

# GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

November 1, 2015

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Musician: Ellen Mosiman

Song Leader: Bonita Schroeder

Transition Pastor: Randy Smith

## *The Spirit and Church in Acts*

Gathering Music

Ellen Mosiman

Welcome and Announcements

Randy Smith

Prelude to Worship

Call to Worship

Psalm 19

(congregational refrain)

*May the words of my mouth*

*and the meditation of my heart*

*be acceptable in your sight,*

*O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.*

\*Praising God in Song

*I sing the mighty power of God*

*For the beauty of the earth*

Hymnal 46

Hymnal 89

Confession and Forgiveness

Psalm 19: 12-13

Silent Confession

Revelation 21:1-5

Affirming Our Faith

*Great is thy faithfulness*

Hymnal 327

Offering and Offertory

Children's Story

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

Scripture

Merril Harms

Acts 17:13-34

Sermon

*Starting Where They're At*

\**God loves all his many people*

Hymnal 397

Sharing and Prayer

\*Sending Hymn

Hymnal 498

*He comes to us as one unknown*

\*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**

I am pleased to accept the call from Grace Hill Mennonite Church to serve God and you as your pastor beginning next February 1. I thank the Search Committee and chairperson Doug Claassen for their good work and partnership in discussing and facilitating this call the past weeks. Whether it be your worship, your fellowship, your service, or even your wonderful carry-in meals I am confident that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion until the day of Christ Jesus' (Philippians 1:6). Weldon Martens

**Western District Conference:** Give thanks for God's presence at the WDC Assembly this past weekend, and pray for congregation members and leaders as they return home to continue God's work in their own communities.

**Mennonite Mission Network:** Siaka Traoré, president of Evangelical Mennonite Church of Burkina Faso, thanks you for praying for the country after a coup d'état in September. Mennonite Mission Network requests continued prayers for peaceful elections and for a spirit of reconciliation between political factions.

### **Church Family News**

. . . **Valerie Klaassen** and **Matt Graber** will be performing this evening with the Rosewood Winds, and The Flannelbacks respectively for the West Zion Church Concert Series . . . **Josh Janzen** is preaching this morning at Tabor Mennonite Church . . .

### **Announcements**

**“Koats 4 KC Kids”** Melinda Regehr, currently working for the Mennonite Voluntary Service unit in Kansas City, is collecting new or gently used coats, sweaters, gloves, anything for winter weather. She especially needs children’s coats. If you would like to donate, please leave the coats in the basket in the foyer marked “Koats 4 KC Kids”. Money donations are also appreciated, Melinda will then buy the coats. Please make checks out to JVS (Jewish Vocational Services) and write on the memo line “coat drive”.

**The Whitewater & Potwin Food Pantries** are in need of items throughout the year. A basket for goods is located in the foyer by the front entrance.

**Nursery This Sunday:** Kris Goossen and Renata Goossen

**Nursery Next Sunday:** Lisa Harms and Bethany Regehr

**Ushers Next Sunday:** Doug Hiebert and Russ Janzen

**Offering Last Sunday:** Western District Conference \$1,536.00

**Offering Next Sunday:** Harvest Thanks

## Church Events

**Tuesday noon - Thursday** Mennonite Central Committee meat canning in North Newton. For more information, see Kendall Claassen or Kim Claassen.

**Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.** Worship Council meets.

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

**Menu this week:** Pulled Pork Sandwiches

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

**Wednesday Family Night** continues with Bible stories from the gospel of John. This week Travis Harms and Kim Claassen will tell the story.

**Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.** Youth Group meets.

**Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.** Adult Choir practice

**Wednesday at 8:00 p.m.** Administrative Council meets.

**Thursday at 7:00 p.m.** Organizational Structure Task Force meets.

**Next Sunday** Harvest Thanks Sunday – see insert from last Sunday. (Copies of inserts and Harvest Thanks offering envelopes are available in the foyer.) We will have an extended worship service with mission stories by Jordon Miller, Randy and Lindy Wiens, and Peter Wintermote. The fellowship meal will follow at 11:30 a.m.

**For the meal:** There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the foyer for salads, pies and zwieback for the Harvest Thanks Day meal. Meat and potatoes will be provided by the Social Council.

## 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](mailto:transitionpastor@gmail.com)

**Director of Youth Ministry: Joshua Janzen**

Email: [joshuadjanzen@bethelks.edu](mailto:joshuadjanzen@bethelks.edu)

**Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen** Home: 620-752-3270

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

**Library News** - All of the NEW BOOKS will be on the table in the lobby for you to check out. The following books have been purchased at F&L during their church library day:

### Children's books

Hurst, Elva (our farm life series) "The Pony Cart Adventure", "When the School Bells Ring", "Summer on the Farm", "Autumn Days"

Smith, Brendan Powell "Joseph and the Colorful Coat" The Brick Bible for Kids

DeVries, Catherine "Let's Learn about the Lord's Prayer"

### Adults

Karon, Jan "Come Rain or Come Shine" A new series but still a continuation of her Mitford Series. Her books continue to be on the best selling list. We have her Mitford series.

Pitman, Allison "On Shifting Sand" The reader is led through the difficulties of faith during the Dust Bowl in Oklahoma and many other states.

Rubart, James L. "Rooms" The question "What would you find if you walked into the rooms of your soul?" Michael is led through rooms that tug him many ways. He struggles with many issues that come his way.

