

# GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

May 3, 2015

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Musician: Tara Harms-Becker

Transition Pastor: Randy Smith

Whitewater, Kansas

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Song Leader: Matthew Graber

Transition Pastor: Randy Smith

## **EXTENDING THE TABLE: Spontaneous Hospitality**

Gathering Music Tara Harms-Becker  
Welcome and Announcements Randy Smith  
Prelude to Worship

\*Sung Call to Worship Sing the Story 60  
*Come to me, come to us*  
\*Spoken Call to Worship John 15:4-8

Jesus said, "Abide in me as I abide in you."  
**Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself  
unless it abides in the vine,  
neither can we, unless we abide in Christ.**

Jesus said, "I am the vine, you are the branches."  
**Those who abide in Christ and Christ in them bear much fruit,  
because apart from him, we can do nothing.**

Jesus said, "If you abide in me, and my words abide in you,  
ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you."

**The Father is glorified by this,  
that we bear much fruit,  
and that we become Christ's disciples.**

\*For the fruit of all creation Hymnal 90  
Praise Anthem Choir  
*O, all Ye Nations*  
Prayer  
Affirmation of Faith I John 4:7-13

Dear friends, let us love one another.

**Love comes from God.  
Everyone who loves has been born of God  
and knows God.  
Whoever does not love does not know God,  
because God is love.**

This is how God showed his love among us:  
**God sent his one and only Son into the world  
that we might live through him.**

This is love:

**Not that we loved God, but that God loved us.  
God sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.**

Dear friends, since God so loved us,

**We also ought to love one another.  
No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another,  
God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.**

This is how we know that we live in God and God in us:

**God has given us of his Spirit.**

Prayer for Peace Choir  
Offering

Faith Story: Because of you . . . Josh Patterson  
Children's Story  
*Children to age 5 may be dismissed to the library for child care*  
Scripture Lesson Gladys Reimer  
Luke 9:10-17

Sermon  
*Spontaneous Hospitality: Taking Time*  
\*Help us to help each other Hymnal 362

Sharing and Prayer  
\*Move in our midst Hymnal 418  
\*Benediction

**Hospitality is outreaching.** Hospitality is when we open our lives to others, welcoming them with sensitivity and respect, so that they might find a place of comfort and belonging with us. We do this because this is what Jesus does for us. Outreaching hospitality is a vital ministry for a healthy congregation. The worship theme for the next four Sundays is, "Extending the Table".

May 10 *Risky Hospitality*  
May 17 *Contagious Hospitality*  
May 24 *Holy Hospitality*

**Who made time for you?** Who has been someone in your life who has made time for you and made a difference in you, or someone who made time for others? If you would be willing to share briefly of this someone through a "Faith Story: Because of you . . ." please let Randy know.

**Thank you** Levi Goossen, Roberta Harms, Tara Harms-Becker, and Bonita Schroeder for offering dramatic expression of the Bible story for the children.

This morning's offering is designated for Mennonite Church USA.

\*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**

**Western District Conference:** Pray for Conference Minister Clarence Rempel who is meeting with racial/ethnic pastors and churches in Texas this weekend.

**Mennonite Mission Network:** The deadline to apply for Mennonite Mission Network's Mennonite Voluntary Service program is May 31. Pray that those whom God is calling to live out their faith will respond affirmatively.

#### **Church Family News**

. . . **Brittany Claassen** and **Jared Burns** were married yesterday at Grace Hill. Congratulations to the couple and their families . . . **Donna Balzer** has been selected as the new chair of the board for the homeless shelter . . . **Natalie** and **David Sollo** will celebrate the marriage of their son, **Jeffrey** to **Allison Baughman** on May 16 . . . **Samantha Claassen** has been selected to be the Student Commencement Speaker for the College of Human Ecology at Kansas State University. Graduation is May 16.

**Pastor Search Committee** will be sending out a worksheet to be completed by everyone in the congregation. It is designed to identify both the perceived needs and expectations of our congregation and what we think our priorities are in selecting a pastor. It will be available next Sunday, May 10, and they need to be completed and returned by May 24.

## **Church Events**

**Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.** Administrative Council meets.

**Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.** Structure Task Force will meet.

**Next Sunday during the Sunday school hour** High School Graduation Reception for Paul Goossen in the fellowship hall. Everyone is invited to stay to congratulate Paul. There will be no Sunday School classes that morning.

**Next Sunday - Chapels** at Kidron-Bethel (3:30 p.m.) and Wheat State Manor (5:00 p.m.) will be led by Randy. Kaye Penner will accompany at Kidron-Bethel and Debbie Claassen at Wheat State Manor. Anyone else who wants to help let Randy know. All are welcome to attend.

## **Announcements**

**Whitewater Community Bible School** will be held June 1-5 in Whitewater. The following supplies are needed: plastic or glass jars (qt. size or smaller), paper towel tubes, clothes pins, old tee shirts (any size), yarn, plastic beads, sea shells, neck ties. If you have any of these items and would like to donate them to the Bible School, please give them to Theresa Toews.

