

# GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

September 29, 2013

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: Peter Goerzen

Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Musician: Sara Unruh

Song Leader: Pastor Katherine

Worship Leader: Pastor Katherine

Shaped by the Story: Take Up Your Cross  
Grace Hill's Twelve Foundational Scriptures  
Gathering and Praising

## 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.*

## Call to Worship from Luke 9 & John 12

One: Jesus said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.

**Many: For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will save it.**

One: Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

**Many: Those who love their life will lose it, and those who let go of their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.**

**All: Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also.**

## Gathering Prayer

\* **Gathering Hymn No. 545** *Be thou my vision* verses 1, 2, 4 & 5

## Hearing God's Story

## Scripture Story

Ashley Enns

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

**Gospel Reading** Mark 8: 34-36

Michelle Hilgenfeld

**Scripture Sharing**

Russ Janzen

**Sermon**

Pastor Peter

## Responding to God's Story

- \* **Song of Response No. 536** *Take up your cross*  
Pastor Katherine will sing verse 1. The sopranos will join with verse 2. The altos will join with verse 3. The tenors will join with verse 4. Everyone will sing verse 5.

## Responding to the Story

What was meaningful for you from this morning's worship service?  
What questions have you pondered in regard to this text?  
How has God's Spirit spoken to you through this Scripture passage?

## Sharing and Congregational Prayer

Don Swendor, member of the Peace Connections Board

## Offering Our Gifts Peace Connections

## Sent by God

**Congregational Commitment** Hymn No. 793

\* **Sending Song No. 411** *I bind my heart this tide*

## \* Benediction

One: We follow Christ

**Many: who says, "Take up your cross."**

One: We follow Christ

**Many: who bids us come and die.**

One: We follow Christ

**Many: who summons us to new life.**

**All: The One who calls us is faithful  
and will keep us, both now and forevermore.**

## Postlude

\*Indicates those comfortable in doing so, please stand

Today is the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month so there will not be any Sunday School classes.

## **For Sharing and Prayer**

**Western District Conference:** Pray for Ruth Harder who is being installed as the pastor of Rainbow Mennonite Church in Kansas City today.

**Mennonite Mission Network:** Thank God for Scott Litwiller's ministry in Colombia through MMN. Pray for Scott as he transitions to the next steps in his life and as he applies what God taught him during his time of service. Pray also for the Mennonite youth in Colombia.

## **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:** Marge Harms and Rita Patterson

**Nursery Next Sunday:** Rachelle Claassen and Jackie Moore

**Ushers Next Sunday:** Terry Klassen and Dean Patterson

**Offering Last Sunday:** Western District Conference \$1,340.00

**Offering Next Sunday:** Mennonite Church USA

## **CHURCH OFFICES**

Pastors' Office Hours:

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

***Pastor: Peter Goerzen***

*E-mail:* [pastor@gracehillmc.org](mailto:pastor@gracehillmc.org)

***Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen***

*E-mail:* [youthpastor@gracehillmc.org](mailto:youthpastor@gracehillmc.org)

***Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen***

*Secretary's E-mail:* [secretary@gracehillmc.org](mailto:secretary@gracehillmc.org)

## Church Events

**Today at 11:30 a.m.** Lunch will be served by the Social Council. Donations will be accepted. Everyone is welcome to stay!

**Today following the meal** Semi-annual Church Business Meeting.

**Tuesday 1:00-5:00 p.m.** Inviting all quilters to come and quilt on the MCC quilt that will be sold at the Mid-Kansas Relief Sale next spring. Quilting hours are from 1 - 5 p.m. on Tuesday afternoon. Hope to see many of you.

**Wednesday 6:15 p.m.** All Church Meal – everyone is invited!  
**7:00 – 8:00 p.m.** Junior Dept. Programming  
**7:00 p.m.** Youth Programming  
**7:00 p.m.** Adult Choir  
**7:30 p.m.** Adult Study with Pastor Peter  
Cost of the meal: High School & Adults \$3.00 Children \$2.50

**Next Sunday Wheat State Vespers and Mystery Meal:** The Youth Group will be leading the Wheat State Vespers service on Sunday, October 6. Plan to meet at the church building at 4:30. We will then return to Pastor Katherine's home for a mystery meal. NOTE: This WILL be at Peter and Katherine's home because of another event taking place at the church building.

