

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

April 8, 2012

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: Peter Goerzen

Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Song Leader: Penny Hiebert

Worship Leader: Pastor Peter

Musicians: Cynthia Goerzen, David Janzen, Peter Goerzen

Easter Sunday

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 give thanks to the Lord who is good;
whose steadfast love endures forever!

**Many: The Lord is our strength and our might,
and has become our salvation**

One: The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone

**Many: This is the Lord's doing;
and it is marvelous in our eyes!**

One: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Many: Alleluia! Christ is risen indeed!

Gathering Prayer

* **Gathering Hymn No. 280** *Christ the Lord is risen today*

Offering Our Gifts Local Church Missions

Hearing God's Story

New Testament Reading Acts 10: 34-43

Roberta Harms

Drama

* **Hymn No. 273** *Low in the grave he lay*

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

Gospel Reading Mark 16: 1-8

Pastor Peter

Sermon *A new beginning*

Pastor Peter

Responding to God's Story

* **Hymn of Response No. 275** *Lift your glad voices*

Time of Silent Reflection

The Scripture from Acts proclaims that "We are all witnesses."

*How will I witness to Christ's resurrection to those
around me this week?*

*How will I spread the good news of the Easter message
in the weeks to come?*

Sharing Our Stories and Congregational Prayer

Sending

* **Sending Hymn No. 285** *All hail the power of Jesus' name*

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

The rosebud this morning is in honor of Sophia Grace Goerzen born to Pastors Peter and Katherine on Friday, March 30, 2012. We rejoice with Peter and Katherine at her birth and praise God for this precious new life!

Western District Conference: Pray for Clarence Rempel, Conference Minister, Diana Schunn, Moderator-Elect, and Jacob Castro who will be participating in the Constituency Leaders Council of Mennonite Church USA in Goshen, Indiana, April 12-15.

Mennonite Mission Network: MMN requests prayer for the three Mennonite congregations in Paris, France, as they seek to discern, by next Sunday, whether God is calling them to collaborate in youth ministry by inviting a North American mission couple. Pray for authentic listening to God's voice and for patience with the process.

Announcements

Debbie Claassen is planning to run in the MCC Sale "Run for Relief" on April 14. If you would like to sponsor her and help raise funds for MCC, please see her. Checks can be made out to Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale. Thanks!

Youth Group - MCC Sale: Due to busy schedules and sports practice, the Youth Group will NOT go to the MCC Sale as a group this year.

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: Tammy Regehr and Amanda Regehr

Nursery Next Sunday: Ashley Enns and Emma Hilgenfeld

Ushers Next Sunday: Mike Balzer and Kendall Claassen

Keyboard Next Sunday: Jordan Ortman

Special Music Next Sunday: Adult Choir

Offering Last Sunday: Mennonite Church USA \$1,155.00

Offering Next Sunday: Western District Conference

Church Events

Monday at 7:00 p.m. Hands of Friendship meet at church. Program: Work day at church, election of Hands of Friendship; Hostess & Devotions: Agnes Harder; Financial Project: Hands of Friendship Treasury.

Wednesday **7:00 – 8:00 p.m.** Junior Dept. Programming
 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Youth Programming
 7:00 p.m. Adult Choir
 7:00 p.m. Adult Book Study with Pastor Peter

Friday and Saturday Kansas MCC Relief Sale is next weekend – April 13 and 14. If you have baked goods or other items which you would like to have delivered to the sale, have them at church by 10:00 a.m. on Friday, April 13 or 8:00 a.m. Saturday, April 14. For those in Newton, items can be dropped off at Ed and Marge Harms' by the same times. Contact John/Miriam Claassen (799-2555) or Ed/Marge Harms (283-4314). Go to www.kansas.mccsale.org and learn more about the activities and auction items at this year's sale.

Next Sunday Holy Humor Sunday: Traditionally, the Sunday after Easter is observed as "Holy Humor Sunday" within the worldwide church, because we know that through the power of the resurrection, it is God who has the last laugh. This is a tradition that goes back to our early church fathers and mothers, known as the "Risus paschalis" or, "the Easter laugh." On Sunday, April 15, all are invited to celebrate the joy of the resurrection and our new life in Christ through our "Holy Humor" worship service. As part of the celebration, everyone is invited to wear your brightest colored clothing as a sign of our joy in Christ. "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." (Romans 15:13)

April 22 Bethel College Sunday

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.)

April 29 at noon Fundraiser Meal for Social Council

May 6 after worship High School Graduate Reception

Et Cetera

Chelsea Vaught will be presenting her doctoral lecture-recital on Monday, April 9 at 7:30 p.m. at Bales Recital Hall (on the KU campus). Her topic is "The Influence of Gospel Music in Selected Works from William Bolcom's *Gospel Preludes*" The first half will be a lecture on gospel music and its connection to the pieces by Bolcom which will be played in the second half of the program. This is Chelsea's final requirement for her Doctor of Musical Arts degree! Everyone is invited to attend!

The Community Playschool has its Annual Meeting at 7.30 p.m., Monday, April 9, in Room 14 of the Bethel College Mennonite Church. Our church is a sponsor and supporter of the Playschool.

Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus Concerts are April 15 at 7:00 p.m. at Memorial Hall, Bethel College, North Newton and April 22 at 7:00 p.m. at Presser Hall, Bethany College, Lindsborg. Praising God in glorious sound... 300-plus Christian men singing from a wide selection of choral literature. Free will offerings are taken at the concerts to help alleviate worldwide poverty and hunger through Mennonite Central Committee.

Andrew Voth will give his senior cello recital on Saturday, April 21 at 7:00 p.m. in the Administration Building Chapel at Bethel College.

An urgent need with regard to our annual WDC Assembly, to be held at Oklahoma City on July 6-8 is for child care leaders for infants and preschool and children's activities leader for grade K through grade 6. Contact Marlene Bogard at WDC immediately if you or someone you know may be interested. These positions are considered voluntary, but expenses for the weekend will be covered.

Camp scholarships - We know many churches give scholarships to their youth to go to Camp Mennoscah. But we have many more youth who do not receive church scholarships and need a small boost to help them make it to camp. We're looking for those folks who'd like to help make it possible for others to come to Camp Mennoscah for our summer youth camps. Maybe all your kids have headed off to college or you'd just like to share the wonderful times you had at camp with someone else. Checks can be sent to Camp Mennoscah marked "scholarship." Contact us at 620-297-3290 if you would like more information.

Read the March 2012 report about the work of the WDC Human Sexuality Discernment Task Force at: <http://mennowdc.org/conference-life/ministries/task-forces/>.