

Grace Hill Mennonite Church

November 24, 2024

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

A Service of Thanksgiving – Psalm 107

Prelude

Greetings & Announcements

Gathering Praise HWB 684

* Gathering “*Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*” (vs. 1-3) HWB 110

Time of Sharing & Prayer/Lord’s Prayer
“*Spirit of the Living God*” - HWB 349

Children’s Story Courtney Nethercot

Worship in Giving Western District Conference
* Doxology HWB 119

Psalm 107 - A Psalm of Thanksgiving to the LORD

Psalm 107:1-3 “Come and Give Thanks”
Special Music “*God of the Fertile Fields*” Ensemble
“*A Gladsome Hymn of Praise*”

Psalm 107:4-32 “Four Incredible Rescues by God”
Sharing Words of Rescue, Help, & Care
“*To God Be the Glory*” HWB 102

Psalm 107:33-43 “Whoever is Wise Consider the LORD”
Thanksgiving Prayer HWB 721
“*Now Thank We All Our God*” HWB 86

* Benediction

* Closing “*Oh, For A Thousand Tongues to Sing*” (vs. 4 & 5) HWB 110

Postlude

* Indicates those comfortable in doing so, please stand.

Pastor: Weldon Martens Scripture Reader: Donna Balzer
Piano: Ellen Youngman Song Leader: Bonita Schroeder
Usher: Curt Regehr

For Sharing and Prayer

Western District Conference: During this Thanksgiving Season, give thanks for the amazing church planting opportunities. Give thanks for the pastors & lay leaders who are ministering to the needs of people & building communities of faith, & for the many ways WDC supports them. Give thanks for the many who provide resources of finances, vision & time to the efforts of church planting. - WDC Church Planting Commission

Mennonite Mission Network: On Thanksgiving Day, Joseph and Rachel Givens, who are serving with Mennonite Mission Network, will continue a tradition of gathering the guests of Maria Skobtsova House and the other houses of refuge around Calais, France, for a meal. Pray that on this day, God's love will be shown, so that people fleeing violence may find community and people who are hungry may eat their fill.

Church Events

December 4 & 11 at 7:00 p.m. Christmas Choir Practice

Sunday, December 15 You are all invited to join a joint Zion/Grace Hill fasha and Christmas hymn sing on December 15 at Grace Hill. We will have fasha at 5, then sing Christmas songs together around 5:45. For those who wish to go caroling, there will be opportunity to form small groups to go caroling after the hymn sing. All ages are welcome!

Announcements

Collecting Non-perishable Food Items! Beginning next Sunday, December 1, and continuing during Advent, non-perishable food items will be collected during the worship service by the children for area food banks. Thank you for your donations! - The Missions Council

Anabaptist World subscription list is being updated. The church has a group-rate policy and each subscription costs the church \$39.00. If you are not receiving *Anabaptist World* and would like to, or if you are currently receiving it and would like to discontinue your subscription, please contact Debbie Claassen by **December 8**.

Offering Next Sunday: Mennonite Church USA

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

Church Website: www.gracehillmc.org

Church address: 10218 SE 12th, Whitewater, Kansas 67154

Et Cetera

Sunday-Afternoon-at-the-Museum program, "Diversity and Complexity in Indian Kansas," Eric Anderson, Haskell Indian Nations University, November 24 at 3 p.m., Kauffman Museum auditorium, North Newton.

Join us for the Annual Wheat State Manor Thanksgiving Service on November 26, at 6:30pm as we give thanks to our Lord for our blessings here at Wheat State. Our program will include scripture reading, singing hymns, special music and a special blessing from Chris and Ed Flora as they bring the message in scripture and song. An offering will be taken. Cookies and punch will be served.

Prairie Lights at Dyck Arboretum The first of two weekends of Prairie Lights will kick off the holiday season November 29, 30 and December 1 from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. each night. Experience the quiet beauty of Kansas in winter while observing tens of thousands of twinkle lights adorning the arboretum path and illuminating the grounds. For tickets visit www.dyckarboretum.org/events.

