

Grace Hill Mennonite Church

Worship – 9:30am / Sunday School – 10:45am

June 4, 2017

Pentecost Sunday

PRELUDE

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG

* *“Veni Sancte Spiritus”* HWB 298

- GATHERING INTERLUDE -

CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER HWB 669

* *“Breathe On Me, Breathe of God”* HWB 356

OFFERING TO GOD MENNONITE CHURCH USA

Offertory

* *Doxology* (Psalm 100) HWB 119

CHILDREN’S STORY

SHARING & CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

“SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD” HWB 349

MC-USA CONVENTION ORLANDO

“RESOLUTION: SEEKING PEACE IN ISRAEL PALESTINE”

SCRIPTURE READING Acts 2:1-21

SERMON *“The Holy Spirit is at Grace Hill”*

SENDING SONG *“Renew Your Church”* HWB 363

* BENEDICTION HWB 762

*Indicates those comfortable in doing so, please stand.

- After the Children’s Story children to age 5 may be dismissed to the library for childcare.
- 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!

Serving in Worship

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| Pastor | Weldon Martens |
| Scripture Reader | Deb Hiebert |
| Keyboard | Ellen Mosiman |
| Song Leader | Penny Hiebert |
| Greeters | John & Miriam Claassen |
| Ushers | Lucas Goossen & Lon Hiebert |
| Nursery | Kris Janzen & Bethany Regehr |

For Sharing and Prayer

Thanks for all the many prayers, visits and other shows of concern over the past months. It has been "challenging" and ask for your continued support in the days ahead. Terry and Cheryl

Western District Conference: Pray for God’s guidance as preparations are made for WDC Assembly, August 4-6 in Arlington, TX.

Mennonite Mission Network: Mary Beyler began her ministry with Mennonite Mission Network in Kushiro, Japan, in 1974. Now, after working many years in Obihiro, she has returned to Kushiro for the final term of her mission career. Praise God for the relationships she has built for more than four decades, and pray for much joy as she serves.

TO THE CONGREGATION...In celebration of our 40th wedding anniversary Jenny and I will be away June 11-27 on a trip to Europe. In my absence Pastor Marvin Zehr will fill the pulpit and give pastoral care as called upon. – Pastor Weldon

Church Events

Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Worship Council meets.

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Leadership Council meets.

Thursday at 8:00 a.m. Senior Breakfast at Curtis C’s Diner, Newton.

Announcements

Sunday School classes will continue to meet in regular classes for June and July. During the month of August there will be no Sunday School.

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.

Nursery Next Sunday: Katherine Claassen and Kaye Penner

Greeters Next Sunday: Allen and Elaine Patterson

Ushers Next Sunday: Doug Hiebert and David Janzen

Offering Last Sunday: Western District Conference \$891.00

Offering Next Sunday: Local Church

CHURCH OFFICES

Pastor's Office Hours:

Wednesday - Afternoon, Friday - day off

Pastor: Weldon Martens

Email: weldon.martens@gmail.com

Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen

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

Et Cetera

Sandbar Cabin Dedication! Camp Mennoscah will dedicate the new cabin (Sandbar) on June 4 at 2:30 p.m. You are invited to come for a short and simple dedication at the cabin (next to the new boys' bath house). You can "tour" the building, baptize it with sand from your feet, and join with us as we offer prayer for the cabin and those who will enjoy it.

Everence Financial will hold a retirement income seminar on June 5 at 7 p.m., the seminar will help you determine if you have enough money to retire, what to do if the market doesn't cooperate and how to know if your savings will last. Seminar is held at the Everence office in Hesston. To reserve your spot, contact Michelle Ramer at (620) 327-4043 or michelle.ramer@everence.com.

The next West Zion Mennonite Church Concert will be on Sunday evening, June 11 at 7 pm at the church, 101 South Washington Avenue in Moundridge. Performers will include Gabriel's Trumpets, a trumpet choir whose members include Kyle Unruh, Eric Schrag, Tim Regier, Evan Koch, Pat Flaming, Paul Epp, Connor Born and Arlin Buller; Christopher Shaw, Organ; Ellen Neufeld, Oboe; Louisa Nickel, Vocalist; and Donna Stucky, Piano. No admission will be charged, but a free-will offering will be received during the concert. After the concert, there will be a time of fellowship, with refreshments being served.

Children ages 3-8 are invited to Summer Story Hour at the WDC Resource Library June 14 through July 26 (not July 5). Register today (space is limited*) at <https://goo.gl/forms/kOwNSzI9Bw8rr1q03> or by emailing/calling the library crlib@mennowdc.org or 316-283-6300. Due to limited space, children should be able to attend at least 4 of the 6 weeks offered.

You are invited to a forum on Peace is Possible - June 17, 7 pm at Mennonite Church of the Servant, 23rd & Woodland, Wichita. Presenters: Mel Lehman - in 2009, he founded Common Humanity to build better understanding about the people of the Middle East. Common Humanity has organized some 20 exhibits of Iraqi refugee art to help Iraqi artists by selling their paintings and to help Americans better understand the beauty and humanity of the Arab and Muslim world. Ranya Taha was born and raised in Damascus, Syria. In recent years she has lived in Wichita, KS, where she owns the Byblos and Petra restaurants. Shafiq Hasan was born in historic Palestine and was forced to flee his home as a boy in 1948 when the State of Israel was established. He now lives in Newton, KS and works as a medical lab specialist. For more information, call 316-371-8274.

