

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

August 31, 2008

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: James Voth

Youth Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Keyboard: Linda Harms

Chorister: Suzy Burch

Worship Leader: Roberta Harms

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 Psalm 26:1-8

Invocation

* **Hymn of Praise No. 59** *Sing praise to God who reigns*

Offering Peace Connections

Sharing and Prayer

Children's Moments *Stump the Pastor*

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

Reflections on the Coming Baptisms at Grace Hill

Special Music Jeff Toews

Scripture Reading Acts 16:12-15 Kristen Toews

Sermon *Lydia, the Purple Saleswoman*

* **Hymn of Response No. 510** *O Christ, in thee my soul*

* **Benediction**

* **Benediction Hymn No. 420** *Heart with loving heart united* vs. 1 & 3

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

New addresses:

Hannah Klaassen, 3622 Pennsylvania, Kansas City, MO 64111

Sarah Klaassen, 6116 Morrow Rd., Nashville, TN 37209

Western District Conference: Pray for Eric Buller as he is installed as pastor of Inman Mennonite Church today.

Mennonite Mission Network: Pray for participants beginning assignments with Mennonite Voluntary Service, Radical Journey or Service Adventure. Ask the Lord to give them openness and times of learning as they leave the familiarity of home and embark on a new adventure.

Upcoming Worship

September 7 Worship: Our fourteen baptismal candidates will share their faith stories. Worship leaders are members of the baptismal class.

On September 7 there will also be a Sunday School Promotion service at the conclusion of worship.

September 14

Baptism Sunday
9:30 a.m. Service of baptism at the church

10:30 a.m. Brunch for all in the fellowship hall

11:30 a.m. Leave for Camp Mennoscah

1:15 p.m. Baptism and Communion at Camp Mennoscah

Worship leaders: Members of the baptismal class

Those being baptized in the morning service are Brittany Claassen, Courtney Claassen, Laura Harms, Grant Hill, and Katie Regier.

Those being baptized at Camp Mennoscah are Cody Claassen, Philip Harms, David Janzen, Emily Klassen, Amanda Regehr, Casey Schunn, Curtis Toews, Emily Toews and Josh Toews.

The Social Council is preparing to serve brunch to the congregation and visitors on Sunday, September 14. To have some idea of how to prepare, we ask members to give us an estimate of how many family or friends will join us for brunch that day. Please sign the list in the foyer. Our menu will be egg casserole, sweet rolls, cheese, and fruit salad.

Along with returning to our regular adult Sunday school classes next Sunday an **8 session elective class** will be offered on the subject of disciple-making using the book More Ready Than You Realize: The Power of Everyday Conversations by Brian D. McLaren. Disciple-making as conversation, friendship, influence, invitation, companionship, challenge, opportunity, dance and as something you get to do. For those who are interested in this class please gather with Pastor Jim in the fellowship hall next Sunday during the Sunday school hour.

Summer Sunday School

Joint Adult and Youth Summer Sunday School - Today:
Presentation of Youth Mission Trip – Jeff Toews & others.

K-8th Grade students will meet in the basement fellowship hall for their final summer class. Preschoolers (ages 2-5) will meet in the Early Childhood classroom.

Church Events

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Business Council meets at church.
Worship Council meets at church.

Next Sunday at 4:30 p.m. The Spiritual Council invites all church members and spouses ages 65 and over to Faspa in the Kidron Bethel Community Room. This year's theme is "Holiday Memories."

Monday, September 8 at 7:00 p.m. Hands of Friendship will meet at church. Program: Work projects: school kits, tie comforts, etc.; Devotions: Elva Unruh; Hostess: Elaine Patterson; Financial Projects: Western District Women in Mission.

In Home Church Fellowship Meals September 21 and October 26
"They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts," Acts 2:46 The Spiritual Council invites everyone in the congregation to participate in fellowship meals to be shared in our homes. You are invited to register as either a host or a guest for one of the following Sundays: September 21 at noon or in the evening and October 26 at noon or in the evening. Hosts are asked to provide a meal for 6-10 persons. Registration forms are available in the foyer. You are encouraged to complete the form and return it to the designated box in the foyer by August 31.