Et Cetera

Celebrate Museum Store Sunday at Kauffman Museum, December 1 1:30-4:30 p.m. At 3 p.m., there will be a German Christmas singalong (Deutsche Weihnachtslieder) with William Eash, Merle Schlabaugh and Karen Bauman Schlabaugh in the museum auditorium. BYOP (bring your own peppernuts/pfeffernusse).

Yule love this! Join us for a live, online event on December 3, at 11:00 AM CST/10:00 AM MST as we take you behind the scenes of MCC's Christmas Giving Guide. Discover the impact behind each gift and how your generosity makes a difference. Learn more and register to join this event at mcc.org/yule-love-this.

MCC Open House, Tuesday, December 3 from 2pm-4pm all are welcome to come see the updated space at MCC Central States in North Newton. Bring your Christmas shopping list to get your alternative Christmas gifts purchased from our tree! Visit with MCC staff, get a tour while you enjoy some snacks. We can't wait to see you at the Open House, 121 E. 30th St, North Newton! mcc.org/open-house

Giving Tuesday at MCC, Tuesday, December 3 from 6:30pm-8pm we're excited to host this annual evening of service to kick off your holiday season! This all-ages event is focused on service and fellowship. *Please bring new dark colored hand towels with you* – the more you bring, the more hygiene kits we can pack! There will be Christmas cards to write in and comforters to tie AND snacks to enjoy. What a great way to give back on Giving Tuesday! mcc.org/giving-tuesday

All bakers and craft makers are invited to make items for 5 Places of Christmas on Saturday, December 7, from 10:00 - 3:00 at Goerz House, Bethel College. Bethel College Women's Association will again be selling baked goods, candy, craft items and poinsettias. Your homemade cookies, zwiebach, cinnamon rolls, peppernuts and poppyseed rolls are always great sellers. This year we are especially asking for homemade candies such as fudge, peanut clusters, peanut butter balls and peanut brittle as well as other non-chocolate candies. We are also looking for Christmas craft items to sell. Please bring your items to Goerz House on Friday, December 6, from 2:00-5:00pm or on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9:30-10:00am. Thank you for your support of Bethel College.

Kidron Bethel Village will host its annual Holiday Market from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, December 7, at Kidron Hall, 3001 Ivy Dr., North Newton. The event features local artisans selling handmade items, gifts and baked goods. Proceeds benefit the Kidron Bethel Village Health Care Benevolent Fund, which assists residents who, due to unforeseen circumstances, are unable to cover the full costs of their care.

The Camp Mennoscah Verenike Meal has returned! Save the date for a tasty verenike casserole meal on Saturday, December 14, at Faith Mennonite Church at 5:30pm. Meals will be pick up or delivery. A reservation form will be available soon.

Mennonite Disaster Service November edition of On the Level is now available. In this edition, learn about Bridging Together, a new partnership with Lutheran Disaster Response, read how hope is being renewed in Santa Cruz plus get all the details for the upcoming 75th Anniversary Celebration. Click on this link to read more: <https://conta.cc/4fWz7HD>

From the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale Quilt Committee: Those planning to make quilts for the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale note that quilts need to be turned in for the auction by February 14, 2025. This is three weeks earlier than previous years. Quilts can be brought to the North Newton MCC Resource Center. The KMRS Quilt Committee appreciates all the work that goes into your contributions!

Just Peace Pilgrimage - April 7-18, 2025, Embark on a life-changing journey to Calais, France a lesser-known migration hub that mirrors the challenges faced at the US-Mexico border. Thousands of hopeful souls travel here and attempt crossing the English Channel to the United Kingdom in search of a better future. Cost: \$2,750 (excluding airfare to and from Paris, France). Register by Jan 15, 2025. This trip is sponsored by Mennonite Mission Network. For more information, go to <https://www.mennonitemission.net/serve/placements/christ-at-the-borders-in-calais-france/>

Western District Conference invites you to visit their website at <https://mennowdc.org/> to read the latest news, stories and announcements.