Hesston College alumni and friends are invited to Explore KS! June 24 and 25. The overnight tour includes Saturday at the Nelson Atkins Museum of Art and Kansas City Royals game. Sunday worship service will be at Kansas City's Frank Lloyd Wright designed Community Christian Church with professional baritone Anthony Brown performing, and the Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus concert at Grace Episcopal Cathedral in Topeka. Details available at hesston.edu/explore-kansas or call 620-327-8147 to register by June 12.

The Newton Et Cetera Shop is hiring a Donations Manager for 30-40 hours/week. The manager, in cooperation with the management team, receives and processes donations; trains and supervises volunteers; prepares volunteer projects and work spaces; helps manage the sales floor; and participates in regular system evaluation and store planning. The full job description and applications are available at the store (619 N. Main in Newton) or via e-mail at manager@newtonetceterashop.com. Applications are due Monday, June 12, 2017, and can be submitted in person or by e-mail.

Camp Scholarships available! Do you know someone who needs a week of camp? Maybe they've never been to Camp Mennoscah before or maybe this would be a great way for them to grow in God's Kingdom. We absolutely know that a week of camp is life-changing. (It's also gobs of fun!) Give someone a nudge or invite a friend or send a grandkid to camp! Contact us at olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org or 620-297-3290 for scholarship information. We love making new friends!

Join the fun! Camp Mennoscah now has more space for kitchen volunteers for July 30-Aug. 4 and for a nurse for July 16-22. You may have thought you missed out this summer, but that's not the case! We can't wait to have you here to peel potatoes or metaphorically kiss the hurts away. It's a great time with wonderful people. Contact us at 620-297-3290 or olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org to be part of our camping ministry!

Do you enjoy mentoring young adults and living in community? Service Adventure is looking for unit leaders for the Jackson, Miss., unit. The term begins late July with orientation and participants begin their service term in August. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Susan Nisly at SusanN@MennoniteMission.net or visit us at www.MennoniteMission.net.

Interested in seminary but not sure you want to commit? You can take up to two courses through Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart, Indiana, without being admitted to a degree or certificate program. As a nonadmitted student, your first class is 50 percent off. This applies to campus, online and hybrid courses. Check out our course list for fall. ambs.edu/academics/one-course-options

Seeking Peace in Israel and Palestine: A Resolution for Mennonite Church USA

For consideration by the Delegate Assembly at Orlando 2017

But they shall all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees, and no one shall make them afraid. – Micah 4.4

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. – Matthew 5.9

Summary

As followers of Jesus and his gospel of reconciliation, we long for peace, security, and the well being of all people living in Israel and Palestine. We have heard the cry for justice of Palestinians, especially those living under oppressive military occupation for fifty years. We are also acutely aware of anti-Semitism and violence inflicted upon Jews in the past and the present. The suffering of these two groups has too often been set against the other. We recognize, rather, that the legacy of Jewish suffering is intertwined with the suffering of Palestinians.

We confess that we, as Mennonites, as Christians, and as Americans, bear some responsibilities for the injustice and violence that both peoples have experienced historically and currently.

As followers of Jesus and his gospel of reconciliation, we long for peace, security, justice, and flourishing of all people living in Israel-Palestine, including Jews, Christians, and Muslims. The Palestinian people have suffered injustices, violence, and humiliation, including the Crusades, colonialism, and since 1967, life under Israeli military occupation and in refugee camps throughout the Middle East. The Jewish people have suffered violence, often at the hands of western Christians, including the Inquisition, pogroms, and the atrocities of the Holocaust. Jews continue to experience anti-Semitism and violence in many countries today. The suffering of these two groups has too often been set one against the other.

We commit ourselves to take active and specific steps to redress these harms. This resolution calls us to address both 1) military occupation; and 2) anti-Semitism.

Commitments

Partnering with Palestinian and Israeli Peacemakers: We commit to continue to learn from, partner with, and pray for Palestinians and Israelis working for peace with justice.

Understanding the Realities of Occupation: We encourage Mennonite congregations and area conferences to learn about the situation, including studying *Kairos Palestine*.

Engaging Christian Zionism: We urge engagement of Christian Zionism within our own church and in the broader American Christian community, encouraging Christian Zionists to enter into conversation and relationship with our Palestinian Christian partners and, as followers of Jesus, to pursue a nonviolent, inclusive, and just vision for Jewish and Palestinian coexistence in the Holy Land.

Advocating with the U.S. Government: We urge members, congregations and denominational offices to advocate with the U.S. government to end military aid and arms sales in the region, and to support measures that pressure Israel to freeze settlement construction, respect the civil rights of Palestinian citizens of Israel and the rights of refugees, end the occupation, and work for a just peace in accordance with international law.

Avoiding Economic Support for Occupation while Investing in Peace and Justice: We urge individuals and congregations to avoid the purchase of products associated with acts of violence or policies of military occupation, including items produced in settlements.

Strengthening Relationships with Muslim and Palestinian-American communities: Recognizing the growing anti-Muslim and anti-Arab prejudice within our culture, we commit to strengthening our relationships with Muslim communities, educating ourselves about our similarities and differences, and working for equality, tolerance, and acceptance of Muslims in our society.

Examining the Legacy of Antisemitism: Mennonite Church USA staff have raised seed money and initiated plans for several conferences in the next biennium on topics including Mennonite involvement in the Holocaust and how we read scripture in light of the Holocaust.