

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

September 27, 2015

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Musician: Rebecca Schrag

Song Leader: Matthew Graber

Transition Pastor: Randy Smith

The Spirit and Church in Acts

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Randy Smith

Prelude to Worship

Call to Worship

Choir

I will arise

*Psalm of Praise

Psalm 65:8-13

The whole earth is filled with awe at your wonders;
Where morning dawns, where evening fades
You call forth songs of joy.

You care for the land and water it;

You enrich it abundantly.

The streams of God are filled with water to provide
the people with grain, for so you have ordained it.

You drench its furrows and level its ridges;

You soften it with showers and bless its crops.

You crown the year with your bounty,

And carts overflow with abundance.

The grasslands of the wilderness overflow,

The hills are clothed with gladness.

The meadows are covered with flocks

and the valleys are mantled with grain.

They shout for joy and sing.

*For the beauty of the earth

Hymnal 89

Confession and Forgiveness

Coming to Prayer

Silent Confession

Prayer

The Good News of God

Isaiah 55:10-13

Joyful, joyful we adore thee

Hymnal 71

Anthem *The Morning Trumpet*

Choir

Offering and Offertory

Children's Story

Valerie Klaassen

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

Scripture

Marianne Eichelberger

Acts 4:1-33

Sermon

Got Guts?

Christ is our cornerstone

Hymnal 43

Sharing and Prayer

*Sending Hymn

Hymnal 427

You shall go out with joy

*Benediction

Postlude

*Indicates those comfortable in doing so, please stand.

This morning's offering is designated for Western District Conference.

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

The Pastor Search Committee and Administrative Council are pleased to announce Weldon Martens as a candidate for pastor at Grace Hill. Dates for a candidating weekend will be announced in the near future. This will involve a Sunday worship service with Weldon bringing the message as well as a congregational question and answer session with Weldon and his wife Jenny. Weldon is currently serving as the interim pastor at Hoffnungsau Mennonite Church (Inman). If you have questions please contact either Tim Harms (Administrative Council Chair) or Doug Claassen (Pastor Search Committee Chair).

The Education Council is pleased to welcome Joshua Janzen as the new Director of Youth Programming. Josh will give ¼ time leadership for the spiritual, educational, and social aspects of the Grace Hill youth program, as well as invitation and networking with area youth. Josh is a senior at Bethel College, from Aurora, Nebraska, a member of Bethesda Mennonite Church, a student chaplain, and recently served in the Ministry Inquiry Program in Salem, Oregon. He will meet with youth and their parents for ice cream in The Outback this evening. Please introduce yourself to Josh and welcome him to Grace Hill.

Thank you Grace Hill for the beautiful large flower basket we received for Tanner's memorial service. Orange in the arrangement, too. Tanner's favorite color. This was a very touching gift on a very emotional day. All the family noted your gift. You have blessed us with constant expressions of care and compassion during this difficult time. How can we adequately express our gratitude for your loving companionship to the family through this journey?

Randy and Ann

A BIG thanks to all who participated in the food for the pantries cupcake Sunday. You donated 98 food items and \$318.48 for the food pantries in Newton, Potwin, and Whitewater.

Western District Conference: Pray for God's blessing on Tim Amor at his installation as pastor at Beatrice Mennonite Church (Nebraska) today.

Mennonite Mission Network: Mennonite Mission Network partners Annette and Paco Castillo are commissioned by the Mennonite Church in Burgos, Spain, to begin a children's ministry in Ivory Coast. The Castillos, who began the *La Casa Grande* ministry in Benin, request prayer for the children's health and for electricians and plumbers to mentor apprentices.

Announcements

The Gifts Discernment Team wants to hear from you about your gifting, interests, talents, and ways you feel called to serve God, and soon will begin arranging to meet with you. The hope is that within two years the team will have met with everyone of Grace Hill. The ministries of the church and the things we set out to do are best shaped when we know the way God has gifted us. Thank you for giving an hour of your time to meet when a member of the team calls on you. And be thinking about the ways you feel God has called you to serve. The Gifts Discernment Team is Katherine Claassen, Marge Harms, Dean Patterson, Deb Regier, and Randy Smith.

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: Marge Harms and Quinn Dove

Nursery Next Sunday: Jackie Moore and Bethany Regehr

Ushers Next Sunday: Terry Klassen and Dean Patterson

Offering Last Sunday: Anabaptist Menn. Biblical Seminary \$1,355.00

Offering Next Sunday: Mennonite Church USA

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

Church Events

Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Administrative Council meets.



Wednesday at 6:15 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. Family Night Wednesdays begin October 7. All are encouraged to bring friends and neighbors to the wiener roast as well as our Wednesday night programming.

Wednesday following wiener roast the Gifts Discernment Team will meet.

Wednesday at 7:15 p.m. Adult Choir practice - All are welcome to join choir! We would love to have 4 or 5 people on a part and we'd love to have you join us! We will be singing on October 18, November 15 and December 6. We will practice at 7:30 following the other planned Wednesday night activities.

