

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

June 26, 2011

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: Peter Goerzen

Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Musician: Sara Unruh & David Janzen

Chorister: Penny Hiebert

Worship Leader: Melinda Regehr

Salt and Light

Gathering Our Praise

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

One: I will light a candle in the name of God the Father who spoke into creation, "Let there be light" and who is himself our light and our salvation.
(a candle is lit)

One: I will light a candle in the name of the Son who said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."
(a candle is lit)

One: I will light a candle in the name of the Spirit who anoints the church with tongues of fire and who calls us out of darkness and into God's marvelous light.
(a candle is lit)

All: *Come, O Light Divine, and dispel our human darkness. Come into our hearts and lives as we worship, so that we may serve in your kingdom as bearers of light and so that we might guide others to your marvelous light.*

Gathering Prayer

* **Gathering Hymn No. 402** *Christian, let your burning light*

Offering our Gifts Western District Conference

Hearing God's Word

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 60:1-3, 15-20

Josh Patterson

Special Music *Longing for Light*

Brittany Claassen, Tara Harms-Becker, Melinda Regehr

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

Gospel Reading Matthew 5:13-20

Pastor Peter

Sermon *Saltiness*

Pastor Peter

Responding to the Gospel

* **Hymn of Response No. 401** *This little light of mine*

Affirmation of Faith

taken from *Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective*, 1995

All: *We believe that the church is called to proclaim and to be a sign of the kingdom of God.*

One: Christ has commissioned the church to be his witnesses, making disciples of all nations, baptizing them, and teaching them to observe all things he has commanded.

Many: **The church is called to witness to the reign of Christ by embodying Jesus' way in its own life and patterning itself after the reign of God.**

One: Thus it shows the world a sample of life under the lordship of Christ.

Many: **By its life, the church is to be a city on a hill, a light to the nations, testifying to the power and resurrection by a way of life different from the societies around it.**

One: The church is also to give witness by proclaiming the reign of God in word and deed.

Many: **The church is to seek the lost, call for repentance, announce salvation from sin, proclaim the gospel of peace, set free the oppressed, pray for righteousness and justice, serve as Jesus did, and without coercion urge all people to become part of the people of God.**

One: The church is called to be a channel of God's healing.
Even at the risk of suffering and death, the love of Christ
compels faithful witnesses to testify for their Savior.

Sharing Our Stories and Congregational Prayer

Sending

* **Sending Hymn No. 226** *You are salt for the earth*

* **Benediction**

One: God is light

All: And in God there is no darkness at all.

One: God is light

All: Let us walk in the light as God himself is in the light.

One: God is light

All: Let us go to be a light to those who are in darkness.

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 joint adult and youth Sunday School class will meet
in the sanctuary and will begin at 10:50 a.m.
Everyone is welcome!**

Summer Sunday School

200th Anniversary "Home Coming" Celebration 2011

10:50 – 11:35 a.m.

**Joint Adult and Youth Summer Sunday School will meet in the
sanctuary. Today's speaker:** Mark Jantzen 18th and 19th century
(Europe) – Presentation: *Seeking out the crevices of a rigid society.*

Next Sunday: Church Social Hour

For Sharing and Prayer

I wish to thank the Grace Hill community for all of your support during my heart valve procedure. For all the prayers, cards, visits, and food from you and the flowers from the Mariner's Sunday School class, I sincerely thank you. Special thanks to Peter and Katherine for their visits and follow-up phone calls during an equally difficult time in their lives. Thank you all, so much. Judy Janzen

Western District Conference: Pray for Christina Litwiller who is being ordained at the Salina Mennonite Church today.

Mennonite Mission Network: Thank God for the increase in Sunday school attendance at Zhong-He Church in Taiwan as a result of Marietta Sawatzky's English classes for children on Saturday afternoons. Pray that her students will encounter Jesus' love through the stories that Marietta uses to encourage conversational language skills. Marietta and her husband, Sheldon, serve through MMN.

