

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH
Worship November 4, 2007 9:30 a.m.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

A special welcome to 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 presence as we meet together with our Creator and Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Come Unto Me all you who are weary

Call to Worship *Holy, Holy, Holy* Seeds of Joy

Gathering Prayer Hymnal No. 671

* **Hymn of Praise No. 19** *Open now thy gates of beauty*

Offering Mennonite Church USA
Offertory *Soon and Very Soon* Seeds of Joy

Children's Moments Kris Goossen

Special Music *Step into the Water* Seeds of Joy

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

Learn from me for my yoke is easy and my burden is light

Scripture Matthew 11:25-30 Maria Jantz

Meditation *The Gift of Rest*

Hymn No. 311 *The church's one foundation* Verses 1, 4 & 5

Scripture John 14:23-27 Pastor Jim

Meditation *The Gift of Peace*

* **Hymn No. 580** *My life flows on* Verses 1, 3 & 4

And I will give you rest

Congregational Sharing

Prayer of Intercession Hymnal No. 722

After the responsive prayer, please feel free to come forward and silently light a candle that may represent a prayer for healing or a prayer for another. If you wish you may verbalize your prayer.

Hymn No. 377 *Healer of our every ill*

* **Benediction** Philippians 4:4-8

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

People: Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.

Leader: Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

People: Finally, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - think about such things.

Leader: And the God of peace will be with you.

Sending Hymn *Go Out and Serve Him* Seeds of Joy

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!**

A special welcome to Seeds of Joy as they come to minister to us in song this morning. Members are Gregg Dick, Kent Dick, Chris and DeAnn Huxman and Cindy Siemens, pianist.

Worship Leaders

Pastor: James Voth

Youth Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Keyboard: Julia Washburn

Chorister: Gladys Reimer

For Sharing and Prayer

Pray for Pastor Katherine as she is attending the National Youth Workers Convention this weekend in St. Louis, Missouri. She will return home Tuesday, November 6.

Thanks to all who have served at the Newton area homeless shelter thus far this week. We continue through Wednesday morning. Let us as a congregation keep the shelter, those residing there and our volunteers in prayer this week. If you have any questions please see Pastor Jim.

Western District Conference: Pray for the new church plant, Comunidad de Fe, Grand Prairie, Texas, and church planters Natan and Rosalba Navarrete, that the Holy Spirit will give guidance, strength and encouragement in this ministry of planting a church. Also pray for Jerry Kaiser as he completes 18 years as pastor of Inman Mennonite Church this Sunday and moves to Aberdeen, Idaho to pastor First Mennonite Church. Pray for Harold D. Thieszen as he becomes the interim pastor of the Inman congregation.

Mennonite Mission Network: Please pray for Eric and Cynthia Good Kaufmann, Service Adventure leaders in Raleigh, North Carolina, as they provide leadership and mentor four young adults serving the community this year.

Church Events

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

Wednesday 6:10 p.m. Kid's Meal at the church*
7:00 – 8:15 p.m. Children's and Youth Programming
7:45 – 8:30 p.m. Adult Choir

*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

Thursday at 7:30 p.m. Worship Council meets at church.

Next Sunday is Harvest Thanks Sunday. Joseph Kamau Kabui, pastor and a student at Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, will give the sermon. Kevin Goertzen will have a children's story and other sharing. Peter Wiebe will speak for the combined adult Sunday School in the sanctuary at 10:45 a.m. At noon we will join together for the Harvest Thanks Dinner. **For the noon meal: Please sign the sheet in the foyer to bring either a salad or two pies.** The evening service will include an all church pizza party at 6:00 p.m. with "Stories of God at Work" – mission stories told by Kevin Goertzen, Peter Wiebe and Jeremy Kindy. All are welcome!

Next Sunday we will receive a special offering for the work of building God's kingdom. It is an opportunity for you to give a special gift through the church to a number of ministries supported by the congregation. You received the Harvest Thanks 2007 newsletter and the offering giving form along with an offering envelope. If you have any questions or did not receive this information please see Pastor Jim or Debbie Claassen. The offering information and giving form are available in the foyer. Prayerfully consider how God is leading you to give your first fruits offering for the building of God's kingdom.

Next Sunday at 4:00 p.m. Wheat State Manor Vesper Service – Explorers S.S. Class is in charge.

