

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

August 29, 2010

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Pastor: Peter Goerzen

Keyboard: Linda Harms

Worship Leader: Pastor Katherine

Whitewater, Kansas

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Chorister: Pastor Katherine

Gathering in God's Presence

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 The Song of Moses and Miriam Exodus 15:1-13, 21

Gathering Prayer

- * **Gathering Hymn No. 446** *Wade in the water* verses 1-4
Many of the African American Spirituals included Exodus imagery, a story of liberation and hope in their experience of slavery and oppression. These songs were sung with the same freedom that they proclaimed, with improvised harmony, rhythm, and responses as the Spirit moved.
In keeping with the style of the song, you are encouraged to sing as the Spirit moves you to sing, adding harmony, musical responses (echo, imitation, repetition), hand clapping, swaying to the music, and so forth as you feel led by the freedom in the Spirit.

Offering our Gifts Peace Connections

Hearing God's Word

New Testament Reading Hebrews 11:23-29 Travis Harms

- * **Hymn No. 164** *When Israel was in Egypt's land* verses 1, 4, 5 & 6

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

Old Testament Reading

Excerpts from Exodus 12-14 Pastors Peter and Katherine

Sermon *The Old Testament Story of Salvation: The Exodus* Pastor Peter

Responding to God

- * **Hymn of Response No. 261** *I will sing the Lord's high triumph*
verses 1, 3 & 4
This hymn sings of the two main events of God's salvation in the Bible, the Exodus from the Old Testament and the Resurrection from the New Testament.

Sharing our Stories and Congregational Prayer

Sent by God

- * **Sending Hymn No. 419** *Lead on, O cloud of Presence*
- * **Benediction**

Postlude

*Indicates those comfortable in doing so, please stand

**The Adult Sunday School class will begin
10 minutes after the service is over.
Everyone is welcome!**

For Sharing and Prayer

In the hospital: Melvin Klaassen, Kansas Surgery & Recovery Center

Western District Conference: Pray for new leadership ministries in Texas – the Youth Ministry Steering Committee, the Timothy Project, a learning community toward Christian ministry in Texas, and the Texas Convention Steering Task Force as they seek to reinvigorate the Convention.

Mennonite Mission Network: Mennonite Church USA and the Mennonite churches in Congo have a 100-year history. Pray this relationship will continue to encourage and transform congregations on both continents.

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.

There will be three intergenerational, elective Adult Sunday School classes offered starting in September. Ken Wiebe will be leading a class on “Sermon Discussion”. They will be meeting in the basement. Various people will lead the class meeting in the library using the Uniform Lesson Series. Pastor Peter will be leading a class on “The Gospel of John”. They will be meeting in the fellowship hall. 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.

Nursery This Sunday: Barbara Schmidt and Kylee Schunn

Nursery Next Sunday: Joyce Wedel and Katrina Regehr

Ushers Next Sunday: Lon Hiebert and Dean Patterson

Offering Last Sunday: Western District Conference \$1,927.00

Offering Next Sunday: Mennonite Church USA

Today following Sunday School All church potluck meal – everyone is invited to stay.

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

Friday There will be a 5th Quarter this Friday at Doug and Katherine Claassen's house. All area high school students are invited. There will be a sign-up sheet that is passed around during the Sunday School hour. Thank you for your support!

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!

The Mentoring Relationship is a vital part of the life of our congregation, and something that many of you have expressed has yielded many positive experiences (for both the youth and the mentor). We would like to continue this program as an investment in the life of our congregation. Adults over 20, please prayerfully consider whether mentoring is something that you feel God is calling you to do. Youth and parents, there are guidelines for picking mentors in your mailboxes. Please prayerfully consider who you would like to choose for your mentor and return the enclosed information to Pastor Katherine by September 12. If you have questions or concerns, please speak with Pastor Katherine or someone on the Spiritual Council. Thank you!

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!

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.

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

Announcements

Et Cetera

The Life Enrichment program at Bethel College begins on September 8. A complete schedule is posted on the bulletin board.

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.

Story Time at the Western District Conference Resource Library in North Newton is about to begin and we're looking forward to seeing those smiling preschoolers come bounding through the library doors! Each week focuses on a theme that is carried out through stories, finger plays, songs, and creative activities. Our hope is that each child will be encouraged as he/she grows and learns about our world. Story Time happens on Wednesday mornings, Sept. 15 - Dec. 8, 10:00 - 10:40 a.m. Please enroll your 3-5 year old by calling Marlene or Pat at the library - 316-283-6300.

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.

Work & Play Camp is coming soon! September 19-23 Camp Mennoscah is offering our stunning and ever-exciting Work & Play Camp, the camp where everyone is invited to lend a hand in doing some of our never-ending projects. All it takes is a bit of free time and a willing spirit. Join us for whatever time you can. See the brochure at www.mennowdc.org in the Coming Events section or contact us at campmno@mennowdc.org or 620-297-3290. It's fellowship and fun!

Roofers needed! The May hailstorm damaged 15 buildings at Camp Mennoscah and we need to re-roof. We will be roofing September 17-19 and October 7-10. (If there are other dates that work better for you, please call us.) We're looking for people to roof and, depending on the number of volunteers, someone to cook for them. Camp Mennoscah is offering meals and lodging for volunteers, but PLEASE let us know in advance that you are coming. Contact Camp Mennoscah at campmno@mennowdc.org or 620-297-3290 if you can help us out.

Our congregation has received its CORE Bundle (Collection of Resources for Everyone), as a benefit from the WDC Vision 2012 Campaign. Each WDC congregation is able to choose six titles for their church library. The titles we have chosen are:

Through Fire and Water An Overview of Mennonite History (2010), by Harry Loewen and Steven Nolt.

Naked Anabaptist Core components of Anabaptism (2010), by Stuart Murray.

Jesus Matters Good news for the 21st Century (2009), ed. David Shenk and James Krabill.

Go Now Forward Reaching out to grow your congregation (2009), by David Eshleman.

Finding Anna Bee (2007), by Cindy Snider.

Don't Be Afraid Stories of Christians in times of trouble (2009), by Rebecca Seiling and Cindy Snider.

Other books that have been donated:

My Heart Remembers by Kim Vogel Sawyer - Three young children from the Orphan Train seek to find each other in Missouri.

Sand Pebbles by Patricia Hickman - A woman recently widowed needs to let go of the past and discover God.

Shelter of Hope an inspirational romance by Lyn Cote.

The Wedding Garden an inspirational romance by Linda Goodnight.

The Rancher's Promise an inspirational romance by Jillian Hart.

Baby Make a Match an inspirational romance by Arlene James.

Love Finds a Home an inspirational romance by Kathryn Springer.

Doctor Right an inspirational romance by Janet Tronstad.

These resources are available NOW - come, see, read and be enriched.