

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

May 1, 2011

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: Peter Goerzen

Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Chorister: Gladys Reimer

Worship Leader: Pastor Peter

Musicians: Curtis Toews, Tim Schmidt, Caleb Regehr, David Janzen

Gather to Worship

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.

Choral Introit *My Song Goes On* Remington Singers
For the Beauty of the Earth

Call to Worship from Psalm 16

One: Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge. I say to the Lord:

Many: "You are my Lord; apart from you I have no good thing."

One: Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup; you make my lot secure.

Many: I will praise the Lord who counsels me; even at night my heart instructs me.

One: I keep my eyes always on the Lord. With God at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

Many: Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure,

One: You will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, you will not let your faithful one see the decay.

Many: You make known to me the path of life; you fill me with joy in your presence.

Gathering Prayer

* **Gathering Hymn No. 640** *This is a day of new beginnings*

Offering our Gifts Mennonite Church USA

Hear God's Word

Special Music *Let There Be Peace On Earth* Singer Women
Swingin' with the Saints Remington Singers

New Testament Reading Acts 2:14a, 22-32 Doreen Harms

* **Hymn No. 116** *Crown him with many crowns* verses 1, 3, 4 & 5

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

Monologue *Thomas* Jeff Toews

Gospel Reading John 20:19-31 Pastor Katherine

Sermon Pastor Katherine

Turn to Jesus ...

* **Hymn of Response No. 570** *We walk by faith*

Affirmation of Faith

One: The risen Jesus stands among us,

**Many: the marks of the nails plain on his hands,
the words of peace clear on his lips.**

One: We turn to Jesus

Many: and our doubts give birth to faith.

Sharing Our Stories and Congregational Prayer

...Go with the Spirit

* **Sending Hymn No. 338** *I know not why God's wondrous*

* Benediction

One: You have turned from fear to the risen Jesus.

Though you have not seen him, believe.

All: We go with the Spirit, receiving the outcome of our faith – new birth into a living hope.

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!**

This morning we welcome the Remington High School Singers. Their director is Kathleen Pool. The Singers are Rachelle Hanna, Mandy McNeill, Quin Tillotson, Chelsea Coats, Addie Mosiman, Melinda Regehr, Becca Macy, Ellen Mosiman, Katrina Carey, Rose Dollarhide, Eric Toevs, Cole Claassen, David Janzen, Kyle Regier, Will Johnson, Cisco Soto, Josiah Carey, Caleb Entz, Kale Zonnefeld and Robert DeBaun.

For Sharing and Prayer

Western District Conference: Pray that God would call together the right mix of people for the church planting consultation in Oklahoma City on May 27-28. Pray for our session leaders – Gilberto Flores, Wilbert Sherk and Conrad Kanagy – in their preparations.

Church Events

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. The Youth Group will continue to meet on Wednesday nights at 7 until further notice.

Next Sunday, May 8 there will be a reception for high school graduates during the Sunday School hour, refreshments will be served. Sunday School classes will not meet.

June 13-17 Community Bible School at Remington Middle School from 8:30–11:30 a.m. For grades pre-k to coming out of 6th grade.

September 3 and 4, 2011 200th Anniversary Celebration

Announcements

The 200th Anniversary “Home Coming” Celebration Committee is looking for photographs of early members of the church 1872 -1920 to be used in production of a multi-media presentation at the celebration. Pictures of weddings, pictures of great-great grandparents, great and grandparents, farm activity pictures like threshing, haying, horse and buggy pictures and social events and church activities. The older the picture the better. So dig out those old albums and picture boxes and bring them to Virgil. Please put your name on them so we can return them to you after we have used them.

Just a reminder that May 15th is coming. The 200th Anniversary “Home Coming” Committee will need your invitation list turned in on that Sunday. If you have questions about this request see Virgil.

Every year, the Whitewater Ministerial Alliance sponsors children's activities at the Whitewater Fall Fest. If you are interested in helping with this event, see Pastor Peter.

