

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

August 22, 2010

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: Peter Goerzen

Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Music: Valerie Klaassen and Joel Boettger

Chorister: Gladys Reimer

Worship Leader: Pastor Katherine

Gathering in God's Presence

Prelude Rondo from Sonata in C by Mozart

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.

Musical Interlude Two-part Invention No. IV by Bach

Call to Worship Psalm 121

Gathering Prayer

- * **Gathering Hymns No. 75** *Holy, holy, holy*
No. 162 *The God of Abraham praise*

Offering our Gifts Western District Conference

Offertory *Grace Medley*

Hearing God's Word

New Testament Scripture Reading Luke 1:46-55 Catina Wiebe

Special Music *All that Thrills my Soul is Jesus* arr. Gordon Schuster
Valerie Klaassen and Joel Boettger, clarinets
Beth Hostetler, accompanist

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

Old Testament Scripture Reading Genesis 12:1-8 Pastor Peter

Sermon *God's Covenant with Abraham* Pastor Peter

Responding to God

- * **Hymn of Response No. 315** *This is a story full of love*

Sharing our Stories and Congregational Prayer

Sent by God

- * **Sending Hymn No. 596** *And I will raise you up*

- * **Benediction**

Postlude *Let All Things Now Living* arr. by Katherine K. Davis

*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 class will begin

10 minutes after the service is over.

Everyone is welcome!

For Sharing and Prayer

In the hospital: Carol Claassen, Wesley Medical Center

Western District Conference: Pray for strength and resources for Iglesia Menonita Luz del Evangelio, Dallas, Texas, in the building of their new sanctuary. Pray for Hispanic congregations in Texas as they face immigration issues that affect their membership and attendance.

Mennonite Mission Network: Last month, *Junta Menonita de Missoes Internacionais* – the mission branch of the Evangelical Mennonite Alliance of Brazil – celebrated 12 years of service. Pray that God would continue blessing the fruitful ministries of Brazilian mission workers in Albania and Mozambique.

Summer Sunday School

Joint Adult and Youth Summer Sunday School – Today: Pastors Peter & Katherine will present *Exploring Worship* in the sanctuary.

Next Sunday: 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.

During the summer, age 3 through 8th grade students class is titled “Rock-Solid Followers”. It will offer kids the fun and excitement of an outdoor adventure camp, combined with the discovery of who we are in Jesus Christ and the richness of His love. They will meet in the basement.

There will be three intergenerational, elective Adult Sunday School classes offered starting in September. Ken Wiebe will be leading a class on “Sermon Discussion”; Olin Claassen will be the leader for a class using the Uniform Series booklet; and Pastor Peter will be leading a class on “The Gospel of John”. In addition, James Regier will be the leader for the College and Career class. All are invited to attend the class and topic of their choice.

Church Events

Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. Spiritual Council meets at church.

Next Sunday following Sunday School All church potluck meal.

September 3 There will be a 5th Quarter for all area high school students at Doug and Katherine Claassen's on Friday, September 3rd.

September 12 Youth Progressive Supper: Our Youth Group will have its 4th Annual Progressive Supper on Sunday, September 12 following our vesper service at Wheat State Manor. If anyone is interested in hosting a course for the Youth Group, please let Pastor Katherine know. Thanks!

Sunday, September 19 at 12:45 p.m. Grace Hill Semi-annual Business Meeting. There will be a potluck meal at 11:30, following Sunday School.

September 19 College-age Bible Study: There will be a Bible Study at Pastor Peter and Katherine's house for all college-age young adults each 3rd Sunday of the month. We will have our first Bible Study on Sunday (with snacks provided), September 19 at 7:30 pm. Please feel free to invite others.

September 26 College-age Lunch: Pastor Peter and Katherine would love to host all college-age young adults for lunch at our house on Sunday, September 26 after church. Please feel free to invite your friends! If anyone from the congregation is interested in helping with food for this meal, please let either Pastor Peter or Pastor Katherine know. Thanks!

October 16-17 Grace Hill Church Retreat at Camp Mennoscah – save the date for a weekend away with your church family!

Announcements

Become a prayer partner to a college-age young adult! See the flier on the table in the foyer for more information.

Prayer ministry sign-up sheets are also available on the table in the foyer. Everyone (including children!) is encouraged to sign up to pray weekly for a specific part of the church's mission and witness. You may sign up more than once. Share in the life and mission of the congregation through the vital ministry of prayer!

Spiritual Council has been prayerfully working through a revision of the council's guidelines over the past several months. These revisions were in your mailboxes last Sunday or are available in the foyer. Please review them and contact a member of Spiritual Council by August 25 if you have any feedback. Thanks!

