

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

August 29, 2004

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Pastor: James Voth

Keyboard: Linda Harms

Whitewater, Kansas

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Office: 283-2644

Chorister: Suzy Burch

Back to School Sunday

Prelude

Call to Worship

Let the wise listen and add to their learning,
and let the discerning get guidance-- Proverbs 1:5

The Lords says, "I give you sound learning,
so do not forsake my teaching." Proverbs 4:2

Give instruction to the wise, and they will become wiser still;
Teach the righteous and they will gain in learning. Proverbs 9:9

* **Invocation** from Ps. 89:15, Ps. 119:152, Pr. 24:32 and Ps. 19:14

Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you,
who walk in the light of your presence, O Lord.
Long ago I learned from your statutes
that you established them to last forever.
I applied my heart to what I observed
and learned a lesson from what I saw:
May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be pleasing in your sight,
O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.

* **Hymn No. 54** *Praise The Lord Who Reigns Above*

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.

Offering Mennonite Central Committee and

Mike & Teresa Sherrill,

Grace Hill Mission Partners serving in Japan

Children's Moments – Stump the Pastor

* **Hymn No. 459** *I Come With Joy To Meet My Lord* Verses 1,4 & 5

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

Special Music

Valerie Klaassen and Linda Harms

Scripture Reading Ecclesiastes 12:9-14 Pew Bible Page 667

Reader: John Klaassen

Children to age 5 may be dismissed to the library for childcare

Message *The Gift of the Teacher*

* **Hymn No. 502** *Spirit of God! Descend*

* **Benediction**

* **Benediction Hymn No. 118** *Praise God From Whom*

Postlude

* Indicates those comfortable in doing so, please stand

Back-to-School Celebration with "Prairie Tales with Mother Goossen"

Everyone is invited to the combined adult and junior department Sunday School hour at 10:45 a.m. in the sanctuary. The program will begin with sharing by each of the children about their school experience followed by sharing from our special guests, Mother Goossen and Cousin Bernhard. Children who are in kindergarten through eighth grade are encouraged to sit in the front pews or on the floor near the stage.

For Sharing and Prayer

Jim and Jo Schroeder and Dennis and Barbara Rettele announce the engagement of their children Amanda Schroeder and Ben Rettele. The wedding will be January 1, 2005 in Sabetha, Kansas.

Pray for Brett Klingenberg, our new Youth Pastor, who begins Wednesday, September 1.

New Address: Stan, Jeanette, & Jonathan Harder

5723 North 99th Street, Omaha, NE 68134

Phone: 402-572-0433

Email: jeanette@harder.net stan@harderwoods.com

Western District Conference: Pray for Lee Suderman as he is installed today at Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church as Intentional Interim Pastor.

Mennonite Mission Network: In a spirit of unity, the pastors of the Mennonite churches in Ukraine formed the Christian Union of Mennonite Churches. Pray that God may bless them as they cooperate in ministry.

Church Events

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Musical Practice. The high school boys will meet with Doug Claassen to work on the set.

Saturday-Sunday The Youth, along with Youth Pastor Brett Klingenberg and sponsors Rob and Diana Schunn, will be attending Fall Holiday at Camp Mennoscah.

Next Sunday Sunday School Promotion Sunday

Next Sunday at noon Worship Council will meet at the home of Valerie Klaassen.

Wednesday, September 8 Hands of Friendship is starting off the new season with their first meeting at the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Center, North Newton on Wednesday, September 8, at 7:00 p.m. The evening will be spent working on MCC projects. Devotions: Jean Isaac; Hostess: Jo Frye; Financial Project: Blanket for MCC-Sudan or cash.

Blankets For Sudan (Mennonite Central Committee) are the September project for Hands of Friendship. Single/full size medium weight blankets (72" x 90"). Bring to the church foyer. See bulletin board for further information. All are welcome to contribute.

College Students: If you are interested in receiving *The Mennonite* during the 2004-05 school year, please contact Debbie Claassen.

You can HEAR the worship service even better using the church's FM radio transmitter. All that is needed is a small AM/FM radio with headphones. Tune to FM 104.9 and you may receive the worship service seated anywhere in the sanctuary. Several radios are available at church or bring your own. If you have any questions our sound technicians will be glad to assist you.

You're invited to join "Prayers of the Church" each Sunday morning from 9:00 – 9:10 a.m. in the library. Please feel free to place prayer requests in the prayer box in the foyer.

