

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

September 13, 2009

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: Peter Goerzen

Youth Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Keyboard: Julia Washburn

Guitar: Caleb Regehr

Worship Leader: Pastor Peter

Gathering Our Praise

Prelude

Welcoming Guests 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

One: Come, follow Jesus to the sacred place where God is,
a place of intimate prayer, of open heart.

**Many: We come, seeking God's face,
pierced by the power of Love's presence,
silent before the glory of divine beauty.**

One: Come, follow Jesus to a place of community,
to a place where sons and daughters join as one,
sharing in the bountiful grace of our Provider.

**Many: We come, seeking God's face in our brothers and sisters,
we worship, work and play, sharing our lives together.**

All: Jesus, lead us to the Holy One that we might see God's face.

* **Unison Gathering Prayer** *Hymnal No. 726*

* **Gathering Hymn No. 21** *All praise to our redeeming Lord*

Offering Local Church Missions

Unison Prayer Hymnal No. 750

Proclaiming

Old Testament Scripture Reading Leviticus 26:9-12 Donna Balzer

* **Hymn No. 163** *Obey my voice*

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

New Testament Scripture Reading Romans 12:1-18 Donna Balzer

Sermon Pastor Katherine

Responding

* **Hymn of Response No. 307** *Will you let me be your servant*

Congregational Sharing and Prayer Pastor Peter

Ending with unison Lord's Prayer

Sending

* **Sending Hymn No. 421** *Bless'd be the tie that binds*

* Benediction

One: As Christ's reconciling community, let us show compassion
and mercy

**Many: Let us reflect God's boundless grace and deal tenderly
with one another**

One: Let us make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through
the bond of peace.

**Many: Let us be a place of forgiveness and love, a haven of hope
for those in despair.**

**All: Let us live together in faithful obedience, supported and
secure in our oneness, companions in conformity to Christ, to
whom be glory in the church throughout all generations,
forever and ever, Amen.**

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

Leona Unruh passed away on Thursday, September 10, 2009. Funeral services will be at Grace Hill on Monday, September 14 at 10:00 a.m.

Western District Conference: Pray for recent immigrants that are part of WDC – for their well-being, safety, documentation process, and for their Christian witness in WDC.

Mennonite Mission Network: In Francistown, Botswana, Melanie Quinn works with young actors and musicians who stage productions dealing with alcoholism, HIV/AIDS and domestic violence. Grant money for the presentations and for performers' stipends has been wrongfully withheld since February. Pray that God would provide needed funds.

Next Sunday: Along with Christians around the world, we will be observing International Peace Sunday. Scripture texts are Psalm 146, Isaiah 60:17-20, Matthew 5:1-11, 38-48.

Nursery This Sunday: Penny Hiebert and Mikayla Hiebert

Nursery Next Sunday: Deb Regier and Katie Regier

Ushers Next Sunday: Mike Balzer and Kendall Claassen

Preaching Next Sunday: Pastor Peter

Keyboard Next Sunday: Linda Harms

Special Music Next Sunday: Praise Team

Offering Last Sunday: Mennonite Church USA \$1,909.00

Offering Next Sunday: Mennonite Biblical Seminary

Church Events

Today at noon Teacher Appreciation Meal

This evening at 5:00 p.m. Faith Exploration Class (Catechism): You are invited to Katherine and Peter's for our class kickoff today at 5:00 p.m. We'll be sharing together, going over the course, and working out a schedule for meeting times. Bring your calendars, Bibles, questions, and ideas!

Monday at 7:00 p.m. Hands of Friendship will meet at church. Program: Work projects - school kits, tie comforts, etc.; Hostess & Devotions: Agnes Harder and Gladys Reimer; Financial Projects: Mennonite Central Committee.

Monday at 7:00 p.m. Education Council meets at church.

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

Thursday at 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast at the Whitewater Café. We will plan to meet every 3rd Thursday, location to be determined.

Next Sunday College-Age Lunch: There will be a meal for all college-age young adults at Tim and Lisa Harms on September 20th. College Students, please let Pastor Katherine know if you are planning to attend and/or invite other students as well (this is encouraged). If anyone from the congregation is interested in helping prepare the meal, please let Pastor Katherine know. Thank you!

September 27 The semi-annual business meeting will follow a carry-in meal at noon.

