

Grace Hill Mennonite Church

October 12, 2008

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Pastor: James Voth

Keyboard: Linda Harms

Whitewater, Kansas

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Youth Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Chorister: Ben Lichti

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

A special welcome to each of our guests! 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.

* **Congregational Call to Worship** Psalm 23 Hymnal No. 814

* **Invocation**

* **Hymn No. 644** *When morning gilds the skies*

Offering Local Church Missions

Sharing and Prayer

Lori Seifert, Administrator at Wheat State Manor

Children's Moments *Jesus' Planting Story* Pastor Jim

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

Special Music Praise Team

My soul is filled with Joy

Grace like Rain

Scripture Reading Matthew 22:1-14 Rob Schunn

Sermon *You're all invited! But be sure to wear your wedding clothes!*

* **Hymn of Response No. 311** *The church's one foundation*

* **Benediction** Pastor Jim

* **Benediction Hymn No. 118** *Praise God from whom*

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

We celebrate the birth of Drake Richard, born October 3 to Nathan and Mary Blasi, the new grandson of Tom and Jane Washburn and great-grandson of Wilma Harms.

In the Hospital: Valerie Klaassen, Newton Medical Center

Joining us for worship this morning are members of the North Butler 4-H club and their families. Today they are celebrating their annual 4-H Sunday and will be enjoying a potluck meal after Sunday School.

Meaning of the Four H's

“It signifies the equal training of the head, heart, hands and health.”

Western District Conference: Give thanks for Tabor Mennonite Church, rural Newton, celebrating its 100th anniversary today.

Mennonite Mission Network: Visitors come from many different countries to Nazareth Village in Israel. As they listen to living presentations of the life and times of Jesus, pray they may be inspired to follow the teaching of Jesus in their daily lives. MMN partners in this ministry.

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). If you have any questions please contact Kaye Penner or Barb Voth.

College students: If you would like to receive a student subscription of *The Mennonite* please contact Debbie Claassen by October 19.

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: Bonita Schroeder and Emily Burch
Special Music Next Sunday: Celebration Singers

Offering Last Sunday: Mennonite Church USA \$2,187.00
Offering Next Sunday: Wheat State Manor

CHURCH OFFICES

Pastor: James Voth

E-mail: pastor@gracehillmc.org

Youth Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

E-mail: youthpastor@gracehillmc.org

Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen

Church Website: www.gracehillmc.org

Church Events

This afternoon at 4:00 p.m. Today the Youth are in charge of the Wheat State Manor Vesper Service at 4:00 p.m. Following that, we will have our Progressive Supper, which is hosted by the Explorers Sunday School Class. All High School Youth are invited to participate in both of these events!

Monday at 7:00 p.m. Hands of Friendship meet at the Mennonite Central Committee Center in North Newton. Program: Work night at MCC Center; Devotions: Irma Gonzales; Hostess: Elfrieda Schmidt; Financial Projects: MCC.

Wednesday 6:10 p.m. All Church Meal*
6:50 – 7:30 p.m. Adult Choir in sanctuary
7:00 – 8:15 p.m. Children's and Youth Programming
7:30 – 8:00 p.m. Adult-praise, prayer, biblical reflections+
*If you are unable to attend the meal, please contact Kaye Penner (283-3948) or Barb Voth (283-2644).

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

+Each Wednesday evening from 7:30 to 8:00 p.m. all are welcome to a time of celebrating our faith, sharing our prayers and reflecting on the Scripture from the past Sunday's sermon. Come and join us in the room just west of the kitchen. Pastor Jim

Wednesday at 7:45 p.m. Administrative Council meets at church.

Friday High School Youth 5th Quarter: We will be having a 5th Quarter Friday October 17. Today during the Sunday School hour we will be passing around a sign up sheet for food. Thank you for your help!



Saturday and Sunday Church Retreat at Camp Mennoscah. If anyone is in Christ -- New Creation! (2 Co. 5:17) Retreat at Camp Mennoscah is just a few days away! We are looking forward to being renewed in the presence of God's creation and in the fellowship of our brothers and sisters in Christ. What new creation is God calling forth in all of us and in our church? The camp opens at 3 p.m. on Saturday. If you haven't turned in your registration form yet, please contact Peter Goerzen (620-327-4609).

There will not be any services at the church next Sunday.

