

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

January 4, 2015

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Musician: Ellen Mosiman

Song Leader: Bonita Schroeder

Transition Pastor: Randy Smith

O that you would rend the heavens and come down. . .

Isaiah 64:1

Your Salvation Revealed Epiphany Sunday

Gathering Music

Ellen Mosiman

Welcome and Announcements

Randy Smith

Prelude to Worship

Call to Worship

from Isaiah 40 and Psalm 72

The glory of the Lord will be revealed,
and all people will see it together.

For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

May the kings of the west
and distant shores bring tribute to him.

May the kings of the east present him with gifts.

May all kings bow down to him and all nations serve him.

For he will deliver the needy who cry out;
the afflicted who have no one to help.

**He will take pity on the weak and the needy
and save the needy from death.**

He will rescue them from oppression and violence,
for precious is their blood in his sight.

May his name endure forever and continue as long as the sun.

**All nations will be blessed through him
and they will call him blessed.**

Praise be to the Lord God, the God of Israel,
who alone does marvelous deeds.

**Praise be to his glorious name forever;
may the whole earth be filled with his glory.**

Amen and Amen.

*Caroling

To us a Child of hope is born

Hymnal 189

The first noel

Hymnal 199

God's Salvation Revealed

Isaiah 42:1-6

Kris Goossen

Prayer

Silence

Matthew 2: 1-12

Cal Frye

Salvation Revealed to the Magi

Where is this stupendous stranger?

Hymnal 200

Offering

Children's Story

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

Reflecting on Salvation

Journey to Jesus

**Arise your light has come*

Sing the Story 30

Communion

Sharing and Prayer

*Sending Hymn

Hymnal 318

Joy to the world

*Benediction

Postlude

This morning's offering is designated for Mennonite Church USA.

*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 class will begin 10 minutes after the
service is over. Everyone is welcome!**

For Sharing and Prayer

Western District Conference: Pray God's blessing on Elizabeth Raid who is being ordained today at Bethel College Mennonite Church. She serves as a campus pastor at Mennonite Friendship Communities in Hutchinson.

Mennonite Mission Network: Mary Raber, serving with Mennonite Mission Network, is currently in the United States for a few months. She requests prayer for Ukraine and the upheaval that touches all levels of society. Pray for wisdom and restraint for government authorities, and pray that churches will model Jesus' way as an alternative to violence.

Epiphany, celebrated on January 6, follows the twelve days of Christmas on the church liturgical year. Epiphany means revelation, and is marked by the journey of the magi to find the Christ child, born not only as the Messiah, but as the Light to all people of the world. This is the revelation. This morning we commemorate their journey with our own journey to Christ through communion, and as a good way to begin the new year.

Come and be part of the combined Sunday school beginning today and running through February 1. Using Bible study, discussion, and table talk activities we will explore the gifting within Grace Hill and the Bible's guidance for how to organize for ministries and leadership around our gifting. This is the third section in the transition process and strong attendance is important to make this section effective.

Church Family News

. . . **Tom and Jane Washburn** enjoyed a recent trip to Hawaii, visiting three islands . . . **Courtney Nethercot** will begin working for Hesston College in the bookstore . . . **Grant Claassen, Cole Claassen, Brittany Claassen and Jared Burns** made the trip to San Antonio to root for the Wildcats in the Alamo Bowl . . . **Ray Schmidt** is back home after a brief stay at Newton Medical Center this past week . . .

Announcements

Please complete the “Transitional Process Update and Feedback Request” by next Sunday, January 11. There is a box in the foyer for the completed evaluations. Thank you!

Reports for the church yearbook – If you are responsible for a report, please get it to Debbie Claassen by January 25. E-mailed reports are preferred, if possible. Thank you!

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: Jackie Moore and Bethany Regehr

Nursery Next Sunday: Tammy Regehr and Savannah Frohlich

Ushers Next Sunday: Doug Hiebert and Russell Janzen

Offering Last Sunday: Western District Conference \$923.00

Offering Next Sunday: Local Church

CHURCH OFFICES

Pastor’s Office Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 a.m.-Noon, Thursday 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Transition Pastor: Randy Smith

Email: transitionpastor@gmail.com

Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen

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

Randy & Ann Smith: 115 W. 27th St., North Newton, KS 67117

Church Events

Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Worship Council meets at church.

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Adult Choir practice.

Thursday at 8:00 a.m. Senior Breakfast at Mr. C’s restaurant in Cedar Village, Newton.

January 25 at 12:45 p.m. Annual Church Business Meeting

Et Cetera

Know Jesus 2015, is a weekend retreat for Jr. High (6th-8th grade) students to worship together and learn more about their Anabaptist roots. Organized by Western District and South Central Conference Youth Ministry Committee, it will be hosted by Hesston College January 31-February 1, 2015. Visit: www.mennowdc.org/know-jesus-2015. Register and pay online. (Early bird registration by January 8 saves \$10 per person; absolute deadline is January 22.) Need more info? Contact Isaac Landis at isaac@whitstonemc.com, 620-951-4035.

Summer is here! We know that you are all still in the midst of Christmas joy, and as a present to you all, we offer unto you the knowledge that the summer staff application for 2015 is available at www.campmennoscah.org in the Resources section. Tell your friends and tap those who have the gift of working with kids on the shoulder. Questions? Call us at 620-297-3290.

Mennonite Church USA Convention registration opens January 15. Summer may seem far away, but the Convention in Kansas City, June 30-July 5, 2015, will be here before you know it. Visit the convention website for all the latest news and to register beginning January 15: www.MennoniteUSA.org/convention.