September 27 Youth Group Annual Progressive Supper: The Youth Group will be having a Progressive Supper Sunday, September 27 in the evening (after our service at Wheat State Manor). If you are interested in hosting a course for this event, please contact Pastor Katherine, Kris and Russ Janzen, or Diana and Rob Schunn. Thanks!

Church Events, continued



Wednesday, September 30 at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Kick-Off – All church wiener roast at the church. Rain or shine! Donation for meal – bring lawn chairs and wiener sticks. 7:00 p.m. Introduction to Wednesday Evening Activities. Wednesday evening programming begins October 7.

In Home Church Fellowship Meals October 11 and October 25 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: October 11 at noon or in the evening and October 25 at noon or in the evening. Registration forms are available in the foyer. You are encouraged to complete the form and return it to the basket in the foyer **today**. If you have questions call Kathy Balzer at 799-2008.

Announcements

The Health Resource Team will do blood pressure checks the second Sunday of each month in the library at 11:30 a.m. (following Sunday school). Jane Washburn will do the blood pressure checks today.

Would anyone like the opportunity to cook a meal for a great bunch of people?? If anyone is interested in preparing a meal for the Wednesday night meals, please let Ashley Enns or Debbie Claassen know. We have some of the meals lined up but don't want to leave someone out who might want to give it a try! Let us know if you want to help in any way!

Elective Sunday School Class: Starting September 20th (and continuing through October 4) Pastor Katherine will be leading an elective Sunday School Bible Study provided by Mennonite Church USA entitled "Following Jesus in a World that is not." It will focus on three questions: What has shaped our identity in the past? What is shaping our identities now? and What will shape our identities in the future? All are welcome and invited to attend.

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:

Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. – noon, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. or by appointment

Pastor: Peter Goerzen

E-mail: pastor@gracehillmc.org

Youth Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

E-mail: youthpastor@gracehillmc.org

Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen

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

Et Cetera

The annual MCC Flatlander Bicycle Ride will be held on Saturday, September 19, originating at the Mennonite Central Committee offices, 121 East 30th St., North Newton. This year's ride will raise funds for an MCC water development project in Colombia. Informational brochures are available on the bulletin board. Rides of approximately 35, 45 and 65 miles, as well as shorter family rides, are planned.

Eden Mennonite Church at Moundridge will host Sister Helen Prejean on Sunday morning, September 20, during the 9:30 a.m. worship service. A question/answer session will follow at 10:45 a.m., with a fellowship meal after that. There will be a chance to buy Sr. Helen's books and have them autographed. All are welcome to hear and meet Sr. Helen. Eden Mennonite is located at 401 18th Ave, Moundridge—four miles west and two north of Moundridge. Questions can be directed to the church office at 620-345-8320.

It's the oldest we've ever been! Camp Mennoscah is turning 60 this year and we're celebrating on September 20th at 4:00 p.m. We'll share stories and have fasma (a light meal). We're gathering stories on video and scanning pictures to make a collection of memories to share with our supporting congregations. Bring your photos and stories with you, or send them to us in advance by email or post to campmno@mennowdc.org or PO Box 65, Murdock, KS 67111.

As part the Hesston College's centennial celebration, the Music and Theatre Departments will be presenting "Quilters – A Musical Tribute to the Women of the Prairie" as a special homage to the women who have helped shape our history. The show will run September 25-27 and will take place in the Hesston Mennonite Church on the Hesston College Campus. See the poster on the bulletin board for more details.

The Newton chapter of The National Alliance on Mental Illness of Mid-Kansas is sponsoring a 12-week Family to Family Education Course on Tuesday evenings, starting October 6, 7:00 – 9:30 p.m. at First Mennonite Church, 429 E. 1st, Newton. This course is designed for families of persons with major depression, bi-polar, schizophrenia, panic or obsessive compulsive disorder. There is no cost to the course, just a commitment to attend regularly. For enrollment or more information, call Florene Wiens, 316-283-5814 or Earlene Stover, 620-543-6482. Class limited to 25 persons. Register by September 22, if possible.

Due to budget cuts, MCC Central States no longer has paid custodial services. Are you interested in volunteering 2-4 hours per week to complete light cleaning at the Central States office in North Newton? Hours can be flexible. Tasks include vacuuming, cleaning bathrooms, dusting & maintenance of kitchen area. Please contact Melissa Waltner at mwaltner@mcc.org or call 316-283-2720 if interested.