

# GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

August 24, 2014

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Musician: Ellen Mosiman

Song Leader: Bonita Schroeder

Worship Leader: Valerie Klaassen

## With the Compassion of Christ

For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more.... Philippians 1:8-9

### 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

Leader: We gather together in the name of the One who bids us come.

**People: We gather together to hear the words of the One who is Love.**

Leader: We gather together to learn from the One who shows compassion.

**People: We gather together to sing praises to the One who teaches peace.**

**All: Come, let us worship!**

### Gathering Prayer

\* **Gathering Song Hymn No. 8** *Brethren, we have met to worship*

**Offering Our Gifts** Western District Conference

**Children's Story**

Valerie Klaassen

\* **Song Sing the Journey No. 13** *My soul is filled with joy*

**Scripture Reading** Philippians 1: 3-11

Russ Janzen

\* **Hymn No. 142** *Brothers and sisters of mine*

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

**Scripture** Matthew 14: 13-21

**Sermon** *Attending, Responding and Releasing with Love* Eric Massanari

**Special Music**

Tara Harms-Becker

### Congregational Sharing and Prayer

\* **Sending Song Sing the Journey No. 14** *Lord Jesus, you shall be my song*  
Verses 1 & 2

### Benediction

### Postlude

\*Indicates those comfortable in doing so, please stand

**There will be no Sunday School classes during the month of August.**

### For Sharing and Prayer

Eric Massanari received his Master of Divinity Degree from Iliff School of Theology in Denver. He recently served as pastor at Shalom Mennonite Church and is currently chaplain at Kidron-Bethel Village. He and his wife, Yolanda Kauffman, and son, Noah, live in Newton.

Randy Smith, our transitional pastor, will be bringing the message next Sunday. Following the worship service will be a time of introduction and question and answer time with Pastor Randy. Refreshments will be served in the fellowship hall. The adult Sunday School classes will meet jointly during the month of September to begin the transition process. A transition team of 5-6 members from the congregation is being formed to help facilitate the transitioning process.

**Western District Conference:** Pray for the Discernment Task Force of WDC as they compile hundreds of survey returns in response to the resolution from Rainbow Mennonite Church and prepare to lead the November Reference Council.

**Mennonite Mission Network:** Today, MMN begins a two-week orientation in Los Angeles for two new Radical Journey teams. Pray for openness to learn and for grace in this time of transition, as participants prepare to leave for their assignment locations in Indonesia and South Africa.

**For pastoral care needs,** please contact a member of the Spiritual Council: Carl Goossen, Judy Janzen, Russ Janzen, Rita Patterson, Alma Schmidt, Jeff Toews.

### **Church Events**

**Thursday at 8:00 a.m.** Senior Breakfast at Charlies in Newton.

**Thursday at 7:00 p.m.** Spiritual Council meets at church.

**September 12, 14 & 16** Grace Hill week at the Harvey County Homeless Shelter. Please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board to help provide food or volunteer.

**September 28 at 12:45 p.m.** Semi-annual church business meeting.

## Et Cetera

We ask all members and participants of Western District Conference churches to participate in an online survey with 20 questions in regard to our Confession of Faith, Membership Guidelines of Mennonite Church USA, polity, and sexuality. English and Spanish versions can be found at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/WDCopinion>. This is the beginning of a discernment process responding to a resolution from Rainbow Mennonite Church. The resolution can be found at [mennowdc.org](http://mennowdc.org) under ASSEMBLY 2014. For those who do not have access to the internet, paper copies are available in the foyer - please fill them out and return them to Debbie Claassen or Diana Schunn. ***Please complete the survey by August 31.***

**The Harvey County Homeless Shelter** will hold training sessions at 6:30 p.m. at the shelter, 900 W. Broadway, Newton on August 28, September 9 and September 25. See Donna Balzer for more information.

**The Life Enrichment program at Bethel College** for fall semester 2014 begins on September 3 when we will celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This program is designed especially for persons 60 and above. For more information, see the brochures on the bulletin board.

***The Artful Elder – Inspiring the creative spirit in each of us*** will be held on Thursday, September 4 at Kidron Bethel Village, North Newton and also in Hesston. Be inspired by the stories and artistic demonstrations of Bluestem residents. For more information, see the poster on the bulletin board.

**With events in Israel and Palestine**, primarily Gaza, very much in the news in recent weeks, we are fortunate to have the first-hand observations and insights of persons who have spent substantial time in that region. Daryl Byler, former MCC representative in Palestine and Israel, Iran, Iraq and Jordan, will be speaking at several events from September 5 to 7. These will take place at Hesston College, Journey Mennonite Church-South Hutchinson, Hesston Mennonite Church, Whitestone Mennonite Church, and First Mennonite Church-Newton. See the flier on the bulletin board for times, locations and topics.

**The annual MCC Flatlander Bicycle Ride** will be held on Saturday, September 20, originating at the Mennonite Central Committee offices, in North Newton. This year's ride will raise funds for an MCC water development project in Kenya. Rides of approximately 35, 45 and 65 miles, as well as a shorter family ride, are planned. Informational brochures are on the bulletin board. The brochure is also available on the MCC website, [www.mcc.org/get-involved/events/mcc-flatlander-bicycle-ride](http://www.mcc.org/get-involved/events/mcc-flatlander-bicycle-ride). Or you can register on-line at that website.

**Mennonite Central Committee** would like to invite you on a Learning Tour to Kenya. On February 7-17, 2015, you will discover, first-hand, Sand Dams at work and see other MCC supported programs in the areas of health, education and peace. The estimate cost for this learning tour is \$1110 per person, which includes food, lodging, and in-country transportation. Airfare needs to be purchased separately. Space is very limited. For more information contact Anna Yoder by Monday September 22, 2014 at [annayoder@mcc.org](mailto:annayoder@mcc.org) or 316-283-2720.

**Help needed at Newton Et Cetera Shop:** Serve Mennonite Central Committee and your local community by clerking at Et Cetera Shop! Clerks are needed for morning, afternoon, and evening shifts. Call 283-9461 or email [manager@newtonetceterashop.com](mailto:manager@newtonetceterashop.com).

## Announcements

**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:** Catina Wiebe and Kylee Schunn

**Nursery Next Sunday:** Joyce Wedel and Katrina Regehr

**Ushers Next Sunday:** Mike Balzer and Kendall Claassen

**Offering Last Sunday:** Harvey County Homeless Shelter \$1,570.00

**Offering Next Sunday:** Peace Connections

## CHURCH OFFICES

**Church Secretary:** *Debbie Claassen*

Secretary's E-mail: [secretary@gracehillmc.org](mailto:secretary@gracehillmc.org)