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: Kris Goossen and Renata Goossen

Nursery Next Sunday: Debbie Claassen and Samantha Claassen

Preaching Next Sunday: Pastor Peter

Keyboard Next Sunday: Linda Harms

Ushers Next Sunday: Doug Hiebert and Russell Janzen

Offering Last Sunday: Western District Conference \$1,121.00

Offering Next Sunday: Local Church

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

Camp Mennoch sing-along event will take place this evening from 6:30-8:00 pm at Memorial Hall, Bethel College. Former camp song leaders (Nathan Stucky, Rachel Dirks, Blakely Bunning, Aaron Dyck, Jesse Graber and Doug Krehbiel) will lead us in singing favorite camp songs. This event is for everyone including grandparents, children, youth groups, and families. A free-will offering will take place at the event with proceeds going toward the new swimming pool at camp. Churches and youth groups are invited to pool their contributions and bring their total gift to this event. Camp-style popcorn and generic pop will be offered following the event. Hope to see you there!

The Bethel College Alumni Association invites alumni and friends to its annual banquet on May 21 at 6:00 p.m. in Memorial Hall. Alumni awards will be presented to John and Reinhild Janzen, Laurel Preheim and Verda Deckert. Cost is \$18.50 if paying by May 6, \$20 May 9-11. Contact Thresher Bookstore in Schultz Student Center at 316-284-5205. Reservation deadline is May 11.

“One of our essential tasks as Western District is to network Anabaptist church planting partnerships because multiplying churches is the social center of God’s redemptive plan for the world. ...conferences need to plant new churches equal to 3% of their existing congregations in order to maintain the status quo. For us that would mean two new churches per year, more than double of what has happened in the past decade.” --Clarence Rempel, WDC Conference Minister. Any WDC member may attend Breaking New Ground – A Church Planting Consultation – May 27-28, Oklahoma City, OK. Register by May 12 – for more information see: http://www.mennowdc.org/Church_Planting_Consultation_05_2011.pdf.

Making Camp Mennoch better! The Retreat Commission has been working hard at making Camp Mennoch better and safer for everyone. Part of this work has been reviewing policies—and we’ll continue to review and rework policies. One change is to have two counselors in a cabin. While this year will be a transitory year, we are looking for more counselors. Following American Camping Association guidelines, we are allowing one counselor in a cabin to be 17 (the other will be 18 or older) for certain age groups. If you would be interested in joining our counseling crew, contact us at campmno@mennowdc.org or 620-297-3290.

History Blurb #17
PROBLEMS AND UNREST

Again the promise of religious freedom failed. The government pressed for money and soldiers. In 1874 the Russian government withdrew military exemption privileges. The government also insisted on russification. Already in 1872 Mennonites in Russia were concerned about the future and a 12-man team was formed to visit North America to find good settlement possibilities. The delegates left in small clusters between February and April 1873 and met in North America.

The team was made up of 2 reps each for Bergthal colony, the Kleine Gemeinde, the Hutterites, and the main body of Kirchliche Mennonites. In addition a wealthy farmer Cornelius Buhr went on his own. Tobias Unruh of Karlsruwalde represented the East Volhynians, including Michalin; William Ewert of Danzig represented Polish/Prussian Mennonites.

They investigated Canada and also several states. The railroads had agents who often traveled with them, competing with each other to make deals. C. B. Schmidt who could speak German represented the Santa Fe RR and the delegates trusted him most! Kansas had the most votes.

Elder G. N. Harms wrote for Grace Hill's 50th anniversary that in the US, Mennonites prepared for the migration by forming the Mennonite Board of Guardians in Indiana/Illinois and in Pennsylvania they formed the Mennonite Executive Aid Committee, to lend help and money.

Outreach Tip: Let them know they're loved. Follow-up with guests and visitors to church activities or Sunday School gatherings.