



Grace Hill Mennonite Church

Worship – 9:30am
Sunday School – 10:45am
November 19, 2017

Harvest Thanks 2017

Byron Pellecer - Guest

Prelude	
Greetings & Announcements	
Gathering - Psalm 100	HWB 821
* <i>“Come, Ye Thankful People Come”</i>	HWB 94
Gathering Prayer	
* <i>“Now Thank We All Our God”</i>	HWB 86
Harvest Thanks Prayer <i>“We give you thanks, O God”</i>	HWB 721
Harvest Thanks Offering	
Offertory	
* <i>Doxology</i> (Psalm 100)	HWB 118
Sharing & Congregational Prayer	
Children’s Time	
Scripture Reading	Acts 1:1-11
Sermon <i>“A Sign of the New Creation”</i>	Pastor Byron Pellecer
* <i>“New Earth, Heavens New”</i>	HWB 299
* Benediction	
* <i>“The LORD Lift You Up”</i>	SJ 73

*Indicates those comfortable in doing so, please stand.

- Following the children’s story children to age 5 may be dismissed to the library for childcare.
- The Adult Sunday School classes will begin 10 minutes after the service is over. Everyone is welcome!

Serving in Worship

Pastor	Weldon Martens
Guest Preacher	Byron Pellecer
Scripture Reader	Marianne Eichelberger
Keyboard	Ellen Mosiman
Song Leader	Bonita Schroeder
Greeters	Debbie Claassen & Travis Harms
Ushers	Mike Balzer & Kendall Claassen
Nursery	Jane Washburn & Quinn Dove

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.

Welcome to Byron Pellecer this morning! He will share with us during the worship service as well as have a PowerPoint presentation showing some church plants followed by a Q&A time during the Sunday School hour. Byron is Western District Conference Associate Conference Minister. He supports congregations and pastors in Texas, and plans for the annual assembly when it is in Texas. He works with the Church Planting Commission to nurture emerging congregations and sister church partnerships, and advocates for intercultural transformation, undoing racism, and Hispanic ministries across WDC.

For Sharing and Prayer

Western District Conference: Pray that gratitude, wisdom and generosity would flow through WDC and its congregations, helping us to be faithful stewards of the spiritual gifts and financial resources God has entrusted to us.

Mennonite Mission Network: Robin Gingerich of Mennonite Mission Network has added helping Middle Eastern students adapt to life at LCC International University in Lithuania to her administrative and teaching load. Pray for Robin and the students as they study STAR (Strategies for Trauma, Awareness and Resilience) – English-learning through a curriculum of emotional healing.

Church Events

Today at 11:30 a.m. The Social Committee will be hosting our Harvest Thanks meal. Everyone is welcome to stay!

Next Sunday during the Sunday School hour – decorating of the sanctuary and the Christmas tree. Anyone wanting to help is welcome. Contact Donna Balzer, if you have questions.

Announcements

On November 26, the Hospitality Council invites you to help put together care packages for our 12 college students (under-graduate). Bring your non-perishable items such as individual size snacks, gum, crackers, cookies, sticky notes, microwave popcorn, wrapped candy, Gatorade, fast food coupons, etc. There will be a table with boxes for each student set up in the foyer Sunday morning, November 26.

Worship Council would like your input if you have suggestions or comments regarding our service. Please use the note pads in the pews to write your comment or suggestion, sign your name, and place it in the box in the foyer below the directory pictures. We appreciate your ideas and thoughts!

Advent is coming soon! Worship Council is planning some special features during advent including a children's story that will progress from week to week as well as a drama that will enhance our worship as we prepare to celebrate Christ's coming.

Just a reminder - all adults attending Grace Hill over the age of 18, please take 10 minutes to complete the online survey for Austin Regier's project. It is available online at <https://goo.gl/forms/WfITGI0j5YwrXfCM2>. Hard copies of the survey are available on the table in the foyer. Online completion is the preferred method. Please complete the survey by December 3. Return hard copies to the secretary's mailbox. If you have questions, please talk to Kim Claassen.

Et Cetera

On November 19 at 7 pm, Faith Mennonite Church, Newton, in partnership with Western District Conference, MCC Central States, and Bethel College, is sponsoring the Kansas premier production of "**DISCOVERY: A COMIC LAMENT**" produced by Ted & Co. TheaterWorks. The production will take place in Krehbiel Auditorium on Bethel College Campus. Tickets are \$10, available from the Bethel College Bookstore, 316-283-2500.

Ten Thousand Village/Fair Trade International Gift Festival is coming to Newton at the Mezzanine above Prairie Harvest, 601 N Main. It will be open on November 24-25, December 1-3, 8-10, 15-17. Hours on Fridays and Saturdays: 10 am-5 pm. Hours on Sundays: 1-4 pm.

