

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

July 27, 2008

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: James Voth

Youth Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Keyboard: Katherine Goerzen

Chorister: Ben Lichti

Worship Leader: Peter Goerzen

Hymn No. 363 *Renew your church*

verses 1, 2, & 3: unison; verse 4: harmony

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

Scripture 1 Peter 2:4-10

Caleb Regehr

God's People Now: A Poetic Vignette

God: Roberta Harms

Biblical Characters: Peter Goerzen

Contemporary Characters: Katherine Goerzen

* **Hymn of Response No. 397** *God loves all his many people*

Congregational Sharing and Prayer

* **Hymn of Benediction No. 420** *Heart with loving heart united*
verses 1 & 3

* **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.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES BEGIN AT 10:45 A.M.
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

For Sharing and Prayer

Brett and Cassie Klingenberg have returned to the states from their YES (Youth, Evangelism, Service) outreach. They are presently involved in their post-field training which began July 20 and concludes August 2 at Harrisburg (PA) Discipleship Center. Keep them in your prayers as they prepare to come and share with us next Sunday evening at 7:00 p.m. here at the church.

Western District Conference: Give thanks for the youth and sponsors of WDC who spent time in June in Clinton, OK with the "Walk a mile" event, learning about the Cheyenne/Mennonite experience and faith. Pray for Nita Wilson, Dallas, who will serve as WDC Interim Conference Youth Minister.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

A special welcome to each of our guests! 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

Leader Come, worship the Christ, a living stone,
rejected by mortals but precious in God's sight.

People We are like living stones being used in building the spiritual temple, with Christ as our cornerstone.

Leader We will offer spiritual sacrifices
acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

**People For we are a chosen people, a royal priesthood,
a holy nation, God's own people.**

Leader Once we were no people,
but now we are God's people.

**People Therefore, we declare the mighty acts of God
who calls us out of darkness into his marvelous light.
We will be priests of good news
and serve one another with Christ as our example.**

* Prayer of Invocation

* Gathering Hymns

No. 43 *Christ is our cornerstone*

verses 1 & 4: all; verse 2: women; verse 3: men

No. 369 *Lord, whose love in humble service*

Offering Western District Conference

Mennonite Mission Network: Mission workers Cindy and Tim Buhler return to Macau July 31 to serve with the Macau Mennonite Church. Pray that as they relocate to a new area on Taipa Island, they will be able to find affordable housing and relate to people in a new neighborhood.

Pastor Jim is on vacation today. If there are pastoral needs please contact Pastor Katherine or a member of the Spiritual Council, Diana Schunn, chair.

Summer Sunday School

Joint Adult and Youth Summer Sunday School - Today: “If you can argue about it, you can mediate it” with Barbara Schmidt. **Next Sunday:** “Child Advocacy” with Diana Schunn.

During the summer quarter, K-8th Grade students will explore instructions for peaceful living from Moses, Jesus, Paul and James. They will learn how Abigail, Isaac, and Elisha avoided conflict with creative solutions. They will meet in the basement fellowship hall. Preschoolers (ages 2-5) will meet in the Early Childhood classroom for stories about peace too!

Church Events

Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. Spiritual Council meets at church.

Next Sunday at 4:00 p.m. Vesper Service at Wheat State Manor – Seekers S.S. Class is in charge.

Next Sunday at 7:00 p.m. Brett and Cassie Klingenberg will report on their experiences of the past year.

Announcements

TEACHERS WANTED!! The Junior Sunday School Dept. is looking for teachers who would like to be a part of the lives of our church children and youth this fall. We will be using the Gather 'Round curriculum plus we have six new supplemental books to help with lesson planning. Please talk to Katherine Claassen, Jr. S.S. Supt. if you are interested in teaching or being a helper.

Ladies: We have been asked to sing special music next Sunday, August 3. We will practice after Sunday School today. Please join us. We hope to have a good-sized group. See Gladys Reimer if you have questions.

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: Tammy Regehr and Amanda Regehr

Nursery Next Sunday: Marge Harms and Melinda Regehr

Special Music Next Sunday: Women's Choir

Keyboard Next Sunday: Katherine Goerzen

Ushers Next Sunday: Lon Hiebert and Dean Patterson

Offering Last Sunday: Mennonite Men of the Plains \$1,531.00

Offering Next Sunday: Mennonite Church USA

CHURCH OFFICES

Pastor: James Voth

E-mail: pastor@gracehillmc.org

Youth Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

E-mail: youthpastor@gracehillmc.org

Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen

Church Website: www.gracehillmc.org

Et Cetera

All are invited to a farewell open house for Steve and Connie Sue Bowman this afternoon from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at the Potwin Christian Church.