Christmas is right around the corner. The following classes are responsible for the Christmas Eve program this year: Mariners - Christmas tree, decorations, and candy sacks; Pursuers - program; and Explorers - reception.

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: Theresa Toews and Ashley Toews

Nursery Next Sunday: Barbara Schmidt and Kylee Schunn

Keyboard Next Sunday: Linda Harms

Ushers Next Sunday: Mike Balzer and Kendall Claassen

Offering Last Sunday: Harvey County Homeless Shelter \$2,318.00

Offering Next Sunday: Peace Connections

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

Et Cetera

For all women and girls in third grade and up. Remember the deadline for registering for Women and Girl's retreat at Camp Mennoscah on September 10-12 is August 30. Florence Schloneger will speak and her topics include "Recovering the unique person God created you" and "Uncovering the uniqueness of those persons with whom you live and work". Also Saturday morning we have two sessions at 10:00. One on stamping for the first 30 women who sign up for it. The other is quilting and tying a quilt for the MCC Sale. Sondra Tolle and Colleen Westerman will spend time discussing possibilities for getting your quilts completed. So remember to bring them along. Please bring your own lunch.

You are invited to join Lorraine Avenue Mennonite Church, Wichita, for their 2nd Annual Peace Festival and Peace Sunday on September 11-12. See the flyer on the bulletin for all of the details.

The annual MCC Flatlander Bicycle Ride will be held on Saturday, September 18, originating at the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) offices, 121 East 30th St, North Newton, KS. This year's ride will raise funds for an MCC water development project in Nigeria. Informational brochures are available in the foyer. Rides of approximately 35, 45 and 65 miles, as well as a shorter family ride, are planned.

Play golf for Bethel. Alumni and friends of Bethel College are invited to the Fall Thresher Golf Classic, Saturday, September 18, at Sand Creek Station, Newton. For details check the bulletin board, contact the Bethel alumni office at 316-284-5251 or alumni@bethelks.edu, or go to www.bethelks.edu/alumni/events/golf.php. Early entry discount deadline is September 6.

Et Cetera needs you! The many teachers and students who helped us out this summer are going back to school, which means we need clerks (particularly on Mondays, Tuesdays & Wednesdays). Volunteering is a great way to build job skills, practice your English or Spanish, socialize, get creative and contribute to the community and world. By volunteering, you'll also help us reach our goal of donating \$170,000 to Mennonite Central Committee this year. Interested? Call us at 316-283-9461 or stop by the store at 619 N. Main in Newton.

WOW! A tractor and new cabinets! Camp Mennoscah has received the generous donation of an AGCO ST45 tractor—it's ORANGE—with a loader and bale spear from Milton Claassen of Newton and John Claassen from Whitewater made us beautiful cabinets and a counter for our new tee shirt room in the new sports shed. Thank you!

The following books have been entered in our library. Please enjoy these and the many others in our library.

Memorial Fund Books:

Henderson, Dee *The Guardian* Book II of The O'Malley Series. Follows *The Negotiator*.

Henderson, Dee *True Devotion* Book I of The Uncommon Heroes Series.

The Chalice of Israel Four novellas: Mindrup, Darlene *Cup of Courage*; Hayden, Susannah *Cup of Hope*; Flinkman, Marilou H. *Cup of Honor*; LaMunyon, Jane *Cup of Praise*.

Furlong, Nicola *The Nervous Nephew* Church Choir Mysteries by Guidepost.

Kirkpatrick, Jane *No Eye Can See* Book II of The Kinship and Courage Series. Follows *All Together in One Place*.

Kirkpatrick, Jane *A Name of Her Own* Book I of The Tender Ties Historical Series.

Mitchell, Siri *Love's Pursuit* Set In Stoneybrook, Mass, in a true Zion type community.

Peterson, Tracie *New Mexico Sunset* Four complete novellas.

Woodsmall, Cindy *When the Heart Cries* Book I of The Sisters of the Quilt Series.

Woodsmall, Cindy *When the Morning Comes* Book II of The Sisters of the Quilt Series. We also have Book III of that series.

The following books have been donated:

Boyd, Gregory A. *The Myth of a Christian Nation - How the Quest for Political Power is Destroying the Church*.

Hanks, Gardner C. *Capital Punishment and the Bible*.

Gulley, Philip *Almost Friends* a harmony novel.

Juhnke, James C. & Carol M. Hunter *The Missing Peace - The Search for Nonviolent Alternatives in United State History*.

Krabill, James R. *Is it insensitive to share your faith? Hard questions about Christian mission in a plural world*.

Yoder, John H. *If A Violent Person Threatened to Harm A Loved One . . . WHAT WOULD YOU DO?*