Nursery This Sunday: Bonita Schroeder and Emily Burch
Nursery Next Sunday: Nancy Harms and Jana Harms

Keyboard Next Sunday: Chelsea Vaught

Ushers Today: Kendall Claassen and Terry Klassen
Ushers Next Sunday: Lon Hiebert and Dean Patterson

Offering Last Sunday: Western District Conference \$1,082.41
Offering Next Sunday: Mennonite Church USA

CHURCH OFFICES

Pastor: James Voth Pastor's Study: 283-2644 E-mail: jvoth@cox.net

Pastor Jim is at the church office on Tuesday mornings.

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

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

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

Church Website: <http://gracehill.ks.us.mennonite.net/>

Et Cetera

Announcements

The M2 (Match two) program of Offender / Victim Ministries is holding an orientation for new volunteers September 9, 2004, 6:30 p.m., at the Hutchinson Correctional Facility East Unit. M2 is an in-prison friendship program that seeks to help inmates make the necessary life changes to become successful when they are released. Most of the inmates in M2 receive no other visits than those of their M2 friend. A volunteer commits to visit one evening per month. Contact Gary Isaac at OVM (316-283-2038) for more information.

The Mennonite Women's and Girl's Retreat will be held at Camp Mennoscah September 10-12. This year's theme is "The God of Sarah, Hagar, and Keturah. . . Embracing Our Gifts and Calling". A registration packet with all the details is available in the foyer.

Mennonite Singles Group will not be meeting on September 4 due to it being Labor Day weekend. We will meet Saturday, September 11, at First Mennonite Brethren Church, 8000 W. 21st Street, Wichita, at 7:00 p.m. If you are single or single again, 30 to mid 50's, join us at the praise and worship service, then to Jared's for fun, food, and fellowship. Bring a snack and drink to share. For more information, contact Jonathan Ensz at 620-367-4627, or Karen Hostetler at 316-722-0506, or email Karen at mennosingles606@yahoo.com

On Sunday September 12 at 7:00 p.m. Tom and Lois Harder, co-pastors at Lorraine Avenue Mennonite Church, will present a concert of sacred, secular, folk, jazz and classical music at Shalom Mennonite Church. Funds raised through a free-will offering will be used to purchase "wish list" items not included in the church's recent building project, such as round tables for the fellowship hall and landscaping. A reception will be held after the concert. Nursery care will be provided for children age three and under. The church is located at 800 East First in Newton.

Mennonite Central Committee is looking for drivers for the shuttle at the Kansas State Fair. Our church is responsible for drivers on Tuesday, September 14. Please see Kendall Claassen or Kim Claassen if you are interested in driving.

Preschoolers, ages 3-5, are invited to register for Story Time at the Conference Resource Library in North Newton. The first session is on Wednesday, September 15 at 10:30 a.m. We look forward to once again having Susan Nafziger and Blanche Spaulding sharing the role of

storyteller. Pre-registration can take place by calling Pat or Marlene at 283-6300.

"The best thing about Jumpstart is connecting with others who have similar challenges in their teaching. We can relate to each other and network!" "At Jumpstart, I get ideas from others who have had some success. I am rejuvenated with new energy." Get resourced, just like these folks were at the last Jumpstart. Jumpstart will be held at Eden Mennonite Church, Moundridge on Saturday, September 25. See the flyer in the foyer.

Put the Newton Area CROP Walk on your calendar! It's Sunday, September 26 at 2:00 p.m. Registration and gathering music begins at 1:30 p.m. All monies that you raise may be designated for Mennonite Central Committee. Information about registration is available today in the foyer.

Wheat State Manor of Whitewater, a 72 bed Skilled Nursing Facility, is hiring a full-time bookkeeper to start immediately. The position responsibilities include closing and preparing monthly financial statements using Business Works software, billing Medicare and Medicaid, and controlling accounts receivable. Call 316-799-2181.

Are you looking for a fulfilling opportunity for service? Community Playschool is seeking volunteer teacher helpers willing to commit to a school year for one or two mornings a week. This program provides a preschool experience for children of families with limited resources or special needs. Please carefully consider accepting this rewarding experience for yourself. For more information call 283-3667 (mornings), or Bonnie Krehbiel 284-2449 or Jeanette Leary 282-2631 (afternoons and evenings).