

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

April 6, 2014

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: Peter Goerzen

Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Song Leader: Pastor Katherine

Musician: Ellen Mosiman

Worship Leader: Pastor Katherine

Bible and Bodies: Adopted into God's Family

Gathering and Praising

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.

Scripture Readings Romans 8:14, Ephesians 1:5-6, Mark 3:35

Call to Worship

One: We are destined for adoption as God's children through Jesus Christ for God's good pleasure. We are joint heirs with Christ. We are God's beloved children. We are sisters and brothers in Christ.

All: In Christ Jesus, those who were once far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. We are no longer strangers, but we are members of the household of God!

Gathering Prayer

* **Gathering Song** *God's Family* see insert

Offering Our Gifts Mennonite Church USA

Hearing God's Story

Scripture Readings Romans 8:14-17, Mark 3:31-35 Lucas Goossen

* **Song No. 362** *Help us to help each other*

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

New Testament Reading Ephesians 2: 11-22

Sermon

Pastor Katherine

Responding To God

* **Song of Response No. 407** *We are people of God's peace*

Congregational Sharing and Prayer

* **Sending Song No. 420** *Heart with loving heart united*

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

Pastor Peter is leading input at the Men and Boys Retreat at Camp Mennoscah this weekend.

In anticipation of a growing family, Pastors Peter and Katherine have requested that the Associate Pastor position be reduced from 2/3 time to 1/2 time. The job description has been modified to reflect this reduction. If there are questions or concerns, please talk to Kim Claassen, church chair, or a member of Administrative Council. Action will be taken by the council at the April 30 meeting. The proposed reduction is planned to take effect when Pastor Katherine returns from maternity leave.

Western District Conference: Pray for the flourishing of our Texas churches and church plants. Pray for Conference Minister Clarence Rempel as he meets with pastors and churches in Texas, April 4-9.

Mennonite Mission Network: At this point in their year of service, the novelty of international immersion has typically worn off for MMN's Radical Journey participants. Pray that as these young adults become more at ease in their host communities, they will see how Jesus is forming a global church across cultures.

Announcements

An offering will be taken for Wheat State Manor Auxiliary today in the adult Sunday School hour. The Auxiliary purchases items that are beneficial for the residents of the Manor. Make checks payable to Hands of Friendship. Thank you.

Debbie Claassen is planning to participate in the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale 5K Run on April 12. If you would like to sponsor her and help raise money for Mennonite Central Committee, please give donations to her by April 11. Checks should be made to KMRS and labeled "Run for Relief" on the memo.

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: Jackie Moore and Rachelle Claassen

Nursery Next Sunday: Tammy Regehr and Jane Washburn

Ushers Next Sunday: Doug Hiebert and Russell Janzen

Offering Last Sunday: Camp Mennoscah \$1,592.00

Offering Next Sunday: Local Church

Church Events

This afternoon at 2:30 p.m. The Women's Book Study will meet in the church library.

Wednesday 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Junior Dept. Programming
7:00 p.m. Youth Programming
7:00 p.m. Adult Study with Pastor Peter
7:00 p.m. Adult Choir

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

Friday and Saturday Mennonite Relief Sale at the State Fairgrounds in Hutchinson. The sale begins on Friday at 4:00 p.m. and continues through Saturday afternoon. For more information visit the website www.kansas.mccsale.org or like them on Facebook! **Please have all items that need to be taken to the sale to the church by 10:00 a.m. on Friday morning.** If anyone has non-baked items that need to be taken to the sale, please let Ed & Marge Harms or Kim & Debbie Claassen know. See you at the sale!!

Monday, April 14 at 1:30 p.m. Hands of Friendship will be meeting in the church basement for a Work Day – tie comfort and cut quilt blocks. Offering: Hands of Friendship treasury.

April 18 & 19 Help needed at church on Friday afternoon April 18 and Saturday April 19. We will be working on some bad spots on the roof and on the sidewalks for the shelter house, if the weather cooperates. Talk to K. John Klaassen for more info.

Wednesday, April 23 at 6:30 p.m. All church bowling party at Play-Mor Lanes in Newton! Mark your calendars for a fun evening!!

May 4 High School Graduation Sunday – reception during the S.S. hour.

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday: Next Sunday all children (high school age and younger) are invited to enhance our worship service through waving and bringing palm branches down to the front of the sanctuary. If you plan to be here next Sunday, please come at 9:20 a.m. so that Pastor Katherine can meet you in the foyer to give you instructions for the service. Thanks!

Palm Sunday Evening: All are invited to a Palm Sunday Evening combined worship service for Zion and Grace Hill at 7:00 p.m. on April 13 at Grace Hill Mennonite Church. Pastor Katherine will lead us in reflecting on how Palm Sunday helps us see the significance of Good Friday, in addition to music, Scripture selections, and viewing a theatrical rendition of Palm Sunday. Refreshments will follow.