Sunday-Afternoon-at-the-Museum, this afternoon, 3:30-4:30 p.m., "Photographing the Quiet in the Land: The Mennonites in Texas Project." Laura L. Camden of Northern Arizona University will share her experiences photographing Old Colony Mennonites in Seminole, Texas. The photographs are featured in a new special exhibit on display July 27-September 21. This program is sponsored by the Mennonite Library & Archives and the Berneil R. Mueller Trust and is free and open to the public. Kauffman Museum at Bethel College is located at 27th and North Main in North Newton. Call 316-283-1612 for more information.

August Bonanza! Four weeks of Mennonite Media documentaries on Hallmark. Issues: Addictions, Hunger, Forgiveness, Aging. Mennonite Media documentaries from the past several years will be airing on Hallmark Channel through Faith & Values Media: Four Sundays in August 2008, 6 a.m., August 3: Finding Hope in Recovery: Families Living with Addiction; August 10: Hunger No More: Faces Behind the Facts; August 17: Journey Toward Forgiveness; August 24: Embracing Aging: Families Facing Change. For more information and links go to www.mennomedia.org or www.thirdway.com or call 800-999-3534.

Alumni and friends of Bethel College are invited to the Summer Thresher Golf Classic and Barbecue, Saturday, August 9, at the Galloway Creek Golf Course, formerly Henderson (Neb.) Municipal Golf Course. To register contact 316-284-5251, alumni@bethelks.edu, see the brochure on the church bulletin board or print one from www.bethelks.edu/alumni/events/golf.php. Deadline to register to play is Friday, August 1. Come play golf for Bethel!

The 13th annual Agri-Urban Day on the Farm will be held August 16 at the Maynard Knepp and Carol Duerksen farm (3 miles north, 4 miles east and ¾ mile north of Goessel). This family event runs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and includes animals, activities and food. Agri-Urban was developed to bring farmers and urban dwellers together to support Western District Conference, Bethel College and Mennonite Church USA. The success of Agri-Urban is dependent on contributions made by both farmers (who raise the animals) and urban dwellers (who contribute toward feed costs). To contribute send checks payable to Mennonite Agri-Urban, c/o Ben Schrag, Treasurer, 406 Wedgewood Ct., Hesston, KS 67062 or bring them to Day on the Farm and enjoy all the great activities.

Want a new fire in your youth ministry? Come to Ignite! - a resourcing event on August 24 at Whitestone Mennonite Church, Hesston, 3-8 p.m. Designed for youth leaders, Ignite! will inspire and equip your youth ministry for the coming year with ideas, resources, networking and workshops. Ignite! will have something for everyone, whether you have a giant-sized youth group or a tiny youth group or a youth group without a youth pastor. Ignite! replaces and expands the former Youth Pastor Sponsor Banquet. Registration fee is \$20 per person which includes a banquet meal. Contact Nancy Funk at 316-283-6300, wdc@mennowdc.org. RSVP by August 15.

Camp Mennoscah - Wow! You should see all the changes at Camp Mennoscah! Two youth groups came to camp and donated their time and effort to several different projects. Thank you to the youth groups and to all of our dedicated summer volunteers! Your work is priceless and we greatly appreciate your support of the mission of Camp Mennoscah.

Work is continuing on the Camp Mennoscah director's residence. The sewer has been put in and work is being done on the driveway and final leveling and grading of the landscape. The floor coverings have been installed as well. We still need direction on final landscape decisions if someone has skills in this area and would like to participate, contact Galen Waltner 620-386-0287.

Over the past five years, 2.8 million people have fled their homes for safer locations within Iraq. In response to requests from three long-term partner organizations, Mennonite Central Committee is undertaking a \$2-million humanitarian crisis response. MCC is sending 20,000 relief kits, 62,000 blankets, 62,000 school kits, 12,000 newborn kits and 5,500 sewing kits to be distributed in 11 of the 18 governates in Iraq. Relief kits are urgently needed. Other items such as heavy blankets, newborn kits and sewing kits also are required. To help cover the cost of shipping these items to Iraq, MCC is asking for a cash donation of \$10 with each kit. Please check the MCC flyer on the bulletin board for a detailed list of Relief Kit contents, or www.mcc.org/iraqrelief. Please contact MCC Central States with any questions at 316-283-2720.