

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

April 11, 2010

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: Peter Goerzen

Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Keyboard: Debbie Claassen and Pastor Katherine

Chorister: Andrew Voth

Worship Leader: Marianne Eichelberger

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.

* Call to Worship (based upon Psalm 118: 14-29)

One: The Lord is my strength and my might; God has become my salvation!

Many: I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord!

One: Open to me the gates of righteousness,

Many: We will enter through them and give thanks to the Lord!

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

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

One: O give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good. God's steadfast love endures forever!

All: This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it!

* Gathering Prayer

* Gathering Hymn No. 37 *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

Offering Local Church Missions

Special Music *My Lord, what a Mornin'*

Adult Choir

Hearing God's Word

Gospel Reading John 20:19-31

Kris Goossen

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

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

New Testament Reading Acts 5:27-32

Kris Goossen

Sermon *Resurrection Witnesses*

Pastor Peter

Responding

* Hymn No. 163 *Obey my voice*

Affirmation of Faith No. 833 Micah 4:1-4

Sharing our Stories Jean Isaac

Lighting the Peace Candle and Prayers of the People

Passing the Peace

The first words from the lips of the resurrected Jesus to the women and men who were his friends were words of deep comfort, grace, and love: "Peace be with you." In a world where peace is sometimes in short supply, it would be reassuring to hear those words more often and see them in action. You are invited to stand and greet those around you with the same blessing that Jesus used: "Peace be with you."

Sending

* **Sending Hymn No. 544** *When we walk with the Lord* vs. 1, 3 & 4

* **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.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES BEGIN AT 10:45 A.M.
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

For Sharing and Prayer

Western District Conference: Give thanks for pastors who answer the call to be Interim Pastors when there is a leadership transition in a congregation. Currently serving as Interim Pastor are Harold Thieszen (Bethel/Inman in Visitation), Lee Suderman (Hoffnungsau), June Thomsen (First Mennonite/Hutchinson), Gordon Scoville (First Mennonite/Newton), Gail Cross (First Mennonite/Beatrice), Charles Rickel (Bethel/Hydro), Peter Emery (Turpin/OK), Ruth Penner (Manhattan/KS), Franklin Krause (Beatrice/NE), John Otto (Deer Creek/OK).

Mennonite Mission Network: More than 120 teens from 12 different Miami churches will gather in central Florida for a spring break Christian camp experience. Pray that their hearts may be open to Jesus. Remember also the Dwell participants of the Miami DOOR program who will be camp counselors.

Resurrection Stories from Around the World

Provided by MCC and Ten Thousand Villages:

A shy girl becomes a leader—a story from the West Bank

Ayat, 15, came to Shoroq wa-Amal (Sunrise and hope) summer camp interested in leadership but shy, lonely, and uncomfortable working on a team. She often acted aggressively during discussions with other teens, and she was confused about the pressure she felt to develop political allegiances. Ayat joined a group of nine teenagers who completed leadership development training. She developed her leadership skills and helped the camp by leading a team of 50 girls, coordinating the involvement of 45 mothers in camp activities, and moderated 5 workshops. Today, Ayat is very social. She debates instead of argues. She knows that it's too soon for her to have political affiliation. This winter she initiated a special effort to support hospitalized Gaza children healing from injuries suffered during the recent war.

Church Events

Monday at 7:00 p.m. Hands of Friendship meet at church. Program: "Button, Button who has the Button?" Come and find out about the history of buttons. Linda Claassen Jones, Newton, will show her collection of buttons. Devotions: Katherine Goerzen; Hostess: Elfrieda Schmidt and Elva Unruh; Financial Project: Hands of Friendship Treasury. Come and bring your friends, all women are invited.

Wednesday 7:00 – 8:15 p.m. Children's and Youth Programming
7:00 – 7:40 p.m. Adult Choir
7:45 – 8:15 p.m. Adult Bible Study with Pastor Peter

Thursday at 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast at Whitewater Café.

Thursday at 6:00 p.m. Worship Council meets at church.

April 14 – 20 Grace Hill/Zion week at the Harvey County Homeless Shelter. See the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board to volunteer or help with meals on April 14, 16, 18 or 20.

Friday and Saturday Mennonite Relief Sale in Hutchinson begins at 4:00 p.m. on Friday and continues through Saturday afternoon – for more information see the booklets, etc. that are on the table in the foyer.

Youth: MCC Sale: Saturday, April 17 we will go to the MCC Sale to help with New Year's Cookies and help sell cherry moos. Following lunch, we will have a video scavenger hunt on the grounds. We will plan to leave by 7:45 a.m. from the church building to arrive in Hutchinson by 9 to begin our shift.

