

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

August 4, 2013

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: Peter Goerzen

Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Musician: Linda Harms

Worship Leader: Tara Harms-Becker

Song Leaders: Gladys Reimer, Praise Team

God's Good Creation: We Are 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 Psalm 42:1-5

One: As the deer longs for flowing streams,
so my soul longs for you, O God.

Many: My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

One: When shall I come and behold the face of God?
My tears have been my food day and night,
while people say to me continually,
"Where is your God?"

These things I remember as I pour out my soul:
how I went with the throng,
and led them in procession to the house of God,
with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving,
a multitude keeping festival.

Why are you cast down, O my soul?
Why are you disquieted within me?

**All: Hope in God; for I shall again praise the Lord,
my help and my God.**

Gathering Prayer

One: God of steadfast love and mercy,
who knows us and calls us each by name,
and yet at times is silent,

All: stand among us this morning;

One: stand among us as we wrestle with this tension of your presence proclaimed
but not always experienced,
that we may know you more deeply,
love you more fully,
and follow you more faithfully.

All: In the faithful name of Jesus we pray, Amen.

* **Gathering Songs Sing the Journey No. 54** *Longing for light
Trading my sorrows*

Praying

Offering Our Gifts Mennonite Church USA

Song of Prayer *Create in me a clean heart*

Child Dedication Jaxon Tyler Faul

Prayers of the People

Listening

Children's Story

Pastor Peter

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

Old Testament Reading Psalm 1

Tara Harms-Becker

Old Testament Reading Psalm 42:1-8

Pastor Peter

Sermon *Deer, Sheep, and Trees*

Pastor Peter

Responding

* **Song of Response No. 514** *Lord, I am fondly, earnestly*

* **Blessing**

* **Sending Song** *I saw a tree by the riverside* see insert
The praise team will sing the verses.
Everyone is invited to sing on the refrain.

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 Adult Sunday School classes will begin
10 minutes after the service is over.
Everyone is welcome!**

For Sharing and Prayer

Western District Conference: Praise God for the gift of Holy Scriptures that equip God's people for every good work (II Timothy 3:17). Thank God for the inspirations and instructions of last week's Year of the Bible Launch and Assembly 2013. Pray that we will not just hear God's work but put it into action (James 1:22).

Mennonite Mission Network: Pray for peace and hope among the people of South Africa in the uncertain times of Nelson Mandela's passing from leadership. Remember especially Anna and Joe Sawatzky and their four sons with MMN, and their colleagues in the Anabaptist Network in South Africa and at Bethany Bible School.

Et Cetera

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.

Mark your calendars now for the 2013 Women and Girls Retreat at Camp Mennoscah, September 6-8. This year's retreat will feature a Friday evening fashion show (courtesy of the Et Cetera Shop) and dessert. For our main sessions on Saturday and Sunday, Denise Nickel and sisters will be our presenters, with the theme "Serving Creates Lifelong Memories." Other highlights of the weekend includes a variety of seminars, campfire singing with Tammy Duvanel Unruh, music with "Cousins 4," and special activities for girls in grades 3-12. Reservations are due August 23.

Nursery This Sunday: Kris Goossen and Renata Goossen

Nursery Next Sunday: Lisa Harms and Melinda Regehr

Ushers Next Sunday: Doug Hiebert and Russell Janzen

Offering Last Sunday: Western District Conference \$1,194.00

Offering Next Sunday: Local Church

Church Events

This evening at 5:30 p.m. There will be a “Summer Celebration” Ice Cream Social at Grace Hill this evening 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

Thursday at 8:00 a.m. Senior Breakfast (65+) at CJ’s in Newton. Location: use the southeast door to the restaurant.

Next Sunday 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.

Sunday, September 29 at 12:45 p.m. Semi-annual Church Business Meeting.