

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

July 17, 2011

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: Peter Goerzen

Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Musician: Julia Dodson

Chorister: David Janzen

Worship Leader: Pastor Peter

Truth Telling

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 taken from the *Ausbund* (an early Anabaptist hymnbook)

One: O God, our Father, we offer you our praise.

Many: We celebrate your gracious blessings, showered upon us anew.

One: You have led us together to teach us your word.

Many: Speak to us today, and give us your grace.

One: Lord, touch our lips and grant us wisdom, that we may speak your words of truth.

Many: Let our lives be a witness that will bring honor to you.

One: Feed and nourish our hungry souls;

Many: yes, give us your food today.

One: Grant us, Lord, understanding hearts. May your light of truth burst upon the earth

Many: so all will know your holy Word and live righteous and godly lives.

One: Let the radiant light of your truth drive out all darkness and deceit.

Many: Lead us then, in your everlasting way.

Gathering Prayer

* **Gathering Hymn No. 20** *Come and see*

Offering our Gifts Mennonite Men of the Plains

Hearing God's Word

New Testament Reading Ephesians 4:14-16, 25-32 Donna Balzer

* **Hymn No. 517** *Open my eyes, that I may see*

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

Gospel Reading Matthew 5:33-37

Pastor Katherine

Sermon *Following the Way and the Truth*

Pastor Katherine

Responding to the Gospel

* **Hymn of Response No. 507** *Gracious Spirit, dwell with me* verses 1, 2 & 5

Unison Affirmation of Faith

(taken from the Mennonite Confession of Faith of 1963)

We believe that it is a major Christian obligation to be strictly truthful and transparent in life and doctrine, with no secrecy or hypocrisy. The Lord Jesus Christ has forbidden to His followers the use of any and all oaths, because of the finite limitations of human beings, and the obligation always to speak the truth. ... "Above all, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your 'Yes' be yes and your 'No' be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation." (James 5:12)

Sharing Our Stories and Congregational Prayer

Sending

* **Sending Hymn No. 444** *Lord I want to be a Christian*

* **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 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 & 19th century (Europe) – *Squeezed Between Nationalism and Opportunity*

Next Sunday: James Juhnke – 19th to Early 20th century (US) – *Migration, Go East, Go West or Stay at Home*

For Sharing and Prayer

Western District Conference: Pray for two new working groups getting underway in WDC – the Human Sexuality Discernment Task Force and the Church Planting Task Force.

Mennonite Mission Network: Pray for Moriah Hurst of MMN who is serving in Melbourne, Australia. She works with Praxis Victoria, training youth and community workers, and with Urban Seed, a Christian organization that assists marginalized people while developing supportive communities.

Church Events

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

Wednesday, July 27 at 7:00 p.m. Education Council will meet – this is a change from July 20.

Youth Group at Marion Reservoir: The Youth Group will plan to be at Marion Reservoir on August 13-14. (Additional information yet to come)

August 14 6:00-8:00 p.m. All church swimming party at the Newton Public Pool, Athletic Park.

Sunday, August 28 Back-to-School Celebration during the Sunday School Hour. We will again be assembling MCC School Kits. A reminder to collect school supplies: MCC School Kits: (NEW items only): 4 spiral or perforated notebooks (70 sheets), 4 unsharpened pencils, 1 ruler (flat, flexible plastic, indicating both 30 cm and 12 inches), 12 colored pencils (in packaging), 1 large pencil eraser.

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: Ashley Enns and Emma Hilgenfeld

Nursery Next Sunday: Catina Wiebe and Rachelle Claassen

Ushers Next Sunday: Caleb Regehr and Rob Schuun

Offering Last Sunday: Local Church \$6,167.00

Offering Next Sunday: Western District Conference

Et Cetera

Alumni and Friends of Hesston College are invited to Honeytown, a high energy Americana band from Kidron, Ohio performing at Hesston Mennonite Church, 309 South Main Street, on Sunday, July 24 at 7 p.m. Honeytown's inimitable sound combines elements of progressive bluegrass, four-part a capella, classic rock and pop folk with fun instrumentation. The four-piece group features Tim Shue, a 1985 Hesston College alumnus. The group performed at the Pittsburgh 2011 Convention. Go to Honeytownmusic.com for more information. A free will offering will be taken.

The opening worship on July 29 at the WDC Annual Assembly at Bethel College Mennonite Church will feature Sara Wenger Shenk, President of Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminaries, who will speak on the theme, "Make No Excuses, Simply Come to the Banquet" (No Pongan Excusas: Simplemente ven al Banquete), based on Luke 14:15-24. Come and be encouraged by a challenging message, and enjoy the fellowship of old friends and new friends. At 9 pm, Sister Church Partnerships will have conversations and there will be gatherings for alumni of Bethel College and Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary - Great Plains.

Furniture needed! Camp Mennoscah is so popular that we need to use the Bluestem house for staff during our Senior High Camp week beginning July 31. Unfortunately for the staff, there's no furniture in the Bluestem house. So, we're looking for beds, dressers, end tables, and living room furniture. We wouldn't turn down a lamp or two either, that's for sure. Contact Camp Mennoscah at [620-297-3290](tel:620-297-3290) if you have furniture in good or new condition that you would like to donate.

Hey, all you young adults! We're having a Young Adult Retreat on August 6-7 at Camp Mennoscah. This will be a time for you to "retreat" from the world and to spend some time fellowshiping with creation and other young adults. It'll be a little bit of everything from music to worship to Borrow the Balls. Got questions? Contact us at campmno@mennowdc.org or [620-297-3290](tel:620-297-3290). It'll be a Whopping Good Time!

Christopher Shaw, organist at Bethel College Mennonite Church, North Newton and active performer and accompanist in the Wichita metro area, will present a recital at the Bethel College Mennonite Church on August 7, at 3:30 p.m. The recital is the third in a series celebrating the 50th anniversary of its 22 rank Moeller pipe organ. Christopher will perform solo organ works by J.S. Bach, Couperin, Bruhns, Alain and Vierne. Bethel College Instructor of Theatre, Megan Upton-Tyner, will join Shaw in performing *A Sweet for Mother Goose*, a piece for narrator and organ by George Akerley. A free-will offering will be received to cover expenses and to ensure the future of the organ. A reception will follow the recital.

Mennonite Central Committee is appealing for donations to support its response to the drought and food crisis in East Africa that has left about 11 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. Please consider a gift to help fund initial efforts in Ethiopia and Kenya to provide supplemental food for at-risk groups, and to support food-for-work projects. To donate, visit mcc.org or send checks with "East Africa Drought Response" in the memo line to MCC Central States PO Box 235 North Newton, KS 67117. We encourage you also to pray for people in the region.

Outreach Tip: The Sunday School movement was first initiated in some communities as a means of attracting and connecting with the specific neighborhood in which a congregation found itself.

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

