

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

March 20, 2011

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: Peter Goerzen

Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Keyboard: Sara Unruh

Chorister: Pastor Katherine

Worship Leader: Russell Janzen

"I am Joseph, your brother" – 2nd Sunday in Lent

Gathering and Praising Together

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 based upon Psalm 133

All: How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

One: It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down on the beard, running down on Aaron's beard, down on the collar of his robe. It is as if the dew of Hermon were falling on Mount Zion. For there the Lord bestows blessing, life for evermore.

All: How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

Gathering Prayer

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

Offering our Gifts Scholarship Fund

Hearing God's Word

Special Music *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*

Carine Claassen and Abigail Tyson

Scripture: Reader's Theater from Genesis 37-50

Sara Harms, Rachele Claassen, Kylee Schunn, Matthew Hiebert,
Brett Harms, Grant Claassen, Paul Janzen, Melinda Regehr

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

Sermon *Hidden Dreams*

Pastor Peter

Responding to God

Commitment to Love our Brothers and Sisters in Christ

We commit ourselves to follow Jesus Christ, through whom God has reconciled the world, and in whom we continue the work of reconciliation.

We commit ourselves to each other and this congregation, promising to love our brothers and sisters in God's family.

We commit ourselves to the way of the cross, to a life of love, peace, and reconciliation.

We believe that God's Spirit empowers us to live in this way, to see our sister's good as our own, to be our brother's helper, to love our neighbor as ourselves, and to contribute to the well-being of every part of Christ's body so that we can build up, and grow up, and be joined together into a new creation

* **Hymn of Response No. 307** *Will you let me by your servant*

Sharing our Stories and Congregational Prayer

Sent by God

* **Sending Hymn No. 421** *Bless'd be the tie that binds*

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!

Today: We continue our Lenten journey toward reconciliation as we join Jesus on the way of the cross. Today we look back to the story of Joseph and his brothers seeking the dream of reconciliation, healing, and hope.

For Sharing and Prayer

I just wanted to thank everyone for the generosity you showed me while I was in the hospital. All of the prayers, visits, cards, flowers and food for my family were very much appreciated. I feel blessed to have friends like you. And a special thank you to Pastor Peter for the prayers and words of encouragement you shared with me while visiting me.

Thank you all, Karma Hill

Western District Conference: Pray for the development of a conference-wide church planting consultation guided by Gilberto Flores, Associate Conference Minister.

Mennonite Mission Network: MMN's DOOR personnel are gearing up to host spring break groups. Pray for city directors as they put together meaningful programs, and pray for the youth who will be spending their vacations serving, learning, and witnessing the face of God in the city.

Announcements

The offering today will be for the Scholarship Fund. Scholarships are given to Grace Hill students who attend Mennonite colleges. In previous years \$1,000 has been given per student per year. At this point, Grace Hill will have 7 students attending Mennonite colleges next year.

Need for Pies: The Youth will be serving the meal at Merrill and Gladys Harms' Auction on Saturday, April 16 as a fundraiser for the MCUSA Convention in Pittsburgh this summer. If you would be interested in baking pies for this, please let Pastor Katherine know. Thank you!

The 200th anniversary Grace Hill cookbook has been submitted to the publisher. Thank you to all of you who shared your recipes. Thanks to Hand of Friendship for sponsoring the cookbook. A special thanks to Catina Wiebe for all the help she provided. The books should be available for purchase this summer.

The Wheat State Manor Auxiliary offering taken last Sunday in the Sunday School Classes was \$376.00. Thank you for your gifts.

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.

Church Events

Wednesday No Wednesday evening programming.

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Administrative Council meets at church.

The Homeless Shelter schedule is on the bulletin board. Our week for volunteering is April 6-12; our days are Wed., Fri., Sun. and Tues. Current needs for the shelter are lunch supplies, high efficiency laundry soap, new men's and women's underwear, disposable twin razors, postage stamps and snack food. There is also a family who will move soon and needs basic household essentials, furniture and towels, contact the office at 283-7711 if you have any of these items you would like to share. Donna Balzer is accepting Dillon's OVM certificates if you would like to help in this way. All the help and donations Grace Hill has given to the shelter are greatly appreciated.

Nursery This Sunday: Deb Regier and Katie Regier

Nursery Next Sunday: Kaye Penner and Camille Claassen

Preaching Next Sunday: Pastor Katherine

Scripture Next Sunday: Acts 15:1-35

Ushers Next Sunday: Caleb Regehr and Rob Schunn

Keyboard Next Sunday: Linda Harms

Offering Last Sunday: Local Church \$7,208.42

Offering Next Sunday: Western District Conference

Blurb 11: LIFE IN MONTAU (MATAWY)

C. Henry Smith in *Story of the Mennonites* tells of the strict discipline in the Montau Mennonite church. Each member had to pay taxes and tribute money. The ministers had much to say about gambling, dancing, and frivolities. Prohibited were buckled shoes, neck scarves, & cuffs on coats.