Church Events

Parents of Youth: Today after Sunday School there will be a parents' meeting to discuss Convention in Pittsburgh. Please bring your questions. Thanks!

Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. Youth Group: Pool Party at Gary and Karma Hill's! On Wednesday, June 29, starting at 6 pm we will get together for a Youth Group Pool Party AND to go over information for Convention in Pittsburgh. As we are planning to eat together (burgers, chips, and drinks will be provided) we ask that youth bring either a salad or a dessert (no more than 1 per family). If you have any questions, please let Pastor Katherine know. Thanks!

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Administrative Council meets at church. Reminder: Pastoral Relations Committees – please come at 7:00 p.m.

July 4-9 Mennonite Convention in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

July 6-12 Grace Hill/Zion week at the Harvey County Homeless Shelter. Grace Hill's days are Wed. July 6, Fri. July 8, Sun. July 10 and Tues. July 12. See the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board if you are willing to help with meals or volunteer for the night.

Announcements

The Worship Council would like to purchase 150 copies of the supplemental hymnal *Sing The Journey*, for use during worship, in addition to the current hymnal. If you are interested in helping with this project, copies are \$9.99 each. Donations should be earmarked for the Grace Hill Music Fund. Thank you.

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: Kaye Penner and Camille Claassen

Nursery Next Sunday: Marge Harms and Rita Patterson

Ushers Next Sunday: Terry Klassen and Dean Patterson

Offering Last Sunday: Offender Victim Ministries \$951.00

Offering Next Sunday: Mennonite Church USA

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

Outreach Tip: Serving Jesus is witnessing. Think of the ways you serve Jesus and talk about why you serve him.

Et Cetera

Eleanor Wismer Kaufman, organist at Bethel College Mennonite Church, North Newton, will present a recital there featuring the organ as an accompanying instrument this afternoon at 3:30 p.m. A free-will offering will be received to cover expenses and to ensure the future of the organ. A reception will follow the recital.

This evening at 7 p.m., the West Zion Concert Series continues with a concert at West Zion Mennonite Church, 101 S. Washington Ave., Moundridge. During the concert a free-will offering will be received and immediately after the concert there will be a time of refreshments and fellowship.

This evening at 7 p.m., Bess Klassen-Landis, whose mother was murdered in 1969, will be speaking at First Mennonite Church in Hillsboro about the power of forgiveness and hope. For more information and additional dates, see the Peace and Social Concerns Bulletin Board.

African Inter-Mennonite Mission (AIMM) invites you to a gathering with Pastor Benjamin Mubenga, leader of one of the three principle Mennonite denominations in Congo, on Thursday, June 30, 6:30 p.m., at First Mennonite Church of Newton. This will be an information-sharing event in advance of celebrating 2012 as the centennial year of the Mennonite presence in Congo. Please come and enjoy the opportunity for fellowship and learning.

How to: Plant a church, turn a church around, support immigrants, plan for end of life, welcome children, appreciate Anabaptist identity, seek God, eat healthy, celebrate a 75th birthday, teach children, serve holistically, eat a cupcake, create a 200-word testimony. It's all happening at **Western District Conference Annual Assembly, July 29-30** in North Newton, KS. Be there – you are invited to attend this Banquet, planned just for you! www.mennowdc.org

Mennonite Central Committee continues to work in partnership with CROP to eliminate hunger around the world. Designate your commodities to MCC at the elevator this harvest season or send checks to MCC with CROP designated in the memo line. Contact Maynard Knepp with questions at 316-283-2720 - MCC Central States, PO Box 235, North Newton, KS 67117.

The Salvation Army will again be collecting school supplies for those children in need. This program is designed to assist children of families that are having a financial crisis getting their children ready for the new school year. If you are interested in providing supplies, please take them to the Salvation Army office at 208 W. 6th St., Newton by August 1. Questions – call 316-283-3190.