

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

November 14, 2010

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: Peter Goerzen

Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Keyboard: Sara Unruh

Chorister: Pastor Katherine

Worship Leader: Pastor Peter Goerzen

Harvest Thanks – Mission Sunday

Gathering in God's Presence

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 117

* **Prayer of Invocation**

* **Gathering Hymns No. 37** *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*
No. 96 *We plow the fields and scatter*

Hearing God's Word

Old Testament Reading Psalm 111 Pastor Peter

Special Music *Will you come and follow me* Tara Harms-Becker

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

Old Testament Reading Joshua 3:9 – 4:7 Samantha Claassen

Sermon *Crossing Rivers and Gathering Stones* Del Hershberger

Responding to God

Hymn of Response No. 389 *Take my life*

Verse 1: All, Verse 2: Men, Verse 3: Women, Verses 4-6: All

Offering our First Fruits Harvest Thanks

Prayer of Blessing

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.

Sharing our Stories and Congregational Prayer

Sent by God

* **Sending Hymn 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.

Offering Our Gifts: Today you will each be given a slip of paper on which to write down a gift (or gifts) that you feel God has given you (such as the gift of prayer, or the gift of teaching, or the gift of music, and so on). We invite you to also place this in the offering as a way of rededicating this gift(s) to God. May God "take our lives and let them be, consecrated Lord, to thee!"

This morning we welcome Del Hershberger! Del has formerly worked as a youth pastor and with the former Mennonite Board of Missions. He currently serves as the director of the Christian Service Department of Mennonite Mission Network, where he works with DOOR, Mennonite Voluntary Service, Radical Journey, Service Adventure, SOOP, and Youth Venture. Del's wife, Michelle Hershberger, teaches Bible and Youth Ministry at Hesston College. Del will be sharing the morning message and leading our Sunday School hour.

This evening we welcome Ron Moyo! Ron was born and raised in Zimbabwe where he was active with the Brethren in Christ Church, Mennonite Economic Development Association (MEDA), Mennonite World Conference, and Mennonite Central Committee (MCC). Ron came to the United States in 2006 seeking political asylum, and his wife Sue and their children also immigrated and joined him in 2009. Ron is currently enrolled in Hesston College's Pastor Ministries program. Ron will be sharing with us this evening. If you would like to support the Moyos, please see the letter on the table in the foyer.

Combined Sunday School for youth and adults in the sanctuary with Del Hershberger.

Today at noon Harvest Thanks Dinner prepared by the Social Council – all are welcome to stay.

This evening at 6:00 p.m. All church supper - pizza, veggies and soda in the fellowship hall. Input by Ron Moyo.

For Sharing and Prayer

With grateful thanks to Pastors Peter and Katherine and my church family for surrounding me and my family with your prayers this week.

Rita Patterson

Thank you to all in our congregation who helped to make the Monday evening Hands of Friendship program such a highlight! Thank you to those who assisted with microphones, set-up, publicity, greeting guests, the floral arrangement, making and serving cookies, and those on the program who shared devotions and skills/gifts of making things. It was an evening of highest quality and 70 persons enjoyed the program.

Western District Conference: Pray for Hope Greiser Graber who will be licensed today and commissioned as the Youth Pastor at Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church, Goessel.

Mennonite Mission Network: Pray for staff and volunteers of MMN's partner agency, Korea Anabaptist Center, as they witness in Korea's increasingly secular society, teach English, coordinate peacemaking education throughout northeast Asia, and promote Anabaptist theology.

Announcements

Church Pictorial Directory!!! We are about to begin photography for our new church directory, and we need YOU to make it complete. There is no cost to have your photographs taken, and you will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and directory for participating. You will be able to view your images electronically immediately after photography. At that time, you will have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits to share with family and friends. Sign-up dates will be Nov. 21, Nov. 28 and Dec. 5. A price sheet will be available at the time of sign-up. Picture dates are December 7, 17 & 18. We look forward to seeing you in the directory!

Everence Financial (formerly Mennonite Mutual Aid) thru its supporting congregations provides matching grant funds to support ministries in our local communities. For 2010, Grace Hill applied for and has been awarded Sharing Fund Grants to support the following ministries: \$638 Remington/Whitewater Backpack Food Program, \$612 Harvey County Homeless Shelter, \$500 Health Ministries of Harvey County, \$500 Newton Ministerial Alliance, \$125 Grace Hill Care Fund. - Tim Harms, Everence Advocate

College Care Packages: On Wednesday, December 8, the Youth Group will be assembling care packages for our college students. If you would be interested in providing goodies for this, please see Pastor Katherine. Thank you!

The Mennonite subscription list is being updated. The church has a group-rate policy and each subscription costs the church \$37.00. If you are not receiving *The Mennonite* and would like to, or if you are currently receiving it and would like to discontinue your subscription, please contact Debbie Claassen by December 5.

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 Ashley Toews

Preaching Next Sunday: Pastor Peter
Keyboard Next Sunday: Julia Dodson
Ushers Next Sunday: Mike Balzer and Kendall Claassen

Offering Last Sunday: Mennonite Church USA \$1,816.00
Offering Next Sunday: Local Church

Church Events

Wednesday 6:10 p.m. All Church Meal – everyone is invited!
7:00 – 8:15 p.m. Children's and Youth Programming
7:00 – 7:40 p.m. Adult Book Study with Pastor Peter
7:45 – 8:30 p.m. Adult Choir
Cost of the meal: High School & Adults \$3.00 Children \$2.50

Wednesday at 7:20 p.m. Business Council meets at church.

