

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

September 6, 2015

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Musician: Ellen Mosiman

Song Leader: Bonita Schroeder

Transition Pastor: Randy Smith

The Spirit and Church in Acts

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Randy Smith

Prelude to Worship

*Call to Worship

Come, Holy Spirit

With rushing wind that sweeps away the chaff in our lives;

With tongues of fire that sets our hearts burning.

Come, Holy Spirit

With words that unite us;

With love that leaps over the walls between us

Come, Holy Spirit.

With power from above,

using our weakness to form strength;

Giving power and reason to take the next step of faith.

Come, Holy Spirit in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

*Come gracious Spirit

Hymnal 303

Confession and Forgiveness

Acts 2: 36-40

Silent confession

Prayer

O breathe on me, O breath of God

Sing the Journey 46

Offering and Offertory

Children's Story

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

Scripture

Deb Hiebert

Acts 1:1-14

Sermon

What a Difference a Day Makes

*New earth, heavens new

Hymnal 299

Sharing and Prayer

*Sending Hymn

Hymnal 338

I know not why God's wondrous grace

*Benediction

Postlude

*Indicates those comfortable in doing so, please stand.

This morning's offering is designated for Mennonite Church USA.

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.

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

"Our vision at Grace Hill Mennonite Church is for a revitalized ministry seeking authentic community that honors Christ by:

discerning our gifting;

developing a leadership team;

deepening our core ministries of

care, education and hospitality."

How did it happen? A group of 120 believers hiding out in the upper room became an international movement of faith within a generation. The next worship series, "The Spirit and Church in Acts" reflects on this relationship and some key moments in the growth of the church and the gospel. Next Sunday's scripture will be Acts 2:42-47.

For Sharing and Prayer

Thank you to all who donated items, helped assemble, Michelle for refreshments, Pastor Randy for leading the dedication of the kits, Elaine for her display on the communion table, Ed for set-up, the ladies who sewed the bags, and for those who made the work lighter by carrying all the kits to the van. The grand total was 175 school kits. We pray that 175 children will be blessed as they receive these kits.

Education Council

Thank you for your recent gift to MCC! Your support is very valuable to us. Without people like you, MCC could not work with our partners in places like the DRC (Democratic Republic of Congo), where we are providing seeds, gardening tools and rented land to displaced Congolese families living in camps. This way, they can grow their own food in a dignified way. Thank you for making a difference in the DRC and all over the world!

MCC Central States

Western District Conference: Give thanks for June Thomsen, chair, and other members of the Annual Assembly Planning Committee. Pray for God's guidance for them as they prepare for WDC's gathering October 30-31 at Bethel College.

Mennonite Mission Network: Amanda and Gamaliel Falla of Mennonite Mission Network serve as mentors to Mennonite pastors in Colombia. Pray for the Fallas as they encourage Colombian pastors to make their relationship with God top priority. Ask God to provide the resources for their families' needs.

Church Events

Today at 5:00 p.m. Wheat State Manor Vesper Service will be led by Randy with Mary Ann Wiebe accompanying. Everyone is welcome to attend. Also this week at Wheat State: Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. – mending; Friday at 3:00 p.m. – Bingo.

Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Structure Task Force meets.

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Adult Choir will begin practice this Wednesday with Matthew Graber as choir director.

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

Thursday at 8:00 a.m. Senior Breakfast at Mom's Café in Whitewater.

Thursday at 3:00 p.m. Kidron-Bethel Coffee, hosted by Spiritual Council.

Friday – Sunday Women & Girls Retreat at Camp Mennoscah. For information see the fliers in the foyer or go to <http://campmennoscah.org/camp-retreats/>.

Next Sunday There will be an all-church meal on Sunday, September 13 in the "outback" (north outdoor shelter), following the Sunday School hour. Please bring either a salad or dessert. The Social Council will provide ham sandwiches, chips, drinks and table service. Everyone is invited to join in the fellowship!

Monday, September 14 at 11:30 a.m. Hands of Friendship -The first meeting of Hands of Friendship for the fall will be a Salad Luncheon held at church on Monday, September 14 at 11:30 a.m. Bring any salad ingredient to be tossed with lettuce. Dessert will be furnished. Devotions will be lead by Marge Harms from the new devotional book *Spark Igniting your God-Given Creativity* by April Yamasaki. This devotional book is sponsored by Mennonite Women USA.

October 25 Semi-Annual Church Business Meeting

Announcements

Lynn Graham has been hired as the Grace Hill custodian. She began on August 22. Lynn lives in Whitewater and is also currently a custodian at Remington Middle School.