Bethel College and MCC-Central States will partner for #GivingTuesday, November 28. We are asking for financial gifts to the Bethel Annual Fund and dark-colored, medium-weight, new bath towels to help MCC replenish their relief kits. These kits provide valuable supplies to families whose lives have been disrupted by war or disasters in areas such as Syria, Iraq and Ukraine. Bring donations Nov. 28 between 5-9 p.m. to the location nearest you. There will be a short program and update on the college at 7 p.m. Each location has a goal of bringing in \$2,500 and 250 towels. If they all meet their goal, you will have helped raise \$10,000 for Bethel College and 1,000 towels for MCC relief kits. If you are unable to make it to one of these events, but would still like to give towards the goal, go to www.bethelks.edu/gift and designate your gift as #GivingTuesday to one of these locations: Hope Mennonite Church (868 N Maize Rd., Wichita) or Bethel College Mennonite Church, North Newton. Dessert and refreshments will be provided. For more information, contact Brad Kohlman, alumni development director, 316-284-5357, or bkohlman@bethelks.edu.

The Senior Citizen Christmas Luncheon hosted by Remington High School will be Friday, December 1 at 12:45 p.m. at the High School. The cost is \$3.50 per person. Please mail reservations to: Lola Coats, RHS, 8850 NW Meadowlark Rd., Whitewater, KS 67154. Reservations (must include name, address, phone, and \$3.50/person) are due by November 27.

Five Places of Christmas, December 2 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.: Bethel College Women's Association offers the rare chance to see the decorated main floor of **Goerz House**, traditionally the president's residence, with baked goods, home-made candy (by the pound) and Bethel gift items for sale. **Kauffman Museum** offers free admission (including the special exhibit "Voices of Conscience: Peace Witness in the Great War"), refreshments, sale items in the museum store, and Karen Bauman Schlabaugh playing Christmas music at 3 p.m. on the historic Teschemacher-Deknatel-van der Smissen parlor organ.

Nurture children's faith at home this Advent and Christmas through family worship. Find a free, downloadable guide at www.anabaptistfaithformation.org. For use between December 3 and January 6, it includes a daily Bible reading, short litany, songs, hands-on activities and questions to ponder together.

Many people do their Christmas shopping at the Newton Et Cetera Shop! Please bring us your **clean, gently-used toys, shoes, jewelry and children's coats**. Your donated items might end up as cherished gifts under someone's Christmas tree! Support MCC Thrift Shops because you care . . . about your family, your community, and beyond. Thank you!

In 2016, the Mennonite Worship and Song Committee began developing a new collection designed to succeed *Hymnal: A Worship Book* (1992), and supplements *Sing the Journey* (2005), and *Sing the Story* (2007). The Committee calls on authors (of worship resources and hymn texts), songwriters (who compose words and music as a unit), and composers (of hymn tunes) to submit original work intended to enhance congregational worship in Anabaptist-Mennonite faith communities. We welcome submissions for consideration in this new collection. We expect the submissions portal at www.MennoniteWorshipAndSongCollection.org to be active throughout 2017. More information at: <http://mennoniteworshipandsongcollection.org/>. If you have questions, contact Resonate@MennoMedia.org.

Register now for the Year of Evangelism Kick Off: Anabaptist Witness, January 19-20, 2018. Reconnect ancient spiritual practices, social justice, and authentic Anabaptist evangelism for today. You'll find a poster, schedule and online registration about this exciting workshop for church groups and individuals at: <http://mennowdc.org/year-of-evangelism/>.

Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp brochures are available in the foyer for Snow Camps (Jr. High, Sr. High, and Young Adult) and the annual Men's Retreat. Information is also available on their website: www.rmnc.org.

Patriotism, Pacifism, and Sacrifice - What is conscientious objection? Why do people refuse to go to war? What does the First World War teach us 100 years later? Kauffman Museum at Bethel College discusses these questions in its traveling exhibit "Voices of Conscience: Peace Witness in the Great War," on display in North Newton through January 21, 2018. The exhibit remembers peace-minded people who resisted U.S. involvement in the war, the enactment of military conscription, the war bond drives, and the denial of freedom of speech under the Espionage and Sedition Acts. For their resistance many suffered community humiliation, federal imprisonment, and mob violence at the hands of a war-crusading American public. "Voices of Conscience" lifts up the prophetic insights and the personal courage of World War I peace protesters, and suggests parallels to the culture of war and violence in our world today. Kauffman Museum invites church groups, Sunday School groups, and youth groups to use the exhibit to talk about the history of peace witness and its relevance for us and our churches. Historical consultant Jim Juhnke and curatorial consultant Rachel Pannabecker are available by request to provide discussion starters and historical background. For more information or to book a special tour of "Voices of Conscience," contact Andi Schmidt Andres, Kauffman Museum curator of education: 316-283-1612 or asa@bethelks.edu. (Kauffman Museum, Bethel College, 27th and North Main, North Newton, Regular hours: Tues-Fri 9:30-4:30, Sat-Sun 1:30-4:30, closed Mondays and major holidays. Visits outside of regular hours: additional \$25.00 fee. Admission: \$4.00/adult, \$2.00/child 6-16, free/members)

Nursery Next Sunday: Kris Goossen and Katherine Claassen

Greeters Next Sunday: Lon and Deb Hiebert

Ushers Next Sunday: Josh Patterson and Rob Schunn

Offering Last Sunday: Local Church \$4,424.00

Offering Next Sunday: Western District Conference

CHURCH OFFICES

Pastor's Office Hours:

Wednesday - Afternoon, Friday - day off

Pastor: Weldon Martens

Email: weldon.martens@gmail.com

Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen

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