

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

August 28, 2011

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: Peter Goerzen

Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Musician: Sara Unruh

Song Leader: Penny Hiebert

Worship Leader: Russell Janzen

Back to School Sunday *Gathering Our Praise*

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 Hymn No. 834: The Beatitudes

Gathering Prayer

* **Gathering Song "Sing the Journey" No. 19** *I will call upon the Lord*

Offering our Gifts Western District Conference

Hearing God's Word

Old Testament Reading Deuteronomy 6:1-9, 20-25 Carl Goossen

Children's Story Kris Janzen

Sunday School Song *The wise man built his house upon the rock*
words on insert

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

Gospel Reading Matthew 7:12-29 Pastor Katherine

Sermon Pastor Katherine

Responding to the Gospel

* **Hymn of Response No. 314** *The word of God is solid ground*

Affirmation of Faith see litany on insert

A unison reading taken from *The Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective* (1995)

Sharing Our Stories and Congregational Prayer

Sending

* **Sending Song No. 546** *Guide my feet*

* **Benediction**

Postlude

*Indicates those comfortable in doing so, please stand

Today we will have our Back-to-School Celebration during the Sunday School Hour. All classes and all ages are invited to meet in the Fellowship Hall for a short program. After this, we will assemble the MCC School Kits.

For Sharing and Prayer

Olin Schmidt passed away on Tuesday, August 23. Services were held at Grace Hill yesterday, August 27. We continue to pray for Alma and the family.

Western District Conference: Pray for Doug Krehbiel who will be ordained today at Tabor Mennonite Church, Goessel. Doug serves as Youth Pastor at Tabor and as Youth Minister for the WDC and for the South Central Mennonite Conference.

Mennonite Mission Network: C. Paul and Hildi Amstutz are long-term MMN associates in Paraguay. Pray for C. Paul as he serves the business community by training chaplains who provide emotional and spiritual assistance to employees, and for Hildi as she ministers to women's groups and leads spiritual retreats.

Church Events

This afternoon at 4:00 p.m. 200th Anniversary Drama Rehearsal

This afternoon at 4:00 p.m. Wheat State Manor Vesper Service – the Youth Group is in charge. Following the vesper service the youth will have a progressive supper. We will plan to meet at the church this afternoon at 3:30 p.m.

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

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. The youth group will meet at church.

Next Saturday & Sunday - September 3-4 The 200th Anniversary “Home Coming” Celebration begins on Saturday morning and continues through Sunday afternoon. Next Sunday’s worship will be from 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. with fellowship time following from 11:00-12:00. Reservations are needed for the meals; please see Virgil or Kaye Penner. The schedule for the celebration is on the church’s website at www.gracehillmc.org.

- ◆ **Volunteers** are needed for assisting persons in the cemetery to find markers on Saturday morning, afternoon, and Sunday afternoon.
- ◆ **We also need a person** at each meal time to take tickets and a person to help with registration Saturday afternoon 3:00 – 5:00.
- ◆ **There is a need for several persons** on Friday afternoon to facilitate various set-ups.
Please see Virgil or Kaye Penner to volunteer.
- ◆ **Food items needed for the 200th Anniversary:** The Social Council needs cakes, cookies and homemade jam for the anniversary weekend festivities. Please see the sign-up sheets in the foyer if you are willing to provide some of these items.

Sunday, September 18 at 12:45 p.m. Semi-annual church business meeting. A carry-in meal will be held after Sunday School.

Announcements

The Junior Sunday School Dept. has several openings for teachers this fall. If you would be interested in teaching a fun group of Grace Hill kids, please contact Kathy Balzer, Curt Regehr, Theresa Toews or Katherine Claassen. Thank you for your consideration and prayers.

Teachers are also needed for our Wednesday night programming. If you are interested in teaching, please contact Ashley Enns or Debbie Claassen. Our Wednesday night kick-off wiener roast will be September 28.

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: Barb Schmidt and Kylee Schunn
Nursery Next Sunday: Joyce Wedel and Katrina Regehr

Ushers Next Sunday: Terry Klassen and Dean Patterson

Offering Last Sunday: Harvey County Homeless Shelter \$1,754.00
Offering Next Sunday: Mennonite Church USA

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

Unison Confession of Faith

We believe in God the Creator of all
 who has called forth a people of faith.
We believe in Jesus Christ,
 the Word become flesh,
 crucified and resurrected for us.
 He is our Savior from evil and sin,
 our peace and the exalted Lord of the church.
And we believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the source of redemption and life.