Cobble, Colleen "The Inn at Ocean's Edge" Mystery to be solved involves Claire and Luke. Unscrambling the past and delving into unexpected encounters add to the mystery. Discovering trust is one of the themes of this book.

Fabry, Chris "The War Room" The Jordan family has it all but their lives take an unexpected turn. Miss Clara, an older lady with wisdom help this family turn closer to God--The War Room in a prayer closet.

Goyer, Tricia, and Sherry Gore "Made with Love" Lovina Miller, an Amish young lady living in Florida, owns a pie shop with the help of Noah Yoder. Included in this book are many yummy recipes at the end of each chapter.

Wiebe, Katie Funk "My Emigrant Father" Description of the many battles some suffered from their birth country, community, and church. She has translated many papers so she could portray the battles he and others faced.

Whitlow, Robert "A House Divided" An attorney seeks to help two young boys with legal problems, but his own inner battles with drink and drugs create many problems for him, his children, and grandson. Which problems can he overcome?

## Et Cetera

**Bethel College Choral Extravaganza**, featuring all Bethel choral groups, November 1 at 3 p.m., Bethel College Mennonite Church. Groups performing are the Concert Choir, Women's Chorus, Men's Ensemble, Open Road and Woven.

**The West Zion Mennonite Church Concert Series** continues with a concert at the church on November 1 at 7 p.m. The church is located at 101 S. Washington, Moundridge. Featured performers include Rosewood Winds, a woodwind trio comprised of Amanda Friesen, Kristin Kliever & Valerie Klaassen; Kenneth Rodgers, organ; Donna Stucky, piano; Sunflower Trio, which includes Matthew Schloneger, Rebecca Schloneger & Kenneth Rodgers; The Flannelbacks a vocal/acoustic band whose members are Chase Stucky, Matt Graber, Tim Regier & Braden Unruh. No admission will be charged, but a free-will offering will be received during the concert.

**Bethel College's annual Menno Simons Lectures** by Jeff Gundy, Bluffton University, with the overall theme "Wrestling with Mennonite/s Writing." **November 1, 7 p.m.:** "Imagining Mennonite/s Writing: Wrestlers Rebels and Assorted Others." **November 2, 11 a.m.:** "Hearing Mennonite/s Writing: Somewhere Near Defiance" (reading from Gundy's two most recent books of poetry). **November 2, 7 p.m.,** "Looking for Mennonite/s Writing: The Village, the City and the So-Called Real World." All lectures are in Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center and are free and open to the public.

**WDC in the news:** *Crossroads of Faith* is the title of a 6-story series that KWCH Channel 12 TV will air to explore responses to trends of shrinking church membership and attendance in the U.S. As part of the series, co-anchor Scott Evans interviewed a variety of church representatives in the area, including WDC Conference Minister Heidi Regier Kreider and Tabor Mennonite Church Pastor Phil Schmidt. Excerpts from these interviews will air during the 6 p.m. newscast on Tuesday, November 3 on Channel 12, or on <http://www.kwch.com> shortly after.

**Join Everence for an informative seminar on long-term care** on November 3 at 7:00 p.m. at Water's Edge Restaurant, Schowalter Villa, 703 S. Main St., Hesston. Sponsored by Bluestem Communities. Presenter: Scott Luty, Everence Financial Advisor.

**Annual Harvey County Habitat Fall Fundraiser Dinner** will be November 12 at 6:30 p.m. at Faith Mennonite Church, Newton. Live Auction!! Come enjoy great good and fellowship! Dinner catered by Richard and Pat Denno, famous for their pork chops and served with all the fixings. Entertainment will be provided. Any questions and to RSVP please call Brad Schmidt at 316-215-2746. Donations and pledges will be greatly appreciated.

**"Worship & Community: Cultivating the Practices that Sustain Us,"** the 3rd biennial Worship and the Arts Symposium will be held November 21 at Bethel College with Christine Pohl, Asbury Theological Seminary, and Michael Driscoll, University of Notre Dame. Registration information at [bethelks.edu/worshiparts](http://bethelks.edu/worshiparts), or call Denise Krase at 316-284-5239.

**Throughout November and December the Salvation Army and the Newton Ministerial Alliance** are working together to sponsor the annual Harvest of Love Campaign in Harvey County. The purpose is to gather nonperishable food items and monetary donations to help respond to the growing needs of individuals and families in Harvey County. All food donations can be delivered to The Salvation Army office which is located at 208 W. 6<sup>th</sup> St., Newton. Checks should be payable to Harvest of Love.

**Hey, Camp Mennoscah friends!** It's a great time of year to grab your scarf and traipse around the camp grounds, have a blood-warming round of disc golf, or play games inside with a cup of hot chocolate at hand. We have spaces for small groups, families, and larger groups, too! We think camp is an all-ages, all-seasons activity. Contact us at 620-297-3290 to inquire or share your favorite pirate, turkey, or potato joke.

**2016 Cornelius Krahn Mennonite Multimedia Contest for High Schoolers:** The *Mennonite Life* journal invites high school scholars and artists to submit historical essays, creative writing, multimedia projects, or original works of art or music on topics related to Mennonite and Anabaptist history, identity, or theology. Cash prizes awarded, as well as matching scholarship from Bethel, Hesston, and Tabor Colleges. Submissions to [mennonite-life@bethelks.edu](mailto:mennonite-life@bethelks.edu) by April 1, 2016. For more information, see [ml.bethelks.edu](http://ml.bethelks.edu).