All ministers served without pay. One could not become a member below the age of 20. Marriage was always in the church, never in a home. Proposals were carried to the bride, not directly by the groom, but by an "Umbitter" who ranked just below the "Vorsänger" and deacon as a permanent church functionary.

Funeral sermons were not common before 1800. Some friend of the deceased would write a poem to be set to some well-known melody at the funeral. Verses would be long and many, the melody slow, and this would replace a sermon!

Peter Klassen on p. 35 in *A Homeland for Strangers* writes, "In 1569 King Sigismund Augustus confirmed a lease agreement whereby Mennonites were granted exemption from various services on condition they would make a money payment of 1400 marks... Polish authorities who owned the land, were well pleased with the arrangement, for the contract explained that previously 'the land and village Montau was desolate, and brought little or no profit.'"

The first church in Montau was built before 1568, a frame building with thatched roof. In 1898, after our ancestors had already left, a new church building was erected in Montau. It stands today and is used by Catholics for worship. The former home of the Mennonite pastor stands across the street.

For the most part, our Grace Hill people left Montau and other villages in that area in the years 1780-83 for Michalin, but many other Mennonites stayed until World War II. All Mennonites left during WW II.

Et Cetera

Men of Song Vocal Concert will be held on March 20 at 7:00 p.m. at the Bethel College Mennonite Church. Narration of “The Creation” by John McCabe Juhnke, Professor of Drama. Help us celebrate 20 years of Health Ministries – founded by Dr. Tim Wiens. Admission is a free will offering. Proceeds benefit Health Ministries Clinic. For information: 316-281-7312.

Harvey County Homeless Shelter training date is March 24 at 6:30 p.m. See Donna Balzer if you have any questions.

“Business Leaders and Pastors: Partners in Leadership and Ministry?” workshop will be held March 26 8:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at Prairie View, Newton. For more information, see the flier in the foyer.

Remington Community Service Day will be April 20. If you are retired and have any jobs, such as washing windows, yard work, painting, etc. you would like to have done for free, please contact Grant Claassen or pick up a form on the table in the foyer. Please respond by April 3.

What’s going on at this year’s Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale on April 8 & 9? Go to www.kansas.mccsale.org and learn more about the activities and auction items at this year’s sale.

- ◆ Be apart of making the Verenika and Bohne Beroggi for the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale. Beroggi Making Day scheduled Saturday morning April 2 at the Moundridge High School. Verenika Making Day is scheduled Tuesday, April 5 in the Hillsboro 4-H Building starting at 8 a.m. through early afternoon.
- ◆ See the sign-up sheets on the table in the foyer.

Men and Boys Retreat at Camp Mennoscah is April 16-17. Doug and Jude Krehbiel will lead in music and worship. There will be opportunities for fun and games, fishing, or just relaxing. It's a fun time for men and boys of all ages! Pre-registration is not necessary; register when you get to camp.

Hey, kids! Did you read about how Camp Mennoscah needs cooks? Well, we need campers, too! We’ve got all these fun things to do and cool people to play with and all sorts of stuff to learn and gobs of nature and the river and then there’s the new swimming pool—need we say more? Come for a week of camp! We think it’s great fun. Our theme this year is *Got Spirit? Finding God in the Everyday*. Get your registration forms at www.mennowdc.org/Camp.html in the 2011 catalog or call 620-297-3290. We can’t wait to throw you in the pool!

Turning toward peace – an MCC invitation to sow seeds of peace. What belongs to God? What belongs to Caesar? Each year some people of faith decide to witness for peace by redirecting their war tax dollars to efforts that nurture life, build justice and promote peace. For those who make this choice, Mennonite Central Committee U.S. offers the “Turning toward peace” initiative – an invitation to sow the seeds of peace by supporting MCC’s Global Family education sponsorship program in Afghanistan or the MCC U.S. Summer Service program’s work to nurture young community leaders. Learn more about the initiative and the options and consequences of war tax resistance at us.mcc.org/wartaxes or contact Titus Peachey, Director of Peace Education for MCC U.S., toll free at 888-563-4676, or 717-859-1151. To support these peace initiatives send contributions payable to MCC (designate "Turning towards peace" in the memo line) to MCC Central States, P.O. Box 235, North Newton, KS 67117.

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