Next Sunday, April 18 Bethel College Sunday - Our church members who are currently attending Bethel will be involved in the service. The Women's Chorus and the Cello Quartet will be providing music. There will be a joint Sunday School option for those interested. Patty Shelly, professor of Bible and Religion, will be speaking on "Music in the Bible". **We plan to enjoy a pot luck dinner following Sunday School.** Please consider bringing extra food for visitors. THANKS!



Wednesday, April 28 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. All Church Skating Party at Starlight Skate Center, 130 E. 3rd, Newton. Cost is \$2.50 per person. Skates are provided or you can bring your own, rollerblades are allowed. Everyone is welcome and bring your friends.

Announcements

There will be no blood pressure checks this morning.

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 Brittany Claassen
Ushers Next Sunday: Mike Balzer and Kendall Claassen

Offering Last Sunday: Mennonite Church USA \$1,822.00
Offering Next Sunday: Offender Victim Ministries

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

Youth Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

E-mail: youthpastor@gracehillmc.org

Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen

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

Et Cetera

Community Playschool Annual Meeting will be April 12 at 7:30 p.m. at the Bethel College Mennonite Church Room 14. Our church is a sponsor and supporter of the Playschool and its mission to the Newton area community.

Harvey County Homeless Shelter Following is the schedule of Volunteer Training Sessions scheduled for April: Wednesday, April 14 at 10:00 a.m.; Monday, April 19 at 6:30 p.m. See Donna Balzer if you have questions.

Reasons you should attend the Men & Boys Retreat at Camp Mennoscah, April 23-25: -For boys, sleeping in the tent with dad for the first time...how fun is that? -For dads, starting traditions that your boys will always remember. -You only need one change of clothes, and showers and toothbrushes are optional. Contact Brent Voran for details or a poster: bcvoran@cox.net or 316-284-2657. Sponsored by the Mennonite Men of the Plains. See poster on bulletin board.

The Bethel College Women's Association is sponsoring "Celebrate Women" on April 24. The theme is "Once Upon a Time: Women Share Fairy Tales, Enchanted and Otherwise". Five women will be telling about what they have found meaningful in their lives and relating their tale to a fairy tale. Each of the speakers is paired with an artist who will illustrate the story. Brochures with more information are available in the foyer. Plan a women's day out with a friend or two on April 24.

Summer seminary courses in June and August. May 25 to June 12, take Reading Genesis, taught by Patricia Shelly, Ph.D. August 3-21, study the Gospel of John with Jerry Truex, Ph.D. Check out these and other courses for credit or audit, at Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary-Great Plains Extension, North Newton, at www.ambs.edu/GreatPlains. Register for the May-June class by May 11; for the August class by July 13. For more information, contact Lois Barrett, Director, AMBS-Great Plains, PO Box 306, North Newton, KS 67117; phone 316-283-7098; email: lbarrett@ambs.edu.

Camp Mennoscah: We have the place for you! We have some summer weekends that are available for you and all your fun-loving cohorts - be that family, friends, or church groups. Visit us for reunions, relaxation, spiritual retreats, or just old-fashioned fun. Some dates are available for annual reservations, some are this year only. Call now for the best choice of weekends! **Two more retreats!** We have two more retreats this spring and we'd love to have you join us. The Retirees' Retreat for all those retired, thinking of retiring, or retiring someday is April 26-28. Our theme is "Seniors on the Go" and the retreat features a trip to Pretty Prairie for dinner and a movie at the renovated Civic Theater. And, everyone needs a little joy, which is why our JOY (Just fOr You) Retreat for those with special needs and friends & family will be held May 23-24. It's two days filled with new friends, lots of God's creation, and activities - focused on the theme of JOY-ful Living. Brochures can be found in the Coming Events section at www.mennowdc.org. **The summer has never looked so good!** Our summer youth camps begin June 6 and we're on the edge of our seat waiting to hear from you. We're going to "Be Heroes: Living Like Jesus" this summer and the days will be filled with some of the most stunning activities and amazing stuff you've ever seen. Find our catalog with registration information at www.mennowdc.org/Camp.html. For more information on any of the above, contact us at campmno@mennowdc.org or 620-297-3290.

Worship Questionnaire

Name (optional)

1) This summer, there will be a Worship Series on "Difficult Passages of the Bible." Passages will be chosen from your suggestions for sermon and congregational reflection. What Bible passages have you found difficult or troubling, and why?

2) What other topics, series, or passages would you find meaningful in the future?

3) What are favorite songs or hymns that you would like to sing during worship?

4) What other ideas/suggestions do you have for worship?

Please return this insert to the pastors by May 2. Thank you for adding your input to our worship!