

Grace Hill Mennonite Church

Worship – 9:30am / Sunday School – 10:45am

November 26, 2017



“A Favorite Story of the Old Testament”

Prelude

Greetings & Announcements

* “We Praise Thee, O God” HWB 99

Gathering & Prayer HWB 714

* “We Sing to You, O God” SJ 1

Offering to God Western District Conference

Offertory

**Doxology* (Psalm 100) HWB 119

Sharing & Congregational Prayer

Children’s Story “Daniel and the Roaring Lions”

Scripture Reading Daniel 6

Sermon “Daniel – Reading With Deeper Eyes”

* “This Little Light of Mine” HWB 401

* Benediction

* “The LORD Lift You Up” 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
Scripture Reader	Russ Janzen
Keyboard	Ellen Mosiman
Song Leader	Penny Hiebert
Greeters	Lon & Deb Hiebert
Ushers	Josh Patterson & Rob Schunn
Nursery	Kris Goossen & Katherine Claassen

For Sharing and Prayer

Thank you for the salads and pies provided for the Harvest Thanks meal. Thank you to those that helped set up before the meal, and those that helped clean up after the meal. It made the job much easier. Thank You! Also, a BIG THANK YOU to the Social Committee for the wonderful meal!!

Western District Conference: Thank God for the many ways WDC congregations support and join God's work of mission in local communities and around the world.

Mennonite Mission Network: Kendra Selzer serves through Mennonite Mission Network's Mennonite Voluntary Service in Puerto Rico. Pray for her and the Academia Menonita Betania in Aibonito, where she works with pre-kindergarten – grade 10 students and also helps with community clean-up after the September hurricanes.

Church Events

Today 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.

Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Stewardship Council meets.

December 11 at 12:00 p.m. Ladies, mark your calendars for the annual Hands of Friendship Christmas Luncheon on Monday, December 11 at 12:00 noon. Bring a salad or dessert. Casseroles, bread and drink will be provided.

There are several opportunities for sharing during the Christmas season:

- Through the Salvation Army, we will be assisting a family of four with a gift card for their Christmas shopping. Contributions will be accepted. (Checks made to Hands of Friendship.)
- A Christmas tree in our church fellowship hall will be available for hanging new mittens, gloves, caps. These will also be donated to the Salvation Army. Come prepared for an offering.

If you have questions, contact Elaine Patterson (283-6844), Marge Harms (283-4314), or Joyce Stuart (620-327-2578).

Announcements

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.

Nursery Next Sunday: Kris Janzen and Bethany Regehr

Greeters Next Sunday: Allen and Elaine Patterson

Ushers Next Sunday: Lucas Goossen and Lon Hiebert

Offering Next Sunday: Mennonite Church USA

Et Cetera

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.

We need your help! Camp Mennoscah is seeking volunteers to help prepare the kitchen for renovations beginning **Saturday, December 2**, and continuing Monday-Saturday **December 4-9** until the kitchen is completely gutted. Both women and men are welcome to come out and help, and we will have a variety of tasks to complete. All work will be inside, so don't worry about cold temperatures! If you wish to volunteer multiple days, that's great! We can arrange lodging and meals for you. Carpooling to camp may be available on some or all of the days. If you have questions or are interested in volunteering, please contact Jim Yoder at 316-284-3890 (call or text), jdyoder@cox.net, or Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290, office@campmennoscah.org. Bring a friend, or bring multiple friends! Thank you for considering this opportunity!

Friends of Kidron Holiday Marketplace will be Saturday, December 2 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Kidron Bethel Village. Crafts, embroidery, jewelry, baked goods, and much more will be available. Homemade cinnamon rolls and coffee will be served by donation. This event will support the Health Care Benevolent Fund, a ministry of Kidron Bethel Village, assisting residents who are unable to cover the full cost of their care.

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.

