

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

May 15, 2011

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: Peter Goerzen

Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Musician: Sara Unruh

Chorister: Penny Hiebert

Worship Leader: Pastor Katherine

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.

Call to Worship Psalm 23

One: The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters,

Many: He refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his names' sake.

One: Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

Many: I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

One: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Many: Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life

All: *And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*

Gathering Prayer

* **Gathering Hymn No. 352** *Gentle Shepherd, come and lead us*

Offering our Gifts Bible School and Education

Hear God's Word

New Testament Reading Acts 2:42-47

Amanda Regehr

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

Monologue *Sheep Thief*

Tara Harms-Becker

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

Gospel Reading John 10:1-10

Pastor Peter

Sermon *Following the Good Shepherd*

Pastor Peter

Turn to Jesus ...

* **Hymn of Response No. 170** *The King of love my shepherd is*

Affirmation of Faith

One: The risen Jesus gathers his flock like a shepherd

Many: We have heard him call us by name and trusted him to lead us in right paths.

One: We turn to Jesus

Many: and our deepest needs are met in his care.

Sharing Our Stories and Congregational Prayer

...Go with the Spirit

* **Sending Hymn No. 599** *He leadeth me*

* **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

Donna Klaassen passed away on May 8. Visitation with the family will be from 6 to 8 p.m. May 20 at Kidron Bethel Menno Hall. Memorial service will be at 10 a.m. May 21 at Grace Hill Mennonite Church. We continue to pray for Melvin and the family.

Western District Conference: Praise God for the Christian formation ministry of Camp Mennoscah. Pray for Director Olivia Bartel and staffers as they prepare for a new camping season. Pray for the funding of the new swimming pool.

Outreach Tip: Serving Jesus by serving others is a wonderful way to share your faith. Volunteer your time in the weeks to come, and be prepared to explain why.

Church Events

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

June 12 Homemade Ice Cream Social and Movie Night: Everyone is invited to a Homemade Ice Cream Social at the church on June 12 starting at 6 p.m. (following the Alpha v. Omega softball game at 4). Following that, we will show the movie "Fireproof." This will be our final fundraiser for the MCUSA Convention in Pittsburgh. We still need to raise \$2,000 for our trip. Thank you for all of your support to the Youth Group! Also, if anyone has an ice cream maker that they would be willing to lend to the Youth Group for this event, please let Pastor Katherine know. Thanks!

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.

Announcements

The new Grace Hill 200th Anniversary Cookbook will be available this morning after worship service. Cost \$15.00 per book and payable to Hands of Friendship.

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 the 200th Anniversary “Home Coming” Committee will need your invitation list turned in today. Please put your list in Virgil’s mail box. If you have questions about this request see Virgil.

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: Lisa Harms and Melinda Regehr
Nursery Next Sunday: Theresa Toews and Kristen Toews

Preaching Next Sunday: Pastor Peter
Keyboard Next Sunday: Julia Dodson
Ushers Next Sunday: Caleb Regehr and Rob Schunn

Offering Last Sunday: Local Church \$7,003.00
Offering Next Sunday: Western District Conference

Et Cetera

Almost there! Camp Mennoscah’s summer youth camps start in only 1 month. Our new pool is on track to be finished on time (weather pending). We’re still eagerly checking the mail for more registrations (because we want to share camp with everyone). Most of our weeks have cooks (but we still need a few more). It’s a regular extravaganza of almos. Want to be part of the fun? Contact us at campmno@mennowdc.org or 620-297-3290 for more information.

June 5, Day of Celebration! Camp Mennoscah will be celebrating TWO great things at 3:30 pm —Torrey Ball’s many years as our maintenance coordinator and the new pool! Grab your swimsuit and sunscreen and come to Camp Mennoscah for some fun times! (If the weather doesn’t cooperate and the pool isn’t ready for swimming, we’ll cut a ribbon—feel free to still wear your swimsuit.)

Mark your calendars for Kidron Bethel Village Celebration Day and 85th Anniversary, Friday, June 10 from 5 to 8:30 p.m., at 3001 Ivy Drive, North Newton. Fun for all ages includes 85th anniversary program at 5, fiddlers Jeff Pritchard and Jake Tanner in concert, kids’ activities, BBQ pork meal and benefit auctions. Call Dee Ann Hein at 284-2900 ext. 237.

“Make No Excuses - Simply Come to the Banquet” is the theme for the annual WDC Assembly to be held on July 29-30 at Bethel College and Bethel College Mennonite Church. Make plans to attend these days of celebration, worship, learning and fellowship!

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

History Blurb #19 - AMERICA, NOW WHAT?

Many of the settlers stayed in Peabody the first winter, putting up makeshift huts lined with newspaper inside. Some found work, near and far. Others finally could arrange with the Santa Fe Railway Co. to buy most of sections 11, 23, 25, 27 and 35 in Pleasant Township at a price of \$5 to \$7 per acre. With the coming of warmer weather, they could build homes on the new land, many of them made of sod.

H. P. Schmidt came as a boy with his parents. In March 1943, he wrote in the *Mennonite Weekly Review* about the Gnadenberg settlement's pioneer experiences. Here are some of his memories:

“In spring 1875, most of the immigrants moved out to settle on the claims they had chosen during the winter. The grass on the prairie was knee-high. Here they started to build their shacks among rattlesnakes and coyotes... Getting good water was the first problem... The next thing was protection against prairie fires... The furniture in our first prairie home was homemade and of rough boards. Kitchen utensils consisted of a cast-iron kettle and a few tin cans; no dishes, no plates. Roasted rye or wheat was used instead of coffee. Rye bread was used exclusively.

“Farming started with a yoke of oxen and a breaking plow... At harvest time, the grain was cut with a scythe... Pioneer homes as a rule were small and simply constructed. Some of the immigrants had a little more money than others and, of course, were able to build larger homes. Many houses were 36 x 22 feet... Between the small and the large room was the big stove built of stone or brick, about 2 ½ feet wide, fully 6 feet long, and almost reached the ceiling...

“Slough grass was used also to build stables and sheds... Nearly all the heavy work on the farm was done with ox teams... We were in constant danger from rattlesnakes.”