

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

July 28, 2013

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: Peter Goerzen

Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Musicians: Sara Unruh, David Janzen, Pastor Peter, Pastor Katherine

Song Leaders: Bonita Schroeder, Cody Claassen, Cole Claassen,

Courtney Claassen, Katrina Regehr, Heidi Wiebe

Worship Leader: Heidi Wiebe

God's Good Creation: God is Like...

Gathering

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 and Gathering Prayer

One: God, our Rock and our Redeemer,
who has stood with us through the realities of this week,

All: stand with us now,

One: that we may let go of fear and distractions that hinder us from exploring the many images and names given to you in the Scriptures, not one that captures completely your Divine essence, yet each offering us a glimpse of who you are:

Alpha and Omega,

Morning Star,

Wisdom,

Word,

One who comforts like a Mother,

Our Father,

Our Fortress and Strength,

Rock who gave us birth.

All: In the name of Jesus, the Lamb who was slain, who was and is and is to come, Amen.

* **Gathering Songs Sing the Journey No. 1** *We sing to you, O God* vs. 1-3
Revelation Song

Praying

Offering Our Gifts Western District Conference

Worship Music Hymn No. 77 *God of many names*

Tara Harms-Becker and Pastor Katherine will sing the verses.

You are invited to join in on the chorus.

Prayers of the People

Listening

Children's Story

Pastor Katherine

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

Old Testament Readings Isaiah 55: 6-13 Courtney Claassen
Deuteronomy 32: 4-11, 18 Pastor Peter

Sermon *The many mysteries of God* Pastor Peter

Responding

* **Song of Response** *God of Wonders*

Benediction

One: Lord of heaven and earth,
Consuming Fire,
Fountain of Living Water,
Lily of the valley,
Root of Jesse,
Rose of Sharon,
Shade at our right hand,
Eagle who hovers over your young,
Mother hen who gathers us under your wings,
Good Shepherd,
Lamb who was slain,
Lion of Judah,
Rock who gave us birth,

*All: May your name be hallowed throughout all of creation
May your way of justice be followed by all peoples throughout the world
May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven
May your kingdom of peace sustain our hope and come on earth.
Amen.*

* **Sending Songs** *You are Holy*
Sing the Journey No. 27 *God of the Bible* verses 1, 2, 3 & 5

Postlude

*Indicates those comfortable in doing so, please stand

For Sharing and Prayer

I would like to thank all those who have supported me in my recent surgery with caring thoughts, through cards, visiting, food and prayers. Thank you to the Mariners' SS Class for the flowers. All acts of kindness were greatly appreciated. Agnes Harder

Western District Conference: Pray for preachers, teachers, presenters, and presiders for the WDC Assembly 2013 meeting in North Newton, August 2-3. Pray God's inspiration and encouragement for all delegates and participants as they are "Shaped by God's Story."

Mennonite Mission Network: Praise God that the Mongolian government has granted Joint Christian Services International a six-month extension of its registration, permitting mission personnel to renew work permits and visas. MMN works through JCSI, a consortium of organizations collaborating in Christian ministry in Mongolia. Pray that visa extensions will continue throughout the coming years.

Announcements

Please get announcements for next Sunday's bulletin to Debbie Claassen by noon on Tuesday, July 30. Thank you!

No Sunday School classes will be held through the month of July. Classes will start again on August 4.

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: Debbie Claassen and Carine Claassen

Nursery Next Sunday: Kris Goossen and Renata Goossen

Ushers Next Sunday: Terry Klassen and Dean Patterson

Offering Last Sunday: Mennonite Men of the Plains \$732.00

Offering Next Sunday: Mennonite Church USA

Church Events

Today at 5:00 p.m. Wheat State Manor Vesper Service. Also this week at Wheat State: Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. – mending; Friday at 3:00 p.m. – Bingo.

Thursday at 7:00 a.m. Worship Council meets at Mojo's.

Friday & Saturday How are you being Shaped by God's Story? Explore this theme at the Annual Western District Conference Assembly. Worship starts at 7 p.m. on August 2 and 3 in Memorial Hall at Bethel College and is open to all!

Friday Youth Group Service: The Youth will be serving ice cream at the Western District Assembly on Friday night, August 2 following the worship service (around 9 p.m.). Please plan to come and help with this if you are able. Thanks!

Next Sunday, August 4 at 5:30 p.m. There will be a “Summer Celebration” Ice Cream Social at Grace Hill on Sunday August 4, at 5:30 p.m. Please bring your favorite ice cream specialties (home-made and other) and associated complimentary treats (cookies & “stuff”) to compliment the comfortable consuming of a conflagration of creamy calories. Iglesia Menonita Casa Betania has been invited to join us for this evening of fun and fellowship. The shelter will be available for outside activities and you are encouraged to bring table games for those wanting to participate in more traditional indoor activities. - The Education Council

August 11 Youth Group Boating Day: The youth group will have our annual day at the lake at El Dorado Lake following the worship service on Sunday, August 11. All youth (incoming Freshmen to graduating Seniors) are invited and encouraged to bring friends! We will plan to eat sack lunches on our way to the lake; supper will be provided. Please let Pastor Katherine know if you have any questions!

August 18 Grace Hill Bible Bowl 2013! Plan to remain in the sanctuary for the Sunday School hour on August 18 for Grace Hill's first annual Bible Bowl! Bible bowl participants will have access to Scripture passages from which questions will be drawn ahead of time. If you are interested in participating in the Bible bowl on a team, as a cheerleader, a moderator, a coach, or in any other way, let Pastor Peter know. This is open to all ages. This event will kick off the Year of the Bible at Grace Hill, a year of new learnings, faith practices, and satisfying our thirst for God's Word. Learn more on August 18.

Sunday, August 25 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.

Et Cetera

Dates are set for volunteer training at the Harvey County Homeless Shelter. 6:30 -7:30 p.m. at the Shelter Office: August 1, 13 & 22, September 10 & 26. Please see Donna Balzer if you have questions.

A Great Family Event! The annual Day On The Farm will be on Saturday, August 10, beginning at 10 a.m. at the Duerksen/Knepp farm (1582 Falcon, Hillsboro, KS). The day is free but designed to raise funds for Mennonite Agri-Urban which sponsors the event. A noon meal will be available for a donation.

Mental Health Spiritual Retreat at Camp Mennoscah - Get ready, folks. Our Mental Health retreat is September 1-2, 2013. Our theme is Create Yourself Anew and we'll be looking at ourselves in new ways, worshiping, doing some recreation and having some free time. All are invited to this retreat for individuals affected by mental illness, including family, friends, and any others with the desire to be part of this group. The brochure can be found at www.campmennoscah.org under Retreats or by calling 620-297-3290.

Mennonite Central Committee Central States is accepting applications for an Office Manager/Bookkeeper in the North Newton office. The person for this position needs to have experience in bookkeeping, have enthusiastic customer service skills and a commitment to the mission of MCC Central States. Hours for this position are Tuesday-Friday 8am-12pm and 1pm-5pm. Check for more details at serve.mcc.org (look for Office Manager/Bookkeeper -Central States) or email Melissa Waltner at mwaltner@mcc.org.

You are invited to the MCC Learning Tour “Ukraine: Addressing the Basic Social Issues of a Broken-Down Society” July 25 to August 4, 2014, which will provide an in-depth look at MCC projects and social-economical issues in Ukraine. Rudi Niessen, MCC Material Resource Center – Warehouse Coordinator (Akron, PA), will be leading this trip. Space is limited. Contact Anna Yoder, annayoder@mcc.org or 316-283-2720, for more information.