

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

November 10, 2013

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: Peter Goerzen

Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Song Leader: Aaron Tschetter

Worship Leader: Pastor Peter

Musicians: Matthew Graber, Evan Koch, Braden Unruh

Harvest Thanks Sunday Gathering and Praising

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 Psalm 65

Gathering Prayer

* **Gathering Hymn No. 94** *Come, ye thankful people*

Hearing

Children's Story

Deb Bergen

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

Worship Music

Adult Choir

Sing to the Lord of the Harvest by Wolff

Scripture Readings 1 Kings 19: 19-21

Pastor Katherine

Joel 2: 28-29

1 Corinthians 14: 1-5

Sermon *Why are we going to Ghana?*

Wes Bergen

Responding

* **Song of Response No. 383** *God, whose giving*

Offering Our Gifts

On this Harvest Thanks Sunday, we receive a special offering for the work of God's kingdom. It is an opportunity to give a special gift to the ministries supported by the congregation. Rejoice in what God enables you to give for the transforming of lives for God's kingdom.

Harvest Thanks offering envelopes are available from an usher.

Worship Music

Adult Choir

Now Thank We All Our God arr. Hughes

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

Sending

* **Sending Song No. 118** *Praise God from whom*

* **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.

Combined Sunday School for youth and adults following the worship service in the sanctuary with Wes and Deb Bergen.

Today following Sunday School Harvest Thanks Dinner prepared by the Social Council – all are welcome to stay.

This evening at 6:00 p.m. All church pizza party - pizza, veggies and soda in the fellowship hall; presentation by Wes and Deb. A donation will be accepted for the pizza supper.

Wes Bergen is a Bible scholar who has been teaching in the religion department at Wichita State University for the past 17 years. He has also pastored in churches in the United States and Canada. Deb is a child psychiatrist who has worked at Prairie View in Newton and Comcare in Wichita. Wes will be teaching at the Good News Theological College and Seminary (gntcs.org) in Accra, Ghana. Deb will work with Mission Mobile Care Team to equip missionaries and cross-cultural workers to withstand the many stresses and traumas of life in full-time ministry.

For Sharing and Prayer

New address: Keith and Laura Burch
16334 West Dutch Ave., Moundridge, KS 67107

Western District Conference: Pray for our WDC churches that our love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that we may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ (Philippians 1: 9-10).

Mennonite Mission Network: Alisha and Joshua Garber of MMN are serving as resident directors at LCC International University in Lithuania. Pray for them as they model Christian discipleship and share their faith with students from Eastern European countries in this one-year assignment.

Announcements

College Care Packages: The Youth Group will be assembling care packages for our college students on Wednesday, November 13. If you are interested in providing food, goodies, or other small items for the care packages, please let Pastor Katherine know ASAP. Thank you!

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: Lisa Harms and Melinda Regehr
Nursery Next Sunday: Theresa Toews and Sara Harms
Ushers Next Sunday: Mike Balzer and Kendall Claassen

Offering Last Sunday: Mennonite Church USA \$1,610.12
Offering Next Sunday: Local Church

Church Events

Monday at 2:00 p.m. Hands of Friendship meet at church with Katie Funk Wiebe as guest speaker. Her topic is "How to Write your Memoirs". Everyone is invited. Hostess & Devotions: Alma Schmidt, Rita Patterson; Financial Project: Mennonite Women USA. Zion Mennonite Church has been invited to join us for this meeting.

Tuesday afternoon Quilting on the MCC quilt from 1:30-5:00 p.m.

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

Thursday at 8:00 a.m. Senior Breakfast at church. Suggested donation for the breakfast is \$5.

November 24 Hanging of the Greens during the Sunday School hour with a soup lunch to follow.

December 1 The Worship Council is planning a nativity display and carol sing on December 1 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Guests may enjoy the nativity display from 5:30 - 6:30. We will have a carol sing from 6:30 - 7:30 followed by refreshments and more opportunity for enjoying the display. We invite everyone at Grace Hill to bring nativities to share. We will set up the display on November 24 during Sunday School and leave them up through the evening service December 1. We would like a short description of your nativity. You may also bring something on which to place your nativity (scarf, cloth, doily, wood...) if you'd like, otherwise we will provide something. We need volunteers to assist with cookie baking as well as serving that evening. Please see Carol (Kendall) Claassen, Kris Janzen, Valerie Klaassen, or Tara Harms-Becker to volunteer. You may leave your registration for space for your nativity(ies) in Katherine and Peter's mailbox. Let's celebrate the first Sunday in Advent with our friends and neighbors!

