

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

October 4, 2015

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Musicians: Tara Harms-Becker, David Janzen, Roberta Harms

Song Leader: Bonita Schroeder

Transition Pastor: Randy Smith

The Spirit and Church in Acts *Worldwide Communion Sunday*

Gathering Music

Tara Harms-Becker

Welcome and Announcements

Randy Smith

Prelude to Worship

*Call to Worship

Sing the Journey 16

Praise with joy the world's Creator

Prayer

Lord make me an instrument of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

Where there is injury, pardon;

Where there is doubt, faith;

Where there is despair, hope

Where there is darkness, light

Where there is sadness, joy

Oh divine Master, grant that I may not so much

seek to be consoled,

As to console;

To be understood,

As to understand;

To be loved,

As to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

It is in dying that we are born into eternal life. Amen

O breath of life

Sing the Journey 35

Confession and Forgiveness

Coming to Prayer

Silent Confession

The Good News of God

O healing river

Revelation 22:1-5

Hymnal 372

Offering and Offertory

Children's Story

Michelle Hilgenfeld

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

Scripture

Levi Goossen

Acts 8: 4-8, 26-40

Sermon

Just Showing Up

Seed, scattered and sown

Hymnal 454

Service of Communion

Sharing and Prayer

*Sending Hymn

Hymnal 322

For we are strangers no more

*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."

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. Weldon will be with us on Sunday, October 18. Weldon will bring the message during the worship service, we will have a carry-in meal following the Sunday School hour, and a question and answer session following the meal. More details will be announced as plans are made. 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. Please introduce yourself to Josh and welcome him to Grace Hill.

Western District Conference: Pray for Jennifer Wintermote, as she is licensed today for interim pastoral ministry at New Creation Fellowship Church, Newton.

Mennonite Mission Network: Do you have a ministry of hospitality or the gift of maintenance skills? Perhaps God is calling you to serve for a year at The Hermitage, a contemplative community in southern Michigan. Contact SOOP program coordinator: ArloaB@MennoniteMission.net.

Church Family News

...**Wilma Harms** has moved from Newton Medical Center to Kansas Christian Home, Room 206, for rehab. She is doing well...

Church Events

Wednesday at 6:15 p.m. All Church Meal – everyone is invited! We are having meals every Wednesday through November 18.

Menu this week: Taco Plate

Cost of the meal: High School & Adults \$3.00 Children \$2.50

Family Night Wednesdays is taking a new approach this fall. Beginning 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.

Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. Youth Group meets.

Wednesday at 7:30 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.

Thursday at 8:00 a.m. Senior Breakfast at Curtis C's, Newton.

Next Sunday during Sunday School – The Organizational Structure Task Force would like to meet with the congregation during the Sunday School hour next Sunday, October 11th to give an update on the org structure process as well as have an informal time to answer questions. Members of the Task Force are Pastor Randy, Kim Claassen, Tim Harms, Virgil Penner and Jeff Toews.

October 18 Pastor Candidating Sunday – Weldon Martens will be with us. We will have a carry-in meal following the Sunday School hour.

October 25 at 12:45 p.m. Semi-annual church business meeting. We will have a meal at 11:30 a.m. – meal plans to be announced.

Announcements

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.

***The Mennonite* subscription list is being updated.** The church has a group-rate policy and each subscription costs the church \$37.00. If you are not receiving *The Mennonite* and would like to, or if you are currently receiving it and would like to discontinue your subscription, please contact Debbie Claassen by October 18.

Nursery This Sunday: Jackie Moore and Bethany Regehr

Nursery Next Sunday: Katherine Claassen and Tammy Regehr

Ushers Next Sunday: Doug Hiebert and Russell Janzen

Offering Last Sunday: Western District Conference \$1,477.04

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

Whatever the weather, we're taking out the dam. Watchers and doers alike are invited to come to Camp Mennoscah for the annual removal of the dam – this afternoon at approx. 2 p.m. There is some weather for which we would cancel--blizzard, lightning, tornado, for example--but otherwise we will barrel forward. We do this to clean out the muck and mud behind the dam. Call 620-297-3290 with 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.

This year at Fall Festival, Saturday, October 10, at Bethel College, you can Dart for Art, see a play (Friday or Sunday, too), enjoy the Thresher Shop grand opening, shop at the Market on the Green and walk Sand Creek Trail. Plus food, reunions, children's park, music, sports – and the launch of a new book, *Museum Mysteries*, written and illustrated by Uncle Carl's Camps summer day campers, at Kauffman Museum! 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 annual Instituto Bíblico Anabautista-IBA BENEFIT dinner will take place Friday, October 16 at 6:30 p.m. in the First Mennonite Church of Newton fellowship hall. A smothered pork burrito dinner will be prepared and served by Chef Carlos Lujano. A short program will follow featuring a hymn by IBA student Javier Rodriguez, a dance performed by the children of Iglesia Mennonita Casa Betania, and video presentation by Ervin Stutzman. Dinner is by donation. This is a great opportunity for a Sunday School, Small Group or individuals to come and hear how this program is equipping Hispanic leaders in Mennonite Church USA. IBA is a program of Mennonite Education Agency's Hispanic Pastoral and Leadership Education Program. For any inquires contact Violeta Ajquejay at: VioletaA@MennoniteEducation.org or call 316-281-4342.

The Western District Conference Annual Assembly is only a month away! Need-based scholarships are available for up to 1/2 of the cost of registration and meals, not to exceed \$50 per individual. Scholarships will be granted on a first-come, first-served basis as long as funds are available. Contact the WDC office at 316-283-6300.

The Annual Meeting for Mennonite Disaster Service Region III will be held October 30-31, 2015 at The Ark on Table Rock Lake, Conference Center, 1190 State Hwy. East, Eagle Rock, Missouri. You are invited to attend. A registration form is available on the bulletin board.

Save the date – November 21, "Worship & Community: Cultivating the Practices that Sustain Us," the 3rd biennial Worship and the Arts Symposium at Bethel College with Christine Pohl, Asbury Theological Seminary and Michael Driscoll, University of Notre Dame. Registration information at bethelks.edu/worshiparts, or call Denise Kruse at 316-284-5239.