

# GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

December 5, 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 Katherine

2nd Sunday of Advent: The Spirit comes to the Early Church  
*Gathering in Immanuel'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.*

## Lighting the Advent Candle

Alston Cunningham

## Call to Worship Zechariah's Song Luke 1:67-79

Throughout Advent, we will be hearing the four Lukan Canticles read as our calls to worship. This Sunday we hear Zechariah's Song (the Benedictus).

## Gathering Prayer

\* **Gathering Hymn No. 189** *To us a Child of hope is born*

## Offering our Gifts Mennonite Church USA

### *Hearing God's Word*

## Old Testament Reading Isaiah 11:1-10

David Janzen

\* **Hymn No. 211** *Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming*

## Children's Story

Russ, David and Paul Janzen

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

## Reader's Theater on the Holy Spirit

David Janzen, Pastor Katherine and Pastor Peter

**New Testament Reading** John 20:19-23 & Acts 2:14-21 Pastor Peter

**Sermon** *New Breath*

Pastor Peter

### *Responding to God-With-Us*

\* **Hymn of Response No. 182** *Oh, how shall I receive thee*

**Affirming Our Faith** Hymn No. 716

## Sharing our Stories and Congregational Prayer

### *Sent by God-With-Us*

\* **Sending Hymn No. 191** *O little town of Bethlehem*

\* **Benediction** Romans 15:13

## 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

Two hundred people attended the Community Christmas Sing with the Harder Family last Sunday evening. Thank you to all who attended, invited friends/neighbors, assisted with painting road signs, made chili and peppernuts, ushered, helped the program run smoothly, set-up, served, and cleaned up. Thank you also to those who made the church so beautiful with the Christmas decorations. It was a very enjoyable evening.

The Outreach Committee

**Western District Conference:** Pray for Inman Mennonite Church as they gather for a Vision Encounter today and seek God's guidance into a new future.

**Mennonite Mission Network:** Drew and Mary Ellen Robinson of MMN are preparing to leave Mongolia next May, bringing closure to more than 15 years of ministry. Pray that God will call leaders to carry on the work the Robinsons are doing. Remember their children also – Caleb, Sophie and Leah – for whom Mongolia is home.

**Preaching Next Sunday:** Pastor Katherine

**Keyboard Next Sunday:** Julia Dodson

**Special Music Next Sunday:** Adult Choir

**Nursery This Sunday:** Joyce Wedel and Katrina Regehr

**Nursery Next Sunday:** Penny Hiebert and Mikayla Hiebert

**Ushers Next Sunday:** Doug Hiebert and Terry Klassen

**Offering Last Sunday:** Western District Conference \$1,120.00

**Offering Next Sunday:** Local Church

### **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)

## Church Events

**Today at noon** *All college-age young adults* are invited to a meal at Marianne Eichelberger's home at 404 W. 23<sup>rd</sup> in North Newton.

**Monday at 11:30 a.m.** Hands of Friendship meet at church for a Christmas Luncheon – bring a salad or dessert. Hostess & Devotions: Elaine Patterson and Marge Harms; Financial Project: Adopt a Family through Salvation Army and Mitten Tree.

**Tuesday** Pictures for pictorial directory.

**Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.** Education Council meets at church.

**Wednesday**   **7:00 p.m.** Christmas Eve Program practice  
                  **7:00 – 7:40 p.m.** Adult Book Study with Pastor Peter  
                  **7:45 – 8:30 p.m.** Adult Choir in fellowship hall

**Next Sunday at 1:30 p.m.** Everyone is invited to Christmas carol with the Junior and Senior High Youth and Spiritual Council on Sunday, December 12. Be at the church by 1:30 p.m. The caroling groups will be assigned and leave to carol at 1:45 p.m. returning to the church at 5 p.m.

**Next Sunday** Spiritual Council will meet following Christmas caroling at the home of Merrill and Gladys Harms (approximately 5:30 p.m.).

**Next Sunday at 5:30 p.m.** Youth Christmas Party at Pastor Peter and Katherine's home.

**December 24 at 7:00 p.m.** Grace Hill Christmas Eve Program

**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.

## Announcements

**The Education Council** is encouraging the individual Sunday School classes to meet for the winter quarter. Christmas and the holidays are a great time for fellowship and catching up. Pastor Peter will also be continuing an Elective class on a Study of the Gospel of John.

**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 today. 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!

**Donated food items will go to the Potwin Food Pantry this month.** Suggested items may include canned vegetables, canned fruit, cereal, peanut butter, canned meats, canned meals, boxed meals, soups, crackers, and other nonperishable items. Cash donations are accepted. A basket for goods is located in the foyer by the front entrance.

**Mittens/Gloves** - Hands of Friendship are inviting you to bring new mittens and gloves to decorate the Christmas tree in the Fellowship Hall by next Sunday. They will be donated to the Salvation Army, Newton. All sizes are welcome.

**Salvation Army Christmas Project.** Help Hands of Friendship provide for families this Christmas with donations. Make checks payable to Hands of Friendship and bring to Hands of Friendship meeting or give to Joyce Stuart or Agnes Harder by Sunday December 12.

**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 today.

**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.

## Et Cetera

**Everyone is invited to “Lessons in Carols”** with area choirs, Bethel College concert choir, Newton Mid-Kansas Symphony and members of the Newton Ministerial Alliance on December 5 at 7:00 p.m. in Memorial Hall at Bethel College. On December 7 at 7:30 p.m. there will be a Bethel College Wind Ensemble Concert in Krehbiel Auditorium at Bethel College.

**Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary—Great Plains** students, faculty, and other interested people are invited to a forum on family systems theory on Monday, December 6 from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Great Plains classroom, 2505 Main Street, North Newton. Keith Harder, core adjunct faculty in church and ministry, will present the application of Bowen Family Systems Theory to self, family, church, and society. A discussion time will follow. A short worship service, led by students from the Anabaptist History and Theology class will precede the family systems presentation.

**Deepen your faith – learn new skills** with seminary classes in central Kansas this winter. In January: *Christian Formation in the Congregation*. February through May: *Epistle to the Romans, Thinking Ethically, Foundations of Worship and Preaching*. Check out these and other courses, for credit or audit, at Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary-Great Plains Extension, North Newton, at [www.ambs.edu/GreatPlains](http://www.ambs.edu/GreatPlains). Register for January classes by Dec. 13; for spring semester classes by Jan. 4. For more information, contact Lois Barrett, Director, AMBS-Great Plains, PO Box 306, North Newton, KS 67117; phone 316-283-7098; email: [lbarrett@ambs.edu](mailto:lbarrett@ambs.edu).

**The Bethel College Women’s Association** is planning “Welcome to Education at Bethel College” on January 15, 2011. All are welcome to attend this event which will include four presentations: *Contemplate the Lord’s Prayer* with Brett Dewey, *Dig into Container Gardening* with Sharon Boese, *Explore Newton’s Hispanic Culture* with Leticia Nielson, and *Experiment with “Green” Chemistry* with Gary Histan. The event begins at 8:30 a.m. with registration. Forensics students will perform during the opening. Each participant will be able to attend two of the four presentations. Registration forms are available at [www.bethelks.edu/bc/affiliateorganizations/bcwa](http://www.bethelks.edu/bc/affiliateorganizations/bcwa). or you may call Valerie Klaassen at 316-799-2641 for more information.