Maundy Thursday, April 17 at 7:00 p.m. All are invited to a combined Zion/Grace Hill Maundy Thursday worship service at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 17 at Zion Mennonite Church. Following a reading of the passion narrative and interpretation of several artistic renditions of it, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper together.

Easter Sunday Morning (April 20) at 6:40 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service at Grace Hill. Breakfast will be served following the service.

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

Et Cetera

The second film in the KIPCOR spring film series is the 85-minute documentary *Climate Refugees*, about “the human face of climate change”; April 6 at 3 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium, Bethel College; talk-back session with Jon Piper, professor of biology, following.

Would you like to see Mennonite Disaster Service stories shared with the next generation? Join us for an evening of listening to MDS stories being shared by Paul Unruh on April 10 at 7:00 p.m. in the Northlawn Theater on the Hesston College Campus. We'd like an audience mixture of both students and adults. This is part of a joint project between Hesston College and MDS to get some stories on video. The seating is very limited. Please contact Becky Koller at 620-345-8320 or 620-386-0010 if you would like to be a part of this project.

The Community Playschool has its Annual Meeting at 7 p.m., Monday, April 14, in Room 14 of the Bethel College Mennonite Church. Our church is a sponsor and supporter of the Playschool.

Bethel College and the Kansas Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution will sponsor a Peace Lecture by Palwasha L. Kakar, winner of Bethel's 2014 Young Alumnus Award, Monday, April 14 at 7:30 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in the Fine Arts Center at Bethel College.

Great Plains Extension early registration deadline is April 14 for summer courses! Sign up now online for credit option at AMBS: *Biblical Spirituality* (GP:BIB509), meets six weeks, Tuesday evenings, May 27-July 1 or *Conflict, Communication and Conciliation* (GP:CHM633) which meets June 10-13, 8:30 - 5:00 each day. For audit (non-credit), call the GP office at 316-283-7098 for information.

Choral Concert at Hutchinson Correctional Facility You are invited to a choral performance at the Central Unit of the Hutchinson Correctional Facility. The choir will present a varied program of sacred music, folk songs and spirituals on April 19 at 7:30 p.m. The chorus is comprised of HCF inmates and volunteer singers from the surrounding area. This concert is one of several educational and artistic components comprising the Prison Arts Project of Offender/Victim Ministries. Please contact the OVM office (316-283-2038 or email--ovm.ks@sbcglobal.net) to submit your name for admission purposes by noon on Monday, April 14. Children under 18 are not permitted in the facility.

Next Year of the Bible Event: A Webinar will be hosted at the AMBS-Great Plains classroom (2500 Place, North Newton) on Wednesday, April 30 from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. The topic is "*Understanding Anabaptist Approaches to Scripture: What's Different and Why?*" with Loren Johns, Professor of New Testament at AMBS-Elkhart. No pre-registration required but a fee of \$25 must be paid in cash or check to "AMBS-GP", memo line "Webinar - Scripture" at webinar. Simply show up, listen, and join others in a follow-up discussion. Contact Marlene Bogard (mbogard@mennowdc.org or 316-283-6300) for information.

Kitchen Staff Needed! Camp Mennoscah is on the hunt for those folks who know the difference between apple and core, potato and peeling, peanut butter and jelly. We are looking for kitchen helpers for most of our summer camp weeks except for First Camp. The infamous free camp tee shirt is part of the deal, as well as jubilant campers, swimming, and great times with great folks. Parents can receive a camper discount. Contact us at campmno@mennowdc.org or 620-297-3290.

MCC Central States is currently recruiting for a "Young Adult Program Coordinator" position. This is a full-time position, working with the young adult programs for Central States, as well as leadership development. The location is open within the Central States region, with a preference for an urban setting. Persons who are interested can send a letter of intent and resume to Melissa Waltner (melissawaltner@mcc.org). You can view the job description at <http://serve.mcc.org/positions/young-adult-program-coordinator-cs>.

In response to calls from across the church, Ervin Stutzman, executive director of Mennonite Church USA, and Sara Wenger Shenk, president of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Ind., convened a discernment group to continue healing and reconciliation work in the wake of John Howard Yoder's abuse of women and of ongoing questions about how the church responded to it. They said in an earlier release, "We hope this work will lead to churchwide resolve to enter into lament, repentance and restoration for victims of sexual abuse by other perpetrators as well." Read more about the work of the discernment group, find answers to FAQs, and access a list of resources to help prevent sexual abuse in your own congregation at www.mennoniteusa.org/executive-board/transformativ-peacemaking/a-way-forward/.

The Comforter Blitz committee wants to extend a hearty "thank you" to the ladies who came to the Comforter Blitz to help us complete 169 comforters for MCC. There were 300 ladies who helped during the 2 days. The country of Jordan has requested 20,000 comforters because Syrian refugees are crossing into their country. The dates for the Blitz next year will be March 9-10, 2015 and the location will again be Journey Mennonite at Yoder. You might want to begin now making comforter tops for next year. MCC's preferred size is 60" by 80". The backing should be 4" larger all the way around.