Monday, November 12 at 6:30 p.m. Hand of Friendship will meet at the Et Cetera Stop, Newton, at 6:30 p.m. Program: Work night at Et Cetera Stop and guest speaker Cynthia Peacock from India will be sharing. Devotions: Nancy Schmidt; Hostess: Joyce Wedel; Financial project: Adopt a family (Salvation Army project). Men are welcome, as work projects are planned for them. Park in the lot west of the building and come in the west door from the alley. Please note time change to 6:30 p.m.

Announcements

The next Wednesday evening adult Bible study session will be November 28. We will again listen and respond to a message given by one of the speakers at San Jose 2007 this summer. *Live the Call!*

Harvey County Food Pantry suggested items to donation this month: canned fruit. A basket for goods is located in the foyer by the front entrance.

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

Nursery Next Sunday: Marge Harms and Deb Hiebert

Special Music Next Sunday: Kids in Praise

Keyboard Next Sunday: Linda Harms

Ushers Next Sunday: Doug Hiebert and Orville Schmidt

Offering Last Sunday: Western District Conference \$1,542.50

Offering Next Sunday: Harvest Thanks

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

Et Cetera

Camp Mennoscah and Western District Conference invite you to the groundbreaking ceremony for the new director's house this afternoon at 4:00 p.m. on the campgrounds. Come see Vision 2012 funds at work, tour the new maintenance apartment, and enjoy fellowship - and some refreshments. (In case of rain, event will be held in the Dining Hall.)

Old Fashioned Variety Show: Good music, comedy, ventriloquism, story telling, and amazing feats are just a few of the highlights at the annual variety show and fundraiser sponsored by Mennonite Men of the Plains. The show is Sunday, November 11, 7:00 p.m. at Hesston Mennonite Church. Bring your kids, your parents, and your friends for the show and all the zwiebach and jelly you can eat. An offering will be taken, all proceeds go to scholarships for seminary and ministry inquiry students. Call Brent Voran 316-284-2657 for more information.

Offender / Victim Ministries, which sponsors the Prison Arts Project at the Hutchinson Correctional Facility invites your presence at these two events: **The Rock Castle Male Chorus** under the direction of Marles Preheim will present a varied program of sacred and secular selections on November 11 at 7:30 p.m. in the Central Unit auditorium. The chorus is comprised of HCF inmates and volunteer singers from the surrounding area. Guest instrumentalists will also be featured on the program. **The Rock Castle Drama Troupe**, directed by John McCabe Juhnke, will perform on November 18, at 7:30 p.m. On the program is *Poor Fellas*, that consists of six short tragicomedies. The other is *The Meeting*, which depicts the fictionalized meeting between Malcolm X and Dr. Martin Luther King. For more information and to get your name on the guest list, call Offender/Victim Ministries: 316-283-2038 before Wednesday of each performance.

Kidron Bethel's Builders Banquet is set for Tuesday, November 13, 6:00 p.m. at Faith Mennonite Church. Guest speaker is Nola Ochs, the 95-year-old graduate of Ft. Hays State University, and a guest of Jay Leno of The Tonight Show. Musical entertainment provided by Flute Classics (Vada Snider & Karen Loucks). Tickets may be purchased by November 6 from your church representative or by calling DeeAnn at 284-2900 ext. 237.

Phyllis Good, author of the fabulous Fix-It and Forget-It cookbook series, will be at Faith and Life Bookstore in Newton for a book talk and signing on Friday, November 16 at 10:00 a.m. Bring a friend or co-worker and join us for fellowship, refreshments, and food for thought during this busy season!

A volunteer leader is needed for the Parkinson's Support Group, hosted by Kidron Bethel Village. The group is the only one in this area. The volunteer would provide leadership, arrange for speakers, and show relevant videos. Kidron Bethel provides the meeting space, coffee, and advertising. For more information, please contact Marilyn King at Kidron Bethel.

Joyce Pankratz, Director of Camp Mennoscah, has announced her resignation effective January 31, 2008. The Conference Minister and the Retreat Commission are setting up a search process to ensure a smooth transition. If there are interested persons for this full-time position, please contact Dorothy Nickel Friesen, dorothyntf@mennowdc.org by November 15. An application packet is required from all candidates.