

# GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

November 17, 2013

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: Peter Goerzen

Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Song Leader: Penny Hiebert

Musician: Linda Harms

Worship Leader: Pastor Katherine

Shaped by the Story: The Great Commission  
Grace Hill's Twelve Foundational Scriptures  
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** Hymn No. 713

## Gathering Prayer

\* **Gathering Song Sing the Journey No. 42** *Listen, God is calling*

**Offering Our Gifts** Local Church

## Hearing God's Story

\* **Song Sing the Journey No. 40** *As rain from the clouds*

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

**Gospel Reading** Matthew 28: 16-20

Pastor Peter

**Scripture Sharing**

Josh Toevs

**Sermon** *As you go...*

Pastor Peter

## Responding to God's Story

\* **Song of Response Sing the Journey No. 63** *Lord, you give the great commission*

## Responding to the Story

What was meaningful for you from this morning's worship service?  
What questions have you pondered regarding this text?  
How has God's Spirit spoken to you through this Scripture passage?

## Sharing and Congregational Prayer

### *Sent by God*

\* **Sending Song No. 398** *I love to tell the story*

### \* **Benediction**

One: Jesus announced:

“The kingdom of God has come near;  
repent and believe the good news!”

“As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”

**Many: Having received this command,  
let us witness to the gospel;  
it is the power of God for salvation  
to everyone who has faith.**

One: The mission of the church  
is to make disciples of all nations,  
baptizing them and teaching them  
by word and witness that Jesus Christ is Lord.

**All: We believe that life can find fulfillment  
nowhere except in Christ.**

**Let us proclaim the good news of God's kingdom  
and live as faithful followers of Jesus Christ until he comes!**

## 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**

A special thanks to all who brought salads and pies for the Harvest Thanks meal last Sunday, to those who helped with cleanup, and to all who assisted the Social Council in any way. It was very much appreciated!

Also a big THANK YOU to the Social Council for the delicious meal last Sunday and for all your work!

Thank you to everyone who provided for and helped assemble the college care packages this year!

**Western District Conference:** Pray for Pastor Byron Pellecer who will be leading the Hispanic church plant in Wichita. Pray that God will open the door for the gospel message. Pray that he might proclaim the good news clearly, be wise in new contacts, and make the most of every opportunity (Colossians 4:4-5).

**Mennonite Mission Network:** Pray for Moriah Hurst of MMN as she teaches about community and youth development, alternatives to violence, trauma and healing, and Christian spirituality in Australia.

## Church Events

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

**Wednesday 6:15 p.m.** All Church Meal – everyone is invited!

**7:00 – 8:00 p.m.** Junior Dept. Programming

**7:00 p.m.** Youth Programming

**7:00 p.m.** Adult Choir

**7:30 p.m.** Adult Study with Pastor Peter

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

**Upcoming Wednesday Night Schedule:** November 27 – no programming; also no programming on December 18, 25 and January 1. We will meet as usual on December 4 and 11, with a meal on Dec. 4.

**Thursday at 6:30 a.m.** Men's Breakfast at Whitewater Café.

**Thursday** The Western District Conference Pastors Day Apart will take place at Grace Hill.

**Next Sunday - It's Beginning to Feel a Lot Like Christmas!**

Please plan on assisting the decorations committee next Sunday, November 24 as we “bling up” our sanctuary for Christmas. Decorating activities will occur during the Sunday School hour. Decorations will be organized and ready for placement. Children, young and old, are invited to decorate. There will be a new children's tree addition which requires that “special decorating touch” as seen through the eyes of children! Many hands should make little work! I am looking for “team leaders” who will inspire creativity with provided materials for our designated areas. Please consider bringing items needed to make bows and hang items. Enjoy cider and music as we put some sparkle in the air. If you have questions or would like to offer your decorating skills, call Lisa Schmidt at 799-2523.

**Next Sunday following the decorating** Everyone is invited to stay for a soup lunch – please sign-up to bring a crockpot of soup to share, everything else will be provided.

**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!

**December 13, 15 & 17** Grace Hill week at the Harvey County Homeless Shelter. Please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board to help provide food or volunteer.

## Announcements

***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 1.

**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:** Theresa Toews and Sara Harms

**Nursery Next Sunday:** Mary Ann Wiebe and Kylee Schunn

**Ushers Next Sunday:** Josh Patterson and Rob Schunn

**Offering Next Sunday:** Western District Conference

## Et Cetera

**Today – Sunday-Afternoon-at-the-Museum program** in conjunction with Kauffman Museum's current special exhibit, "Art that Worked: WPA Art in Newton 1935-43"; "Federal Theatre Project: A Grand Experiment," a readers' theater presentation coordinated by Berneil Rupp Mueller, 3:30 p.m., Kauffman Museum. (Readers are André Balzereit, Julia Campfield, Omer Galle, Zona Platt Galle, Tara Harms-Becker, Berneil Rupp Mueller, Joshua Powell and Leah Towle.)

