

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

December 30, 2012

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: Peter Goerzen

Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Song Leader & Worship Leader: Pastor Katherine

Musicians: Sara Unruh, Valerie Klaassen,

Samantha Claassen, Pastor Peter

Christmas – Letting the Light Shine

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.

* **Choral Call to Worship Hymn No. 212** *O come, all ye faithful* vs. 1, 2 & 4

Call to Worship and Lighting the Advent and Christ candles

One: Arise, shine for your Light has come and the glory of the Lord has risen upon us! Nations shall stream to this light, and rulers to the brightness of this dawn. Let us rejoice, for the splendid eternal light shines on all who live in darkness.

All: *The True Light has come into the world and we are all witnesses to this Light. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, good will to all!*

Gathering Prayer

* **Gathering Hymn No. 201** *Hark! the herald angels sing*

Offering Our Gifts Mennonite Disaster Service

Worship Music *Bring a torch, Jeanette Isabella* arr. Davis
Valerie Klaassen

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 60: 1-5, 19-22 Ashley Toews

* **Congregational Hymn No. 193** *Silent night, holy night* vs. 1, 3 & 4

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

Congregational Sharing and Prayer

Worship Music *Breath of Heaven* Tara Harms-Becker

Gospel Readings John 8:12 Matthew 5: 13-16 Pastor Peter

Sermon Pastor Peter

Song of Response *Nun ist sie erschienen*
Valerie Klaassen, Curt Regehr, Pastors Peter & Katherine
The congregation is invited to join in on the 3rd time through
with the first English verse.

Worship Music *Greensleeves* arr. Davis Samantha Claassen
The Holly and the Ivy arr. Davis

Benediction

* **Sending Song No. 318** *Joy to the world*

Postlude

*Indicates those comfortable in doing so, please stand

Today during the Sunday School hour there will be refreshments in the fellowship hall. No Sunday School classes will be held.

For Sharing and Prayer

New addresses:

Mildred Buller

Justina Smith

Western District Conference: Pray for Clarence Rempel, Conference Minister, in his work of seeking pastors for our churches and of guiding the mission of WDC to: **W**itness and invite others to faith in Jesus Christ, **D**well in just and loving relationships, **C**onnect to God's mission in the world.

Mennonite Mission Network: Luz Marina and William Valencia, co-pastors of the Mennonite Church in Riobamba, Ecuador, request prayer for the families in their congregation who are having financial difficulties. Pray that God would provide the necessary resources for the people of Riobamba and for MMN ministries throughout Latin America.

Church Events

Today at 5:00 p.m. Wheat State Manor Vesper Service – Mariners Sunday School class is in charge. Also this week at Wheat State: Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. – mending; Friday at 3:00 p.m. – Bingo.

Friday 5th Quarter at James & Deb Regier's home.

Upcoming Wednesday Schedule: No Wednesday programming or meal on January 2. Next regular programming will be on January 9. Next meal will be January 16.

Sunday, January 20 at 12:45 p.m. Annual Church Business Meeting

Announcements

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: Marge Harms and Rita Patterson
Nursery Next Sunday: Kathy Balzer and Rachelle Claassen

Ushers Next Sunday: Terry Klassen and Dean Patterson
Offering Last Sunday: Western District Conference \$1,018.00
Offering Christmas Eve: Community Playschool \$857.50
Harvey County Health Ministries \$857.50
Offering Next Sunday: Mennonite Church USA

CHURCH OFFICES

Pastors' Office Hours:

Tuesday-Friday 9:00 a.m. – noon, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. or by appointment

Pastor: Peter

E-mail: pastor@gracehillmc.org

Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

E-mail: youthpastor@gracehillmc.org

Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen

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

Et Cetera

The final Sunday-Afternoon-at-the-Museum program complementing Kauffman Museum's threshing stone exhibit will be January 6, with John Thiesen, Mennonite Library and Archives, speaking on "What's a Thresher? Bethel College's Symbolic History," 3:30 p.m., in the museum auditorium.

Offender Victim Ministries Prison Arts' Choir Men are needed to assist in Offender/Victim Ministries' Prison Art's Choir at the Hutchinson Correctional Facility. Practices are on Tuesday evenings at HCF beginning February 5 with performances on the weekend of April 13. Volunteer training is needed in order to volunteer in the prison and will be given mid-January for new volunteers. Returning choir members can receive annual training on Jan. 29 or Feb. 4. Contact Nathan Koontz at OVM, 316-215-1758 or nathan.ovm@sbcglobal.net.