But that's not all! We'll hear about antique glass, creation care, and have many coffee breaks for conversation and fun times. Call Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290 for a brochure or information.

Women in Conversation is an opportunity to carefully attend to many aspects of your spiritual journey - body, mind, soul and spirit - without the distraction of daily tasks. It's just God, yourself, and your companions on the journey. You will join hands with a community of women representing all ages and walks of life, gathered together for enriching conversation, spirit-filled worship, prayer and plenty of laughter and renewal. Join us as we embrace our identity as God's beloved. Location: Cross Winds, Hesston, April 27-29. Registration due March 31. Information brochure is available on table in foyer.

There's no Mennonite convention this year - which makes it the perfect time to come out to Camp Mennoscah and be part of our camping ministry! Be a helper in the kitchen (or even a head cook!) for a short or full week or as a maintenance/custodial volunteer. Contact us at campmno@mennowdc.org or 620-297-3290.

Save the date for Western District Conference Annual Assembly - July 6-8 - at the Magnuson Hotel & Meridian Convention Center in Oklahoma City, OK.