**Featured Resources from your Conference Resource Library: Advent and Christmas Planning!** Now would be a great time to explore the 300 resources we have on Christmas and Advent at the WDC Resource Library. Need monologues or dramas? Readings for the children? Family reading and activities? Services for Hanging of the Greens or Christmas Eve? We really do "have it all." Call or email NOW to get the best selection of materials for your congregational planning or household reading. Perhaps...you may even want to order a Resource Bundle from the library for December reading. I am happy to select 15 of our finest seasonal resources and mail them to you! -- *Marlene Bogard*, [crlib@mennowdc.org](mailto:crlib@mennowdc.org) / [316-283-6300](tel:316-283-6300)

**New - Beginning December 7, the Conference Resource Library** will be open the first Saturday of each month from 10 am - 12 pm. If you're not able to get here during the week, this is a great chance to see the many (12,000 +) resources available. Bring the kids too - we have a wonderful children's library, and they can join for a short story time from 10:30-10:40 too! Everyone is welcome!

**Kidron Bethel Village Christmas Gift Market** will be held Saturday, December 7 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Menno Hall Chapel, 3001 Ivy Drive, North Newton. Residents and employees will offer for sale their arts and crafts creations and food gifts, including peppernuts.

**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.

**Western District, South Central, and Mountain States Mennonite Conferences invite you to attend the annual Snow Camp at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp.** Be inspired by singing and worshipping with other youth, slide down the tube run (hopefully!), play a competitive game of broom hockey, explore beautiful scenery around camp, and more! For more information, visit [www.rmmc.org](http://www.rmmc.org). Hope to have you join us! 2014 Snow Camp Dates: Junior High – January 26-26, Senior High 1 – February 14-16, Senior High 2 – March 14-16.

**Comforter Tops Needed!** The 2014 Comforter Blitz will be held on March 10 and 11, 2014. So it is time to look through your scrap bin for bright and colorful cotton or cotton blend fabrics. We are in need of 60 x 80 (or 82 x 90) pieced tops to use for the blitz. Bring pieced fabric to the MCC Center to be set aside for the blitz!

**Save the dates! The 2014 WDC Annual Assembly will be held July 4-6** at Lakeview Camp and Retreat Center in Waxahachie, Texas ([www.lakeviewcamp.net](http://www.lakeviewcamp.net)). As more information becomes available, it will be posted at: <http://mennowdc.org/conference-life/annual-assembly/>.

**Help the People of the Philippines:** Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) has begun its response to Typhoon Haiyan, providing funding for immediate needs and supporting partners in an initial assessment team and determining needs for long-term recovery. To donate to this effort, please go to [mcc.org/typhoon-response](http://mcc.org/typhoon-response). Thank you for your prayers for people grieving and suffering in the storm's wake.

## 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](mailto:pastor@gracehillmc.org)

**Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen**

*E-mail:* [youthpastor@gracehillmc.org](mailto:youthpastor@gracehillmc.org)

**Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen**

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

## 2013 Harvest Thanks Offering

(as of 11-14-13)

### **Mennonite Church USA**

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| Total Mission of Mennonite Church USA  | \$5,175.00 |
| Mennonite Mission Network              | 1,700.00   |
| Mennonite Education Agency (MEA)       | 100.00     |
| Mennonite World Conference             | 350.00     |
| Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary | 900.00     |
| Bethel College                         | 250.00     |
| Hesston College                        | 600.00     |

### **Western District Conference**

|                                   |          |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Total Mission of the WDC          | 5,575.00 |
| Home Missions (WDC church plants) | 800.00   |
| Education (WDC)                   | 250.00   |
| Youth Ministry (WDC programs)     | 25.00    |

### **Other Institutions**

|                                  |          |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| Camp Mennoscah                   | 2,455.00 |
| Casa Betania                     | 400.00   |
| Gideons                          | 400.00   |
| Harvey County Homeless Shelter   | 5,055.00 |
| Kidron Bethel Health Care Centre | 280.00   |
| Mennonite Central Committee      | 6,550.00 |
| MCC – Philippines                | 300.00   |
| Mennonite Disaster Service       | 1,000.00 |
| Mennonite Men of the Plains      | 100.00   |
| Offender Victim Ministries       | 1,180.00 |
| Union Biblical Seminary, India   | 800.00   |
| Wheat State Manor                | 880.00   |

### **Local Church Support**

|                                      |           |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Local Church Missions (undesignated) | 50,677.53 |
| Care Fund                            | 910.00    |
| Food Bank                            | 163.40    |
| Library                              | 100.00    |
| Mid-Kansas Relief Sale               | 1,755.00  |
| Mission Partners – Wes & Deb Bergen  | 3,460.00  |
| Mission and Service Inquiry Fund     | 10.00     |
| Music                                | 200.00    |
| North-side Development               | 700.00    |
| Relief Canning                       | 2,505.00  |
| Scholarship Fund                     | 4,210.00  |
| Ronda Schmidt Mission                | 500.00    |

**Grand Total** **\$100,315.93**

|                              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| 2012 Harvest Thanks Offering | \$152,828.23 |
| 2011 Harvest Thanks Offering | \$119,786.04 |
| 2010 Harvest Thanks Offering | \$113,680.09 |