**The Whitewater & Potwin Food Pantries** are 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:** Kris Goossen and Renata Goossen

**Nursery Next Sunday:** Lisa Harms and Bethany Regehr

**Ushers Next Sunday:** Doug Hiebert and Russell Janzen

**Offering Last Sunday:** Western District Conference \$1,560.00

**Offering Next Sunday:** Local Church

## Et Cetera

**The Western District Conference Executive Board** is pleased to announce the appointment of **Heidi Regier Kreider** as the new Conference Minister. They believe that her spiritual maturity, her character, her administrative abilities, and her love for the church in all its variety equip her for leading WDC at this time in our history. She will begin her service as conference minister on August 17. Heidi is in her 15<sup>th</sup> year of ministry as lead pastor of Bethel College Mennonite Church, North Newton. Prior to this, she served for nine years as pastor of Emmanuel Mennonite Church in Gainesville, FL. Heidi is married to David Kreider, who is employed at Kauffman Museum, North Newton. Her son Ben is a student at Bethel College; her son Mark is at Goshen College.

**Remembering Our Mennonite Mothers** - Are you a daughter, mother, or grandmother with family ties to the Mennonite Church? Join us for a pre-Mother's Day time of sharing on Sunday, May 3, 2:00-3:30 pm, at Salina Mennonite Church, 600 State St, Salina. Author and editor Rachel Epp Buller will lead a discussion based on her recent book, *Mothering Mennonite*. Writers in the book share how their Mennonite mothers and grandmothers imparted religious and cultural traditions, even as some of them strained against boundaries. You will be invited to reflect on how the roles of daughters, mothers, and grandmothers in your life have informed, been shaped by, or even been at odds with your Mennonite roots.

**Annual Masterworks Concert** with Bethel College choirs, Oratorio Chorus and Philharmonia Orchestra, Brahms' *A German Requiem*, May 3 at 3 p.m., Memorial Hall (ticket purchase required; available at the door).

**Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus Concerts:** **May 3** at 7:00 p.m. at Bethany College Presser Hall, Lindsborg. **July 3** at 7:00 p.m. at Mennonite Church USA Convention, Kansas City, Missouri.

**Concert by Woven, Bethel College a cappella women's ensemble, May 8 at 7 p.m.,** Memorial Hall. Woven members: Lisa Goering, Karina Ortman, Michelle Peachey, Erin Regier, Alli Rudeen, Abby Schrag, Jill Siebert, Georgia Thiesen and Michelle Unruh.

**Concert by Open Road, Bethel College a cappella men's ensemble, May 10 at 7 p.m.,** Memorial Hall. Open Road members: Josh Booth, Leland Brown III, Matthew Graber, Riley King, Ben Kreider, Tim Regier, Tyler Shima, Chase Stucky and Braden Unruh.

**Kidron Bethel Peace Garden** dedication party, will be Thursday, May 14 at 3:30 p.m. at main entrance, 3001 Ivy Drive, North Newton. Music, dedication ceremony, exploring the garden. Come experience this intergenerational, community gathering space!

**Thank You to everyone who helped make the 47th Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale a huge success!** You are all invited to celebrate this success at the KMRS annual meeting scheduled for Thursday, May 21, 6:30 pm at Buhler Mennonite Church, 220 West Avenue B, Buhler. The meal is \$12 a plate and you will pay at the door. Please RSVP to Mike & Kathy Balzer or Kim & Debbie Claassen by May 7. Or, contact Barb Reeves at 620-543-6863 or [bj.reeves@live.com](mailto:bj.reeves@live.com)

**Bring a Friend** - Summer youth camps are getting closer and closer! We're horribly excited and can't wait to see all of you again. But we want to see new folks, too! So, if you are a returning camper, invite someone who hasn't been to camp again to come with you to camp. You'll both get a free camp tee shirt! Questions about this fun program? Contact us at 620-297-3290.

**Camp Mennoscah has free tee shirts** and camper discounts for kitchen helpers! It's unbelievable, but we are offering a free camp tee shirt for folks who volunteer in the kitchen during our summer youth camps. Kitchen helpers are needed for June 7-13, June 29-July 2 (rental group), July 19-25, and July 26-31. Camper discounts up to full camp fees are available for a limited number of volunteers. Call 620-297-3290 to sign up for your free camp tee and a week of fun!

**Anabaptist Faith Formation Launch: Learn, Grow, Serve, Repeat:** WDC will host a Faith Formation Launch on June 12-13 on the Bethel College campus in North Newton. This event will kick off a focus on faith formation for Anabaptist congregations. This launch will provide practical, meaningful ways for congregations to build on the good faith formation that is already taking place. More information and registration can be found at [www.mennowdc.org](http://www.mennowdc.org).

**The Women and Girls Retreat** will be September 11-13 at Camp Mennoscah, beginning with Friday evening program and activities, and ending after lunch on Sunday. Nadine Friesen, of Hillsboro, will be our speaker, addressing the theme of "Joy is More Than a Detergent". In addition, seminars are planned for a wide range of interests. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us!