

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

September 16, 2012

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: Peter Goerzen

Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Song Leader: Aaron Tschetter

Musician: Pastor Katherine

Worship Leader: Pastor Katherine

Seek Shalom and Pursue It: Seek Shalom and Know God's Blessing

Gathering

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.

Psalm Reading Psalm 34: 4-8, 14, 19-20

Call to Worship Sing the Journey No. 134

Prayer for Shalom and Lighting the Peace Lamp

* **Gathering Hymn No. 521** *Come, thou fount*

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Congregational Prayer

Listening

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 61: 1-11

Rob Schunn

Reader's Theater: The Two Kingdoms Casey and Rob Schunn

Music *Blessed are the persecuted*

Cody Claassen, Carl Lehmann, Aaron Tschetter

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

Gospel Reading Matthew 5: 1-12

Pastor Peter

Sermon *Blessings for the Upside Down*

Pastor Peter

Responding

* **Song of Response Sing the Journey No. 94** *Blest are they*
The congregation is invited to join in with the refrain.

Prayer of Confession

One: Gracious God, we come before you to confess that we have not fully lived out the "folly" of the gospel. You call those who are poor in spirit "blessed,"

Many: yet we often place our own desires over the needs of others.

One: You call those who mourn "blessed,"

Many: yet we insulate ourselves from the pain that surrounds us.

One: You call those who are meek "blessed,"

Many: yet we struggle mightily to appear strong and superior.

One: You call those who thirst for righteousness "blessed,"

Many: yet sometimes we just want to take the easiest path.

One: You say, "Blessed are the pure in heart,"

Many: yet our hearts are pulled in many directions.

One: You say, "Blessed are the peacemakers,"

Many: yet we fail to live in peace with those closest to us, and we are too often silent about the warring ways of our world.

All: Forgive us, O God.

Assurance of Pardon 1 Corinthians 1:30

Offering Our Gifts Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary

* **Sending Hymn No. 427** *You shall go out with joy*

* **Blessing**

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.

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

For Sharing and Prayer

Thank you to everyone who provided food for the 5th Quarter! This is an important ministry that we have to the local community!

College Prayer Partners: Sign up on the sheet in the foyer to be a prayer partner for one of our college students!

You are invited to a "Come & Go Celebration" of Merrill and Gladys Harms' 65th wedding anniversary on Sunday afternoon, September 23. Stop by any time from 3-5 p.m. at the City of North Newton Community Room (2601 N. Main St) for refreshments and fellowship.

Chelsea Vaught received her Ph.D. in Church Music from KU this spring. She has taken a position with First Presbyterian Church in Ft. Wayne, Indiana as Director of Music. Her address is 2085 Bayview Drive, Fort Wayne, IN 46815.

Western District Conference: Pray for an invigorating two-month sabbatical for Marlene Bogard, Minister of Christian Formation for WDC.

Mennonite Mission Network: Bethsaba and Dale Nafziger of MMN share God's love in Nepal through business integrity, healing ministries, and participation in a growing congregation. Pray for teenage daughters, Shova and Sushma, and ask God to grant health and strength as the Nafziger family works and studies.

Nursery This Sunday: Deb Regier and Katie Regier

Nursery Next Sunday: Tammy Regehr and Amanda Regehr

Ushers Next Sunday: Josh Patterson and Rob Schunn

Offering Last Sunday: Local Church \$6,433.00

Offering Next Sunday: Western District Conference

Church Events

Today at noon James and Deb Regier will host a meal at their home for all college-age young adults. We look forward to seeing you there!

Today at 4:00 p.m. All women are invited to a baby shower for Sara Westerfield in the Grace Hill Fellowship Hall.

Tuesday 1:30 – 5:00 p.m. Community Creativity Workshop Want to be free to develop your creative expression? (Painting, drawing, crafts, scrapbooking, etc.) Join us every second and third Tuesday of the month. Virgil Penner, artist, will be coordinating the workshop. Location: Grace Hill Church Fellowship Hall. For more information call Virgil Penner at 316-842-6738 or email pennerv@cox.net.

Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Worship Council meets at church.

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Adult Choir practice
Youth Group meets
at 7:45 p.m. Administrative Council meets at church.