Thursday at 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast at Charlie's in Newton.

Next Sunday at 4:00 p.m. Vesper Service at Wheat State Manor – Explorer's Sunday School class is in charge.

Next Sunday at 7:30 p.m. College-age Bible Study at the home of Pastors Peter and Katherine.

Wednesday, November 24 No Wednesday night programming.

November 28 at 4:00 p.m. Grace Hill will host a Community Christmas Sing Along featuring "Five Times Harder". Tom and Lois Harder and their daughters will lead the Advent Hymn Sing. A chili supper and fellowship hour will follow the program. Free will offering for the chili supper. You are encouraged to invite friends and family to this event! You are also invited to come join us in making peppernuts in the church kitchen during the Sunday afternoon before the event.

College-Age Meal: On December 5, we will be hosting a meal for all college-age young adults. If you would be interested in providing food for this, please speak with Marianne Eichelberger. Thank you!

For all college-age young adults, you are all warmly invited and encouraged to invite friends as well! Please let Pastor Katherine know if you are planning to attend and whether you will be bringing others so that we have enough food. Thank you!

On January 9, Marlene Bogard will be leading a workshop at Grace Hill on equipping people to be teachers. As Christians, all of us find opportunities in our lives to teach; come and learn the basic concepts of teaching from our Conference's Minister of Christian Nurture.

Et Cetera

Susan Gaeddert, Madison, Wis., and Karen Bauman Schlabaugh, professor of music at Bethel College, will present a recital of piano music for four hands this afternoon at 3 p.m. in the Administration Building chapel. Program includes works by Mozart, Schumann, Husa, Hindemith, Barber and Mendelssohn; admission is free.

Palmyra Baptist Church is celebrating 135 years on November 21 at 2:00 p.m. Special program followed by refreshments in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to attend.

Kidron Bethel Village Christmas Gift Market will be held Saturday, December 4, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Menno Hall, 3001 Ivy Drive, North Newton. Residents and employees will offer for sale their handmade arts and crafts creations and food gifts.

Harvey County Homeless Shelter, Inc. extends to you an invitation to attend our most prestigious event of the year. Our 5th Annual Christmas Dinner Theatre promises to be as great a success as it has been in the years past. A festive atmosphere and the company of friends and family adds to the delight of the unspeakably scrumptious meal provided by a team of local culinary artists. The expertise of the Newton Community Theatre caps off the evening with "The Quilt Maker's Gift," a musical of whimsical and thought provoking entertainment. Thursday, December 9 and Friday, December 10 – doors open at 6:00 p.m., meal served at 6:30 p.m., theatrical performance to follow at Hesston Mennonite Church, 309 South Main, Hesston. Cost per seat \$20, cost per table sponsor \$300 (includes table for eight and company recognition at the event), cost per event sponsor \$500 (includes table for eight and company recognition in all publications). For more information or to make a reservation contact Darla or Christa at Regier Construction 316-283-3729 or event@hchs-ks.com.

New donation hours at Newton Et Cetera Shop We are temporarily shifting our donation receiving hours to better accommodate the community's increased giving this season. Temporary donation hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. We think we can continue to process donations quickly and not turn anyone away with this new schedule. Donors wishing to drop items off during business hours on Mondays or Tuesdays should call the store to see if special arrangements are possible. As always, a big thanks to all our donors! You make our mission in the community and our giving to Mennonite Central Committee possible.

The following books are from Leona Unruh's Memorial Fund:
Kingsbury, Karen "Unlocked" Deals with family and community who have to come to terms with autism.

Mehl, Nancy "Simple Secrets" Author is from Wichita and the book centers in Harmony which has two Mennonite churches plus others. BK I of the Harmony Series.

"A Prairie Christmas" Selections from nine authors about Christmas in Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota, Chicago, Dakota, and Kansas.

Klavan, Andrew "The Last Thing I Remember" BK I Written for JR/HS young men

Klavan, Andrew "The Long Way Home" BK II of above series

Rosenberg, Joel C. "The Last Jihad" Novel dealing with the 9/11/01 with its many problems.

Brees, Drew "Coming Back Stronger" Biography He led the New Orleans Saints to their first Super Bowl in franchise history.

Donated by Mennonite Church USA:

Harder, Jeanette "Let the Children Come" Preparing Faith communities to end child abuse and neglect.

Donated by our members:

Mortenson, Greg, and David Oliver Relin "Three Cups of Tea" One Man's Mission to Promote Peace ... One School at a Time.

Kinkade, Thomas, and Katherine Spencer "The Inn at Angel Island" BK I The Inn helps healing come to the troubled people.

Kinkade, Thomas, and Katherine Spencer "A New Leaf" Place of miracles.

Gabhart, Ann "The Seeker" Setting is the Shaker community in Kentucky in the 1860's.

Evans, Richard Paul "The Walk" A man who loses it all decides to leave Seattle and walk to Key West, Florida.