

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

October 23, 2011

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: Gladys Reimer

Worship Leader: Kylee Schunn

Jonah

Gathering Our Praise

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

Light print taken from Psalm 28; bold print taken from Psalm 61.

One: To you, Lord, I call.

Many: Hear my cry, O God; listen to my prayer.

From the ends of the earth I call to you, I call as my heart grows faint.

One: You are my Rock.

Many: Lead me to the rock that is higher than I. For you are my refuge, you are my strong tower.

One: Hear my cry for mercy as I call to you for help, as I lift up my hands toward your most holy sanctuary.

Many: I long to dwell in your tent forever and take refuge in the shelter of your wings.

One: Blessed be the Lord, for he has heard my cry for mercy.

Many: For you, God, have heard my vows; you have given me the heritage of those who fear your name.

One: The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him.

Many: I will always sing praises to your name and fulfill my vows day after day.

One: The Lord is the strength of his people, he is the saving refuge of his anointed. Save your people; be their shepherd and carry them forever.

Gathering Prayer

* **Gathering Hymn STJ No. 1** *We sing to you, O God*

Offering our Gifts Western District Conference

Hearing God's Word

Children's Story

Ashley and Alia Enns

Old Testament Reading Psalm 77

Katie Regier

* **Hymn No. 59** *Sing praise to God who reigns*

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

Old Testament Reading Jonah 2

Pastor Katherine

Sermon *How do we sing in the belly of the fish?*

Pastor Katherine

Responding to the Good News

* **Hymn of Response STJ No. 50** *Keep me safe, O God*

Tara Harms-Becker and Pastor Katherine will sing the verses.

Everyone is invited to join in on the chorus.

Sharing Our Stories and Congregational Prayer

Sent to Proclaim the Good News

* **Sending Hymn No. 567** *How firm a foundation*

* **Benediction**

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

Western District Conference: Pray for the gathering of the Constituency Leadership Council of Mennonite Church USA meeting in Halifax, PA. Representatives from WDC are Clarence Rempel, Diana Schunn and Jacob Castro.

Mennonite Mission Network: Thank God for the ministry of Lois and Wayne Hochstetler, worker care specialists who travel around the world to MMN locations to encourage and support personnel. Pray for traveling mercies, good health, and joy in the Hochstetlers' journeys.

Announcements

There will be no Sunday School classes next Sunday, October 30 for the adults or the junior department. You are welcome to use this time for visiting.

The elective Sunday School class with Pastor Peter will be studying the book of James on the 2nd and 4th Sundays (on the Sundays the Catechism class is not meeting).

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: Catina Wiebe and Rachelle Claassen

Nursery Next Sunday: Debbie Claassen and Carine Claassen

Ushers Next Sunday: Josh Patterson and Rob Schunn

Offering Last Sunday: Wheat State Manor \$1,329.35

Offering Next Sunday: ½ for Mennonite Relief Sale
½ for Mennonite Relief Canning

Church Events

Today at noon Mentor/Mentee Lunch: All Mentor and Mentee pairs are invited to a pizza lunch following Sunday School today. Following lunch, you are welcome to bring table games to play together as a group. Hope to see you there!

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

Wednesday 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Junior Dept. Programming
7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Youth Programming
7:00 p.m. Adult Choir
7:00 p.m. Adult Book Study with Pastor Peter

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

November 1-3 Mennonite Relief meat canning in North Newton.

November 13 Harvest Thanks Sunday. Joe and Anna Liechty Sawatzky will be our speakers.

Et Cetera

Anabaptist Vision and Discipleship Series will be held at Hesston College October 28-30. How do we talk to each other about talking to each other? Join us at Hesston College as we work together—participants choosing the discussion topics, in Open Spaces style, using different techniques such as Samoan Circle and Round Table, talking in ways that go beyond debating each other, but also—hopefully—moving beyond just agreeing to disagree. We're calling the conference *Getting Beyond Them and Us—to We*. We don't want to just get beyond. We want to be transformed. Register at www.hesston.edu/AVDS.

The Sister Care Seminar: *Equipping Women for Caring Ministry* will take place November 11-12 at Hesston Mennonite Church. The early registration of \$45 has been extended through October 31.

Rally For Repeal Of The Death Penalty: Jeremy Schroeder, leader of the successful effort to repeal the death penalty in Illinois, is speaking at the Rally for Repeal November 5, 1:15 – 4:00 p.m. at the Wichita State University Metroplex, 5015 E. 29th Street North, Wichita. The rally is sponsored by the Kansas Coalition Against the Death Penalty which includes the Western District Conference Task Force to End the Death Penalty. The rally is free and workshops and material will be available that are helpful to congregational committees which want to equip others to end capital punishment in the coming legislative session. *A side note: To read Pastor Peter Goerzen's (Grace Hill Mennonite Church, Whitewater, KS) letter to Kansas Governor Brownback about abolishing the death penalty in 2012, go to: <http://mennowdc.org/conference-life/ministries/task-forces/>. His letter was published in the "Kansas Coalition Against the Death Penalty" Fall 2011 newsletter.*

Western District Conference Reference Council - November 19, 8:30 - 12 (lunch included) at Tabor Mennonite Church, rural Newton. Topic: Revitalizing our Churches with Pastor Randy Smith and four testimonies from revitalizing congregations. Reference Council is a gathering of WDC commissions, committees, task forces and pastors. Lay leaders intrigued by the topic are welcome. Please RSVP by November 10 to wdc@mennowdc.org or call 316-283-6300.

Waging Peace: Muslim and Christian Alternatives, a new documentary from Third Way Media/MennoMedia, will air between Oct. 23 and Dec. 18 at the discretion of local ABC-TV stations. The documentary explores threads of peacemaking in the Christian and Muslim faiths through the centuries. A video trailer, excerpts and much more are available at the website, www.WagingPeaceAlternatives.com. The documentary shows current peaceful efforts among Muslims and Christians and features numerous Mennonites along with experts and interviewees from other Christian and Muslim groups. Almost 90 stations have already agreed to air it so check local listings at <http://www.interfaithbroadcasting.com/vv.aspx>. The documentary will be for sale on DVD for \$24.95 after Nov. 1. Share this with friends by linking from the [Facebook page for Waging Peace](#); look for Waging Peace Documentary on Facebook.

Camp Mennoscah needs: 1. Donation of a durable, industrial-strength, motorized septic snake in good working condition or a monetary gift for the same. (Never fear! We're making big changes this fall and improving the septic system—but we still need a snake.) 2. Another refrigerator for the Retreat Center and another large chest freezer for our kitchen. Contact us at campmno@mennowdc.org or 620-297-3290.