Homeless Shelter Ministry October 22-28. We share a week of service in the Newton homeless shelter with Zion Mennonite Church October 22-28. There is a sign-up sheet for four nights of volunteer staffing and providing a meal those evenings. The dates are October 22, 24, 26 and 28. If you would like to take the volunteer staff training please contact Pastor Jim.

Friday, October 31 at 7:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast at Whitewater Café.

This fall we will celebrate the harvest and God's full provision for us in our Harvest Mission Festival on Sunday, November 9. More information to follow.

Et Cetera

Camp Mennoscah—Walk the planks! It's time to take the dam out. Volunteers are welcome to come to Camp Mennoscah this afternoon at approximately 2 p.m. to help remove the wooden planks in the dam, hose them off and stack them for the winter. We suggest you wear river clothes.

Sunday-Afternoon-at-the-Museum, this afternoon at 3:30 p.m., "My Antonia Prairie Walk and Talk." Step back in time with an afternoon celebrating Willa Cather's novel "My Antonia." Wander through the big bluestem prairie and the 1875 Voth-Unruh-Fast house to experience early immigrant life before the 3:30 program discussing responses to the novel. The program at Kauffman Museum is co-sponsored by Bethel College and Newton Public Library and is free and open to the public. Kauffman Museum at Bethel College is located at 27th and North Main in North Newton. Call 316-283-1612 for more information.

International Eradication of Poverty Day will be celebrated Thursday, October 16, 5:30-7 p.m. and Friday, October 17, 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. – Ten Thousand Villages will donate 20% percent of sales to the *Circles Initiative* during these shopping days.

Bridges/Circles community meeting will be Tuesday, October 21, 5:30-7 p.m. at Peace Connections, 612 N. Main, Newton. Everyone is invited to attend!

Steve Ratzlaff, pastor, social justice activist and author, will talk about his book *7 Steps to End War & Save the Planet* in Krehbiel Auditorium on the Bethel College campus, North Newton, at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 23. His book, enumerating the radical changes needed to save this planet from the coming environmental cataclysm, will be for sale. Sponsored by the Kansas Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (KIPCOR), this lecture is free and open to the public. A freewill offering will be taken. For additional information, see <http://www.bethelks.edu/kipcor/lectures/index.php> or call KIPCOR: 316-284-5217.

Bridges Out of Poverty: Strategies for Professionals and Communities workshop with Phil DeVol (author of Bridges Out of Poverty who was in Newton in 2004) will be offered in Salina on Friday, October 24. The regular cost to attend is \$89, but if you mention Peace Connections, you may register for \$75. (Include the fee with the registration when you pay, making sure to indicate on the form--"Peace Connections Scholarship.") Brochures available at Peace Connections or via email. Info. - 294-0000 or info@peaceconnections.org.

Hoffnungsaus Mennonite Church, Inman, will host its annual Mission Supper from 5 - 7 p.m. on October 25. Proceeds will benefit the *Bridges Out of Poverty/Circles™ Campaign*. For a free will donation, diners will be served baked sausage, mashed potatoes, creamed peas, applesauce, rolls and homemade pie. All are invited and bring a friend! Hoffnungsaus is located at 43 13th Avenue, or 5 miles east and 3.5 miles south of Inman; or 14 miles west 22.5 miles north of Hesston.

Join in an evening of music and storytelling with Jonathan Larson, well-known Mennonite pastor, teacher, writer and storyteller on Sunday, October 26, 7 p.m. at Bethel College Mennonite Church. Western District Conference is sponsoring a hymn sing to begin the evening and an offering will be received.

The Mennonite Central Committee Meat Canner will be at the MCC Center in North Newton October 27 through November 4. Volunteers are needed to can 80,000 pounds of turkey and 8,000 pounds of pork. New this year is a quiet room for reading and learning about MCC's meat canning program. All are welcome to use this space, especially people who are not physically able to help with meat canning, in prayer and meditation for the work, the young men who travel with the canner, and for the many ways we are blessed. Money is still needed to purchase sows for processing. Please designate your gift "Newton Meat Canner" and send checks to MCC Central States, PO Box 235, North Newton, KS 67117. Contact Maynard Knepp with questions at 316-283-2720.

Benefit Fund Raiser for Emmaus Mennonite Church November 1 at 6:30 p.m. at the Remington High School Gym. Program: Remington Singers, Rusty Rierson singing Christian Country and Auction. If you have an auction item you would like to donate please contact Vern Boyenger at 620-752-3674.

A Wish List for Camp Mennoscah is posted on the bulletin board.