

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

August 26, 2007
Worship 9:30 a.m.

Pastor: James Voth

Keyboard: Linda Harms

Whitewater, Kansas

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Youth Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Chorister: Gladys Reimer

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

Scripture Reading Luke 13:10-17

Brittany Claassen

Message *Learn the Important Things of Life!*

* **Hymn No. 487** *Teach me, O Lord*

Worship in Giving Western District Conference

Sharing and Prayer

* **Benediction**

* **Benediction Hymn No. 433** *Go, my children*

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

Jeffery Janzen, son of Judy Janzen, died August 19, 2007 in Boise, Idaho. Jeff was 42. Funeral and graveside services were held Friday at the church. Please keep Judy, Michael and Jodi, Madison and Grant Janzen along with the wider Janzen family in your prayers.

The flowers this morning are in honor of Melvin and Donna Klaassen's 60th wedding anniversary, August 30, 1947. Congratulations!!!

Thank you to all who remembered me with prayers, visits, phone calls, cards and flowers during my recent illness. Thank you, too, to Pastor Jim for his visits and encouragement. Your thoughtfulness was greatly appreciated and, I'm sure, contributed to my speedy recovery.

Carol Claassen

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

Isaiah 58:9b-12

"If you do away with the yoke of oppression, with the pointing finger and malicious talk, and if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday. The Lord will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail. Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings.

Gathering Prayer

* **Hymn No. 83** *With happy voices singing*

Back to School Report

Katherine and Jim

Learn of the Lord Psalm 103:1-18 Responsive Reading No. 822

Special Music

Tim, Lisa and Eli Schmidt

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

Congregation joins in on last verse:

Won't you let me be your servant

Let me be as Christ to you?

Pray that I may have the grace to

Let you be my servant too.

Western District Conference: Pray for Nita Wilson, youth pastor at Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church, Goessel as she concludes her ministry there and prepares to serve one year in Dallas, Texas as a church planter intern with Marco Guete.

Mennonite Mission Network: An annual retreat for students of Instituto Biblico Anabautista will be held August 31 – September 3 in Talladega, Alabama. Pray for wisdom for Marvin Lorenzana as he leads the workshops and that the students will be rejuvenated for the coming year.

Western District Conference Churches we're praying for:

Faith Mennonite Church, Newton. Nathan Koontz recently began as full-time associate pastor at Faith.

Iglesia Mennonita Rey de Gloria (King of Glory Mennonite Church) rents space in another church in Garland, TX, a part of the Dallas metroplex. The congregation is 2 years old with an average attendance of 20. They meet Sunday afternoons and Friday evenings. Their pastor, Felix Marquez, has been commissioned as a church planter.

30 Days of Generosity, a season of prayer, worship, devotions and study together as a congregation begins October 1. *Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity.* 2 Corinthians 8:2. More information coming.

Summer Sunday School

Joint Adult and Youth Summer Sunday School will meet in the sanctuary today. "Grace Hill Roots – Then and Now" Harms Family Trip to Poland report.

The Junior Department (grades K-6) is studying the *Parables of Jesus* in the basement. Grades 7-8 may help with the junior department or attend the adult sessions. A separate class is being maintained for the Preschool group (ages 2-5 yrs.) in Room 7.

The fall quarter will begin next Sunday. Everyone will resume meeting with their regular classes.

Church Events

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Youth Group meets at church.

Next Sunday at 4:00 p.m. Wheat State Manor Vesper Service. Messengers S.S. class is in charge.

September 9 at 4:30 p.m. Senior Faspa at Kidron Bethel Community Room. Theme: Most influential person in your life.

September 23 Installation of Katherine Goerzen during worship
11:30 a.m. - carry-in meal
12:45 p.m. - Semi-annual Business Meeting

Announcements

Calling all women! We will practice September 19 and 26 at 7:30 p.m. here at church in preparation for special music on September 30. All ages are welcome!!! If you have questions, contact Valerie Klaassen.