**Next Sunday at 7:00 p.m.** Show your Pastor some love! On October 6, area pastors will be showing off their talent to benefit Camp Mennoscah. Join us at Grace Hill Mennonite Church at 7 pm for Pastor Love. A cookie reception will follow. Hope to see you there!

## Et Cetera

**Bethel College Fall Festival** begins October 3, with Taste of Newton downtown. Most events take place October 5, but there are several on October 4, including: introduction of Bethel College Women's Association's new limerick book, *A BC ABC*, 11 a.m. in convocation and 5-7 p.m. with music and readings in Mojo's Coffee Shop; 7th annual STEM Symposium, honoring chemistry, 1 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium; artist reception for Carol Long and "Efflorescence in Clay," 6-8 p.m., Fine Arts Center Gallery; opening night for *You Can't Take It with You*, 7:30 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium (ticket purchase required). See [www.bethelks.edu/fallfest](http://www.bethelks.edu/fallfest).

**Enjoy a hearty Country Breakfast at Kidron Bethel Village** from 7 to 9 a.m. Saturday, October 5, 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 goods and home grown produce for the Bethel College Fall Festival on Saturday, October 5. Please bring your items to the large tent on the north side of the green anytime Saturday morning after 7:30 a.m.

**You are invited to Palmyra Baptist Church** for the American Baptist Women's Ministries Annual Guest Tea on October 9 at 1:30 p.m. Guest speaker will be Michael Schwanke of KWCH-TV Channel 12. We hope you will join us for this time of worship and fellowship.

**Heartland Pregnancy Care Center** invites you to attend their 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Banquet on October 15 at 6:30 p.m. at Emmaus Church. Special speaker will be Carol Everett. Reservations can be made by calling 316-283-7333. Reservations are \$10.00 per person. Free will offering will be taken to support the ministry of Heartland Pregnancy Care Center.

**Camp Mennoscah's Scrapbooking Retreats** - That's right, friends, we're planning TWO delightful weekends of cropping and fellowship. These retreats will occur on November 1-3 and November 15-17 - as long as we have at least 10 folks for each retreat! We pretty absolutely certain that we'll have enough folks for the retreats, so sign up for either one or both retreats. The registration form can be found at [www.campmennoscah.org](http://www.campmennoscah.org) in the Retreats section. Get those memories ready!

***The Church and homosexuality: A Conversation that can hold us together*** is the theme of the upcoming Western District Conference Reference Council on Saturday, October 26, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at Faith Mennonite Church, 2100 N. Anderson, Newton. This is a gathering of WDC executive board, commissions, committees, staff and pastors. Others with a special interest in this topic are also encouraged to attend. The event is free, but please register to attend. Register online ([www.mennowdc.org](http://www.mennowdc.org), Events) or call 316-283-6300 or email [wdc@mennowdc.org](mailto:wdc@mennowdc.org) by October 18. Keith Graber Miller, professor of Bible, Religion and Philosophy at Goshen College (IN), and David Boshart, Executive Conference Minister for Central Plains Conference of Mennonite Church USA, will speak about the church's response to persons of same-sex orientation. This will be followed by several respondents and discussion on maintaining relationships in the midst of conflicting convictions over matters of sexuality. Lunch will be provided, with a free-will offering received. This special day is sponsored by the WDC Human Sexuality Discernment Task Force. A related event, **Engaging our Sexual Culture, will be Friday, October 25**, is co-sponsored by the Task Force and Bethel College Campus Ministries. At 11:00 a.m. Keith Graber Miller will speak in Bethel Convocation. At 7:00 p.m., Keith Graber Miller will join Ted Swartz of Ted and Co. Theaterworks to present *A Peek into the Church's Journey with Sexuality*, including new dramatic material prepared by Swartz. Both events are in Krehbiel Auditorium. Tickets for the evening event are \$10, available at the Bethel ticket office 316-283-2500.

**"Mothering Mennonite" Symposium**, Saturday, October 26, 8:30-3:30 p.m., Bethel College. Join us for a day of readings, presentations, conversations, and panel discussions on what it means to "mother" in a Mennonite context. Based on a new book of the same title (Demeter Press, 2013), this symposium brings together writers, historians, stay-at-home mothers, church workers, social activists, and professors from several Mennonite colleges. Topics will include Old Colony mothers, gender roles and stereotypes, mothers in the mission field, infertility, sexuality, step-mothering, and other-mothering. Cost for the day is \$10, including lunch. Please pre-register by October 15 by emailing [mennomother@gmail.com](mailto:mennomother@gmail.com).