We who respond to Christ in faith are his church,
 the community called to proclaim
 and to be a sign of the kingdom of God,
 the new people sustained by Scripture and Spirit.
Thus we continue the mission of Christ,
 making disciples, forgiving, restoring,
 baptizing believers, sharing the Lord's Supper,
 using our gifts in unity and love.

We commit ourselves to follow Jesus Christ,
 in his path through suffering to life.
By grace we are being changed into the image of God,
 in which God created women and men.
As faithful disciples, we hear Christ's call
 to life in the Spirit in relation with God,
 to chastity, stewardship, love for the enemy,
 to the practice of justice and peace.

We joyfully worship the three-in-one God,
 as a holy nation, the people of God,
 giving allegiance to Christ as our Lord,
 living now as if in the age to come.
We place our hope in God's everlasting reign,
 in victory over evil, the resurrection of the dead,
 in Christ's coming again in judgment and glory.
To God be all glory! Amen!

Et Cetera

A **second open house for the House Against Hunger** is scheduled for Sunday, August 28, 2:00-4:00 p.m. The location of the house is 543 S. Lorraine, Wichita.

All women and girls grade 3 and above are invited to Camp Mennoscah September 9-11. On Saturday, we have many opportunities including Bible study, canoeing, skin care and pampering, water aerobics, using your digital camera, prayerful movement, and learning about gluten intolerance. There will also be time for fellowship, spending time in nature, swimming, singing and worshipping God. Scholarships are available. Brochures are available in the foyer or for more information contact womengirlsretreat@gmail.com. We hope to see everyone at the retreat.

The **annual Mennonite Central Committee Flatlander Bicycle Ride** will be held on Saturday, September 17, originating at the MCC offices, 121 E. 30th, North Newton. This year's ride will raise funds for an MCC water development project in Mozambique. 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: <http://centralstates.mcc.org/programs/flatlander> or you can register online.

A Grand Old Time—It's fun for all ages! Everyone is invited to come to Camp Mennoscah's annual **Work & Play Camp**, September 18-22! Work & Play Camp is a service-oriented retreat for anyone with a few free days and willing hands. Come for one day, come for two days, or come for all the days. We offer you the chance to enjoy fellowship with others and participate in various service projects around the camp. Tasks for all skills and activity levels will be available. If we run out of work, there will be even more time for fun! (There's no guilt in having fun, folks. It's camp.) No camp fees; suggested donation of \$4 per person/meal. Contact us at campmno@mennowdc.org or [620-297-3290](tel:620-297-3290).

You inspire me! We have been so inspired by what has been done at Camp Mennoscah's spring Scrapbooking Retreat that we are offering a Fall Scrapbooking Retreat. Hours of uninterrupted (or as uninterrupted as you like) cropping, lots of fellowship, and a really great time is what we are offering you the weekend of September 30-October 2. Check out the brochure at www.mennowdc.org or contact us at campmno@mennowdc.org for more information. We're feeling really scrappy!

Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) has surpassed its initial target of raising \$1 million for the East Africa drought and is now expanding its response to the continuing crisis in Kenya, Ethiopia and Somalia. MCC is planning to provide emergency food assistance and emergency relief for internally displaced people around the Somalia border town of Dhobley, the Dadaab refugee camp in Kenya and in two districts in southeastern Ethiopia. MCC continues to work with long-term partner organizations in over 50 countries to help lessen the effects of future droughts. Please consider giving a gift for 'East Africa Drought', or to 'Where Needed Most' to support MCC's sustainable development work around the world. Send checks to MCC Central States, PO Box 235, North Newton, KS 67117 or donate online at mcc.org.

New books in the library:

Two books donated by the Mennonite Schools Council:

- ◆ *Teaching That Transforms* John D. Roth - Why Anabaptist-Mennonite Education Matters
- ◆ *Life together in the Spirit* John Driver - A Radical Spirituality for the Twenty-First Century

Classen Genealogy Book donated to our library.

The donated Heartwarming Inspirational Romances will be placed on one shelf in the library. Inside is the notation "Please read and return to Grace Hill Library." Thank you. Library Staff

The wise man built his house upon the rock

The foolish man built his house upon the sand (3x)
And the rain came a tumbling down

The rain came down and the floods came up (3x)
And the house on the sand went "splat!"

The wise man built his house upon the rock (3x)
And the rain came a tumbling down

The rain came down and the floods came up (3x)
And the house on the rock stood firm

So build your house on the Lord Jesus Christ (3x)
And the blessings will come down

The blessings will come down as the prayers go up (3x)
So build your house on the Lord.