Family Night Wednesdays is taking a new approach this fall. We will begin with the traditional wiener roast in The Outback this Wednesday at 6:15. The following seven Wednesdays, from October 7 through November 18 we will gather for a meal prepared for us by Katherine Claassen. Serving will begin at 6:15, followed by a brief interactive opening, and a time for all ages of biblical storytelling from the Gospel of John. Deryll Amstutz will get us started on the first two Wednesdays. On the following Wednesdays, some from the congregation have volunteered to tell stories. Perhaps you too would like to try this. We will conclude no later than 7:25. Choir and youth group will meet at 7:30. Plan to be part of Family Night.

Next Sunday we will celebrate communion with our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world for Worldwide Communion Sunday.

“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.”

Et Cetera

There are only so many cute-sy ways to say that we're taking out the dam at Camp Mennoscah. We may have run out. We'll be taking out the dam on Sunday, October 4, at approx. 2 p.m. People are welcome to join us to watch or to help. Contact Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290 with any questions.

National Life Chain – On the first Sunday of October, churches nationwide gather to take a public stand and pray to end abortion. Participants hold a sign with a life-affirming message while they stand quietly and pray. The Newton event will be on October 4 from 2:00-3:00 p.m., signs will be available at 9th & Main in Newton at 1:45 p.m.

Bethel College Fall Festival is October 10. This year at Fall Festival you can enjoy music by Bethel and high school jazz groups, small a cappella vocal ensembles, the Newton Community Children's Choir and the McPherson Community Brass Ensemble. Or help make it yourself at the afternoon hymn sing with the Bethel Alumni Choir. Plus food, reunions, children's park, sports and the biennial Low German program featuring Willmar Harder! Check it out at www.bethelks.edu/fallfest (click "Schedule").

Enjoy a hearty Country Breakfast at Kidron Bethel Village from 7 to 9 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 10, a great start to your day at Bethel College Fall Festival. The breakfast menu includes pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, orange juice and coffee. A donation is requested for the meal.

The Bethel College Women's Association Market on the Green Committee is asking for donations of ethnic foods, poppy seed rolls, zwiebach, homemade noodles, pies, and other baked good and home grown produce for the Bethel College Fall Festival on Saturday, October 10. Please bring your items to the large Market on the Green tent on the north side of the Green anytime Saturday morning after 7:30 am. In addition to baked goods and home grown produce, we will be selling other items including a Large Canvas Tote Bag with the Bethel logo embroidered on it, a Threshing Stone charm and chain, the limerick book of Bethel life and lore, *A BC ABC Book*, Stadium Seats, Cookbooks, and the CD "Nights of Wonder," which features music selections from previous BC Christmas Fests. Come check out the delicious food items and start your Christmas shopping early with the many gift items!

The Women's Ministries of Palmyra Baptist Church (999 NW Butler Road) invites you to join them for the Annual Guest Tea on October 14 at 1:30 p.m. Orin Friesen, from Prairie Rose Chuckwagon of Benton will be the guest speaker. Please join them for this time of worship and fellowship together.

The Western District Conference Annual Assembly planners invite you to be involved with this year's meeting through intentional prayer. Available in the foyer are copies of "prayer prompts" for each half hour of the Assembly, October 30-31. There is no more important way to support WDC and be involved with the Annual Assembly than through prayer. Pick up a copy of the list, (or find it online at: www.mennowdc.org/annual-assembly/) and plan to pray for at least one of the items/prayer times listed there.

It's Harvest Time! We have two "crops" this fall at Camp Mennoscah, one on October 30-Nov. 1 and the other Nov. 6-8. These crops offer bountiful time for you to work on scrapbooks (digital or traditional), as well as enjoy the company of fun folks! Bring your photos or laptop, your friend or foe. Register online at www.campmennoscah.org or call 620-297-3290.

MCC Borderlands Learning Tour 2015 - you are invited to participate in a learning tour designed to bring awareness about the increasing migrant deaths, militarization and effects on sister communities by the border wall along the Mexico/U.S. Borderlands. Participants will increase their understanding of the social, economic, political and theological significance of migration in border communities. The tour is Oct. 28-Nov. 4, leaving from Tucson, AZ. For more information contact Saulo Padilla, MCC U.S. Immigration Education Coordinator at saulopadilla@mcc.org, or go online to learn more and register mcc.org/borderlands-tour.

Leave or stay? Many Syrian families face that question as international humanitarian assistance dwindles and the patchwork of resources they used to rely on wears thin. Your gift of money helps Mennonite Central Committee continue to provide food, water, rent assistance and winter supplies so families that decide to stay in the region can survive the cold weather ahead. Please give online at mcc.org/syria-iraq; by phone at 1-888-563-4676; or by check, sent to MCC U.S., P.O. Box 500, Akron, PA 17501. Thank you!