BCWA urgently needs donations of baked items for Five Places of Christmas. These may be dropped off at Goerz House, 2512 College Ave., December 2, before 10 a.m. All proceeds from the bake sale are used to benefit Bethel College students, faculty and staff. Questions: Cindy Erb, cindy.l.erb@gmail.com.

First Mennonite Church in McPherson will be hosting a German Supper December 2 from 4:30-7:00p.m. This will be a free will donation dinner. We will be serving veronika with ham gravy, sausage, green beans, bohne beroggi, zweiback, and cherry moos. In addition to the dinner, we will be having a bake sale so you can get some goodies to enjoy after the dinner. We will have poppy seed rolls, and peppernuts, and a variety of other goodies for sale at the bake sale. First Mennonite Church in McPherson is located at 1161 E Ave A (Corner of Maxwell and Ave A).

Volunteer Christmas Gathering! All Camp Mennoscah volunteers from any and all years are invited to celebrate another year of sharing God's love with others through service. We'll gather at the Retreat Center on December 16 at 2:30pm-ish for conversation, games (indoor or outdoor), and cookies! There will also be an optional white elephant gift exchange. Wrap up that oddity you found in the attic or at the back of your closet. We love to see weird and bizarre (and appropriate) stuff. Email olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org or call us at 620-297-3290 with questions. Families are welcome!

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!

Families with children: Next week is the First Sunday of Advent and the beginning of "Yes, Let It Be!" a free downloadable guide for family worship from December 3 - January 6. Pick and choose the activities that work best for your family. Find it at www.anabaptistfaithformation.org.

Spread cozy, colorful warmth around the world! All you have to do is tie knots! Mennonite Central Committee has a generous number of comforter tops, and now we need your help tying them! MCC has paired tops and backs that are ready to be tied, and we are inviting you or your church group to pick some up (or we can ship them to you)! If you are interested, please either stop by the MCC Material Resources Center in North Newton, or contact Kate Mast at katemast@mcc.org, or 316-283-2720. We ask that you provide the batting and the crochet tying thread if possible. Thank you in advance for helping to spread warmth and love to our brothers and sisters around the world!

The following books have been entered in our library:

Author Michael Phillips – Book 1 “The Inheritance”; Book 2 “The Cottage”; Book 3 “The Legacy”. The setting is the tiny Shetland Islands Community of Whales Reef in connection with Washington DC and other U.S. States.

Ruby Payne, PHD “A Framework of Understanding Poverty” – people in poverty face many challenges.

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

2017 Harvest Thanks Offering

MENNONITE CHURCH USA

Mennonite Church USA Total Mission	6,540.00
Mennonite Mission Network (Missions)	2,150.00
Mennonite Education Agency (MEA)	500.00
Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary	1,800.00
Bethel College	1,200.00
Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission	5,000.00

WESTERN DISTRICT CONFERENCE

WDC Total Mission	7,990.00
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OTHER INSTITUTIONS

Camp Mennoscah	3,180.00
New Hope Shelter	1,885.00
Kidron Bethel Health Care Centre	260.00
Mennonite Central Committee	10,361.89
MCC Water Project	2,500.00
Mennonite Disaster Service	2,561.89
Offender Victim Ministries	975.00
Wheat State Manor	1,910.00

LOCAL CHURCH SUPPORT

Local Church Missions	68,746.43
Care Fund	1,900.00
Mid-Kansas MCC Relief Sale	2,175.00
Relief Canning	1,900.00
Mission Partner Fund	710.00
Mission and Service Inquiry Fund	220.00
Landscape Fund	685.00
Scholarship Fund	330.00

Other

Community Playschool	50.00
MEDA	200.00
Ronda Schmidt	500.00
Whitewater Food Bank	200.00

TOTAL RECEIVED (and pledged) **\$ 126,430.21**

2016 Harvest Thanks Offering	\$136,248.29
2015 Harvest Thanks Offering	\$123,228.84
2014 Harvest Thanks Offering	\$138,398.00