September 28 at 7:00 p.m. Semi-annual Business Meeting.

High School Youth Group

Greetings all High School Youth! We will be starting Wednesday Nights this Wednesday September 3rd at 7 p.m. here at the church. Invite your friends! We look forward to seeing you there!

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: Nancy Harms and Jana Harms
Nursery Next Sunday: Joyce Wedel and Elizabeth Martin

Keyboard Next Sunday: Linda Harms
Ushers Next Sunday: Lon Hiebert and Dean Patterson

Offering Last Sunday: Western District Conference \$1,219.75
Offering Next Sunday: Mennonite Church USA

CHURCH OFFICES

Pastor: James Voth

E-mail: pastor@gracehillmc.org

Youth Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

E-mail: youthpastor@gracehillmc.org

Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen

Church Website: www.gracehillmc.org

Et Cetera

Mennonite Women's & Girls' Retreat will be September 5-7 at Camp Mennoscah. *"The Woven Threads of Sisterhood"* will be the theme with featured speakers Raylene Hinz-Penner and Debbie Schmidt. Join us for activities and programming for girls young and young at heart: Grade 3 through age 90! Registration forms are available in the foyer.

Faith Mennonite Church invites all Western District Conference churches to join in the occasion of their 50th Anniversary Celebration on September 6 and 7. See the flyer on the bulletin board for more details.

Jumpstart, sponsored by WDC Resource Commission, is just around the corner - on Saturday, September 13 at Faith Mennonite Church, Newton. This year we are compacting this event to just a half a day. Hear about resources. Participate in sharing, networking and brainstorming. Be blessed with a freebie. Get equipped for a new year of Christian education. Learn from folks who are teachers and pastors. Registration deadline is September 4. Got a Q? Call Marlene Bogard at 316-283-6300. Visit www.mennowdc.org/Jumpstart2008.pdf for registration brochure.

Play golf for Bethel. Alumni and friends of Bethel College are invited to the Fall Thresher Golf Classic, Saturday, September 13, 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 3.

Everyone is invited to attend the dedication and open house for the Camp Mennoscah Director's home, Murdock, KS, on September 14, 4 p.m. Stay for fellowship and fasma (refreshments)!

Camp Mennoscah—Spread the word (and work)! Work and Play Camp is September 14-18. We'll be preparing the camp for the winter and having a great time with games and good company. Invite a friend, your Sunday School class, your pastor—we'd love to have them all (and you) at camp. The camp starts with the dedication of the new director's residence at 4:00 p.m. on September 14 and the fun and games will continue from then on. Contact Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290 or campmno@mennowdc.org for more information.

Camp Mennoscah—MennoFolk Family Camp will be here before you know it! The MennoFolk Family Camp is October 10-12—bring your fun-loving selves to Camp Mennoscah for crafts, music, games, and other snazzy activities. Registration forms are available in the 2008 Camp Mennoscah catalog, or contact Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290 or campmno@mennowdc.org for more information. Everyone is invited!

Proclamation by Design is a day of resourcing on worship and the visual arts, to be held at Shalom Mennonite Church in Newton, on Saturday, October 11 from 8:30 - 3:30. Sponsored by Western District Conference Resource Commission and the Faith and Life Bookstore, this resourcing day is for pastors, banner makers, worship leaders and planners, worship center designers. Special presentation will be made by Marlene Kropf, author of *Preparing Sunday Dinner: a collaborative approach to worship and preaching* and Leslie James, co-author of *Proclamation by Design, the visual arts in worship*. Five workshop options on banner design and production, planning cohesive worship, collaborative art for worship and Advent 2008 planning will round out the day. Join dozens of others in experiencing a creative and enriching day. Registration forms are available at: www.mennowdc.org/ProclamationByDesign.pdf. A special group discount is available.