Thursday at 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast at Charlies, Newton.

Next Sunday at 11:30 a.m. All-church carry-in meal
at 12:45 p.m. Semi-annual church business meeting

September 26 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. Wednesday evening programming begins October 3. All are encouraged to bring friends and neighbors to the wiener roast as well as our Wednesday night programming.



September 26 – October 2 Grace Hill/Zion week at the Harvey County Homeless Shelter. The volunteer and meal sign-up is on the bulletin board.

Sunday, October 14 Worship and Supper with Casa Betania: On Sunday, October 14, the Casa Betania congregation from Newton will join us at Grace Hill for a special evening of exciting worship and food and fellowship. Casa Betania's worship band will be leading our singing, and the congregation will serve a supper of burritos and/or tostadas. We will have the opportunity to share in Casa Betania's ministry in the community through worship, prayer, and a free-will offering which will support the mission of Casa Betania. Worship will be at 5 p.m., followed by supper at 6 p.m.

Et Cetera

Sunday, September 23 – The Bethel College Women's Association presents "Tales and Tunes - Adventures with Aesop," a free program at 2 p.m. in Memorial Hall on the Bethel campus, featuring the Bethel College Wind Ensemble and Bethel education students. This hands-on expressive arts experience is designed for elementary-age children, but all are welcome. Snacks provided.

Hesston College will host A Hesston College Homecoming 2012: A View From Everywhere September 28 - 30. Hesston College alumni, friends and others are invited to take part in the weekend events, which will feature alumni, students and faculty in a Performing Arts showcase, class reunions, athletic events, a family festival and barbecue picnic and more. Go to www.hesston.edu for schedule and registration information.

Camp Mennoscah is moving into the future! We're planning for many more years of youth camps, family and church retreats and special interest retreats! Come join in the discussion and decision making on September 30 at our First Annual Meeting. Gathering time at 3:00, business meeting at 4:30, meal (bring a potluck side dish or dessert and table service) at 5:15, and program at 6:15.

Bethel College is turning 125 in 2012-13, with a number of special events taking place during Fall Festival, October 10-14, most of them on campus. For example: Keith Sprunger's new history of Bethel College goes on sale Monday, Oct. 8, in Thresher Bookstore in Schultz Student Center with a book-signing from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 13, in the student center. Complete schedules are available at Thresher Bookstore, Kauffman Museum, other campus locations and the Kidron-Bethel activities office or for download at www.bethelks.edu/alumni/events/FF/ or call 316-284-5251.

The brochure is ready! Camp Mennoscah is accepting registrations for the Fall Scrapbooking Retreat on November 2-4. The weekend is chock-full of grand Make-n-Takes, companionship, pages completed, and usually lots of laughter! The brochure can be found at www.mennowdc.org in the Coming Events section or by contacting Camp Mennoscah at campmno@mennowdc.org or [620-297-3290](tel:620-297-3290). We'll see you soon for some cropping fun!

The Twelve Scriptures at Grace Hill! During Sunday School on September 30, jr./sr. youth and all adult classes will meet in the fellowship hall to begin a process of discovering Grace Hill's twelve foundational Scriptures. In preparation for this event, we invite everyone to take some time to discover your own twelve most foundational Scriptures. Discuss with family, friends, Sunday School classes, or on Grace Hill's Facebook page! Then on the 30th, bring your top twelve, and we'll make a giant visual representation of Grace Hill's foundational Scriptures. We will continue this process during our retreat at Camp Mennoscah, October 20-21. Some things to consider:

1. Context: How are these texts particularly important to where you are? How do these texts connect with you more than they might have 5, 10, or 50 years ago?
2. Mission: How do these texts inspire and direct your mission as a follower of Jesus?
3. Values: How do these texts support, express, or build upon your core values?
4. Formation: How have these texts shaped you into Christlikeness?

Also, consider the whole Bible:

Creation and Covenant: Genesis-Deuteronomy

History of Israel: Joshua-Esther

Wisdom: Job-Song of Solomon

Prophets: Isaiah-Malachi

Gospels: Matthew-John, Acts

Pauline Letters: Romans-Philemon

General Letters: Hebrews-Jude, Revelation

Beatitudes

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.