Et Cetera

Ervin Stutzman, Executive Director for Mennonite Church USA, will be in the area to meet with constituents on November 10, at 7:00 p.m., in the Menno Hall Chapel at Kidron Bethel Village in North Newton. He will give a brief presentation on positive developments he sees across the church, tell about some difficult conversations that we are having, and then respond to any questions or concerns from the audience. Ervin enjoys interacting with constituents and looks forward to this time with people in his home state.

Retiring Soon? An introduction to Medicare and Social Security will be presented by Everence Financial Advisors on Nov. 12, Dec. 10, Jan. 7 and Feb. 4 at 4:00 and 7:00 p.m. at 106 W. 24th St., North Newton. To reserve your spot, contact Janice Voth at 316-283-3800. For more information, see the flier on the bulletin board.

Saturday, November 16 – Bethel College’s second Worship and the Arts Symposium, “Accompany Them with Singing,” will explore how cultural realities influence Christian practices of marking life transitions. Plenary sessions with Thomas G. Long of Candler School of Theology and John Ferguson of St. Olaf College; workshops; hymnsing; artist presentation by Ann Resnick; 7:30 p.m. worship service featuring the Bethel College Concert Choir and area singers. Register online at www.bethelks.edu/worshiparts or contact Mary Regier at 316-284-5250 weekdays during regular business hours.

IBA’s 25th Anniversary and Benefit dinner: 6:30 p.m., Friday, November 22 at 1st Mennonite Church of Newton. Help celebrate IBA’s birthday. (Anabaptist Biblical Institute)—and support leadership training for Hispanic pastors and congregational leaders. RSVP by Nov. 18 to Violeta Ajquejay at VioletaA@MennoniteEducation.org or call 316-281-4342.

You are invited to attend the Region 3 Mennonite Disaster Service Annual Meeting which will be held at the Memorial Road Mennonite Brethren Church in Edmond, Oklahoma November 22-23. See the bulletin board for more information.

Messiah singers wanted! You are invited to join the First Mennonite Church, Newton, chancel choir members to perform Handel's Messiah (Part I) on Sunday, December 15 at 7 p.m. Rehearsals will be on Sunday afternoons beginning Nov. 17 from 2:30 - 4:00 p.m. in the church sanctuary at 429 East First Street. Dress rehearsal will be Saturday, Dec. 14, 3 - 5 p.m. The program will include an orchestra and soloists. Bring your Messiah book, or books will be available for purchase at rehearsals.

There is still time for early registration for the one-hour course "Spiritual Practice: Scripture" for January 10, 6:30 - 9:15 p.m. and then Jan. 11 and Jan. 18, 8:30 - 3:45 each day at the Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary - Great Plains Extension, taught by Dr. Kathryn Damiano. If you register by Nov. 15, a \$50 discount applies. Register online at www.ambs.edu/GreatPlains. Contact dnfriesen@ambs.edu or [316-283-7098](tel:316-283-7098) for information.

See Greece & Rome – “Footsteps of Paul” in 2014: Join pastor and tour guide Weldon Martens on a trip to Greece and Rome, May 4-16, 2014. The “Footsteps of Paul” tour is a great way to experience locations from the Apostle Paul’s travels recorded in Acts 17-18. The thirteen day all-inclusive trip includes visits to Athens, Corinth, Delphi, Meteora, Thessaloniki, Kavala, Phillippi, Veria and Ephesus. New on this tour is a stop in Istanbul. The tour concludes with three days in Rome! Detailed trip information and brochure is available at: www.travelwithweldon.com or call 402-202-9276.

Thank you from the basement of our Bluestem house! Camp Mennoscah staff send out a mega-huge thank you to everyone who volunteered at the Bluestem house - from Bethel College students to Conway Springs High School students to our trusty, long-time friends. The Bluestem house is now OPEN TO EVERYONE!!! How exciting is that? Call us at 620-297-3290 for information and to make reservations. Tours available--just call to set up a time!

CHURCH OFFICES

Pastors’ Office Hours:

Tuesday-Friday 9:00 a.m. – noon, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. or by appointment

Pastor: Peter Goerzen

E-mail: pastor@gracehillmc.org

Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

E-mail: youthpastor@gracehillmc.org

Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen

Secretary’s E-mail: secretary@gracehillmc.org