Cupcake Sunday will be September 20. All those who bring food for the food pantry or donate money for the pantry on Sunday, September 20 will receive a coupon to exchange for a cupcake between Church service and Sunday School. The food will go to the Whitewater and Potwin Food Pantries. Thanks for your participation.

Delegates are needed from Grace Hill for the Western District Conference Assembly at Bethel College, October 30-31. If you are willing to serve as a delegate, please notify Tim Harms. The delegate session is October 31, 8:30-3:00 with a lunch break. Registration is \$65.00. Register online or pick up a form in the foyer.

Nursery This Sunday: Kaye Penner and Sara Westerfield

Nursery Next Sunday: Deb Regier and Katrina Regehr

Ushers Next Sunday: Doug Hiebert and Russell Janzen

Offering Last Sunday: Peace Connections \$1,222.00

Offering Next Sunday: Local Church

CHURCH OFFICES

Pastor's Office Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 a.m.-Noon, Thursday 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Transition Pastor: Randy Smith

Email: transitionpastor@gmail.com

Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen

Secretary's E-mail: secretary@gracehillmc.org

Et Cetera

Join us at West Zion for a discipleship workshop with Marvin Lorenzana of Mennonite Mission Network on Sept. 12, 9:00-noon. Marvin will focus on how we grow as disciples of Jesus in the context of Missional Discipleship Groups, a form of small group. Lunch will be provided. Please register online at: <http://goo.gl/forms/rcF3DMOedy> (or on the West Zion church website). West Zion Mennonite is located at 101 S. Washington, Moundridge, 620-345-8143.

Opening reception and curator's talk for "Root for the Home Team: Building Community through Sports," September 10 at 7 p.m., Kauffman Museum. Rachel Epp Buller curated this exhibit that brings together stories of sports and community from the Newton area, at Kauffman Museum Sept. 1, 2015-June 5, 2016.

KIPCOR Film Series 2015-16 begins with *Slavery by Another Name*, September 13 at 3 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center at Bethel College. This PBS documentary deals with the re-enslavement of black Americans from the Civil War to World War II. Talk-back session with Dr. Galyn Vesey to follow.

Work & Play Starts with a Whizz-Bang! Camp Mennoscah's Annual Meeting on September 20 will start our Work & Play camp! The whizz-banging will start at 3:30 p.m. with disc golf (new baskets & course!), bath house tours, and scavenger hunt with a simple business meeting and meal following. All the lucky Work & Play folks will stick around a few more days (until Sept. 23) for some work projects, coffee breaks, and fellowship. Be one of the fortunate fun-sters! Register for the camp online or by calling 620-297-3290 (no fees, suggested meal donation). Everyone of all ages invited to the Annual Meeting and to Work & Play Camp!

It's Scrapbooking Season! Camp Mennoscah is looking at another full fall season of cropping, chatting, and creating with Scrapbooking Retreats on Oct. 30-Nov. 1 and Nov. 6-8. We're tapping toes and dancing in our seats waiting for you to sign up (online at www.campmennoscah.org or call 620-297-3290 for a brochure)! Grab a box of pictures from your closet (or laptop) and a scrapbooking friend - we've got room for both the fun-seeking and the productive!

Information about the WDC Annual Assembly on October 30-31 has been sent to the congregation by email. Start thinking now about how you would like to be involved - as a delegate, attender, volunteer, or host home. There's a place for every Western District congregation and every Western District person at the Annual Assembly! Information is available in the foyer.

Please Join Us for Fall Sunday School Classes!

Preschool

Teachers: Kathy Balzer and Tammy Regehr
Classroom 5

Kindergarten – Third Grade

Teachers: Kris and Renata Goossen
Classroom 4

Fourth – Eighth Grade

Teacher: Deb Regier
Classroom 7

High School and College

Teachers: James Regier and Rob Schunn
Meeting under the balcony

Young Adult

Teachers: Russ and Kris Janzen
Meeting in the classroom across from the Library

Alternative Adult Class

"Gospel of John Bible Study"
Teacher: Pastor Randy Smith
Meeting in the Fellowship Hall

The Seminar Class is a new adult Sunday school offering emphasizing Bible study. It will be led by the pastor and meet in the fellowship hall. The class is segmented into study series (seminars) of 4-6 sessions so you can feel free to engage and disengage the class as you have interest in a particular seminar. The first seminar is a four session video presentation, *The Gospel of John*, the script of the movie following the actual gospel text closely. The second seminar will be a Bible study and discussion of the gospel of John, running six sessions beginning October 4.

Other Adult Classes will again
be meeting in their previous locations