Back to School Kits School kits are MCC's most requested item. They are given primarily to refugee children, helping students and teachers add some normalcy to disrupted lives. We will be collecting items for school kits in the foyer for the next few weeks. Items needed include:

- ◆ Spiral notebooks or notebooks with perforations (about 21.5 cm x 27 cm/8 in x 10.5 in; about 70-80 sheets each)
- ◆ unsharpened #2 pencils
- ◆ rulers (flat flexible plastic; indicating both 30 cm and 12 in)
- ◆ colored pencils (in packages of 12)
- ◆ large pencil erasers

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: Nancy Harms and Jana Harms

Nursery Next Sunday: Debbie Claassen and Camille Claassen

Special Music Next Sunday: Jack Mace

Keyboard Next Sunday: Linda Harms

Ushers Next Sunday: Lon Hiebert and Dean Patterson

Offering Last Sunday: MCC Meat Canning \$3,992.85

Offering Next Sunday: Mennonite Church USA

CHURCH OFFICES

Pastor: James Voth Pastor's Study: 283-2644

E-mail: pastor@gracehillmc.org

Pastor's Cell Phone (in case of emergency) 1-316-655-2811

Youth Pastor: Katherine Goerzen Office Phone: 799-2238

Home Phone: 620-327-4609 Cell Phone: 620-747-0696

E-mail: youthpastor@gracehillmc.org

Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen 1-888-516-8474

Secretary's E-mail: kimdebc@wheatstate.com

Church Website: www.gracehillmc.org

Et Cetera

Women's & Girls Retreat for Western District and South Central Conference Mennonite Women will be September 7-9 at Camp Mennoscah. For more information, pick up a brochure/registration form in the foyer.

Needed: Tractor drivers for the Kansas State Fair Parking Shuttle. The State Fair pays the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale for this service, which offsets our building rental cost for the weekend of the Relief Sale. Please reply to Brad/Suzy Burch or Cal/Jo Frye or call Charlie Watkins at 620-543-6838.

Do we have a voice? After WWII, Mennonite men and women helped change the state of American mental health care. In 2007, American healthcare access and affordability is nearing a state of crisis. *Can we once again make a difference?* Plan to attend: Healthcare Summit: Finding Our Voice on September 15. (8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.) Registrations brochures are available in the foyer. Check out www.viewofhope.org for more information. The summit is sponsored by Hoffnungsau Mennonite Church and Western District Conference.

Play golf for Bethel. Alumni and friends of Bethel College are invited to the Fall Thresher Golf Classic, Saturday, September 15, Hesston. Check the bulletin board for details, contact the Bethel alumni office at 316-284-5251 or alumni@bethelks.edu or go to www.bethelks.edu/alumni/events/golf.php. Registration deadline is September 5. Early entry discount for entering by August 31.

Need to get away and play... Come to Camp Mennoscah - join us for the annual Work and Play Camp September 16-20. We will work together on several projects, Floyd Bartel will lead us in Bible Study and on Tuesday evening, our special presenter is Paul Jantzen of Hillsboro. Brochures are available in the foyer or contact Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290 or email: campmno@mennowdc.org.

Zion Mennonite Church, Elbing, is hosting a seminar, Communication Skills to Enhance Personal, Family and Congregational Life, conducted by Dr. Nate Regier, Vice President, Prairie View Process Solutions, on September 29. This seminar is modeled on the Process Communication Model, which Prairie View has used in a variety of settings, including churches and businesses. The cost of participating in the seminar at Zion is \$60.00, which includes the fee for completing the online personality profile and lunch. (Prairie View charges up to \$275.00 to participate in similar seminars.) This seminar is open to anyone who has an interest in enhancing their communication skills, whether for personal, family or congregational life. Please contact Bruce Bradshaw by September 7 to register; brochures are available in the foyer.

Mennonite Disaster Service Update: NEEDED: Electricians, Plumbers and Roofers in Greensburg, Kansas. There is still work to be done. If you can do electrical, plumbing or roofing work along with general building skills you are needed in Greensburg. If you are willing to work alongside others, you are still needed in Greensburg. You can volunteer for a day, two days, a week or more. The MDS Greensburg site can house eight people or more. To volunteer, contact MDS in Greensburg: (985) 291-1296. There are current needs and needs on the horizon. Five houses are being actively worked on. Come and serve your neighbors here in Kansas. Mennonite Disaster Service is a volunteer network through which various constituencies of the Anabaptist church can respond to those affected by disasters in Canada and the United States. While our main focus is on clean up, repair and rebuilding homes, this activity becomes a means of touching lives and helping people regain faith and wholeness.

The Harvey County Historical Museum and Archives is planning a photographic exhibit of area churches in 2008. They would like assistance from each of the churches to collect items and pictures to include in their exhibit. If you are interested in helping with this project, please contact Doreen Harms. There is a copy of a letter from the museum with more information posted on the bulletin board.