

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

January 18, 2009

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Interim Pastor: Marvin Zehr

Youth Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Keyboard: Sara Unruh

Chorister: Ben Lichti

Worship Leader: Doug Claassen

Offering Mennonite Relief Sale

Special Music *Just as I am, without one plea* Carl Goossen
I love to tell the story

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

Scripture Reading 1 Samuel 3:1-10 Samantha Claassen

Sharing and Prayer Pastor Marv

* **Hymn No. 20** *Come and see*

Scripture Reading John 1:43-51 Samantha Claassen

Sermon *Join the Story* Pastor Marv

* **Hymn No. 594** *Lord, you sometimes speak*

* **Benediction** Pastor Marv

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.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES BEGIN AT 10:45 A.M.
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

Prelude

Welcoming Guests 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.

* **Call to Worship** based on Psalm 139

Leader: I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your faithfulness;

Congregation: for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.

Leader: On the day I called, you answered me,

Congregation: you increased my strength of soul.

Leader: For it was you who formed my inward parts;

Congregation: you knit me together in my mother's womb.

Leader: I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

Congregation: How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

* **Prayer of Invocation**

* **Opening Hymn No. 19** *Open now thy gates of beauty*

For Sharing and Prayer

Winifred Ewy, sister of Donna Klaassen, passed away on Tuesday, January 13, 2009 as a result of injuries sustained in an automobile accident last week. The memorial service was yesterday at the Bethel College Mennonite Church in North Newton. Please remember Donna and other members of the family during this time of loss.

Western District Conference: Pray for all Junior High youth who are learning about faith this weekend at the “Know Jesus” event hosted by Hesston College and sponsored by WDC Youth Committee.

Mennonite Mission Network: MMN workers Connie and Dennis Byler request prayer for a gathering of Anabaptist leaders from Mennonite and Brethren in Christ groups in Spain on Saturday, January 24, to share, plan and encourage one another.

A sign up sheet for meals and volunteers for the homeless shelter is on the bulletin board. Dates needed are Wednesday Jan. 21, Friday Jan. 23, Sunday Jan. 25, and Tuesday Jan 27. Zion will be responsible for Thursday, Saturday and Monday. If you have any questions contact Donna Balzer. Donna Balzer is our new Team Leader for the Harvey County Homeless Shelter. Thank you, Donna, for agreeing to serve in this role!

Church Events

Monday afternoon Quilters - You are welcome to come to the church and quilt on the MCC quilt on Monday afternoon anytime from 1-5 p.m.

Monday at 7:00 p.m. Education Council meets at church.

Wednesday 6:10 p.m. All Church Meal*

7:00 – 8:15 p.m. Children's and Youth Programming

7:40 – 8:30 p.m. Adult Choir

*If you are unable to attend the meal, please contact Kaye Penner (283-3948).

Cost of the meal: High School & Adults \$3.00 Children \$2.50

Next Sunday Stanley Green, Executive Director of Mennonite Mission Network, will be bringing the message during worship. He will also share with the adults and youth during the Sunday School hour in the sanctuary.

Next Sunday, January 25 College-age Lunch at Ed and Marge Harms' home.

February 1 at 12:45 p.m. Grace Hill Annual Business Meeting. The Youth will be serving the meal before the annual meeting on February 1. Donations will be accepted to help the youth group fund their trip to the MCUSA Convention in Columbus this summer.

February 15 Know anyone who is interested in babysitters for Valentine's Day? The High School Youth Group is planning on offering baby-sitting on Sunday, February 15, from 5-9 in the evening. Supper will be provided. Donations are accepted, as this is a fund-raiser for the MCUSA Convention in Columbus this summer.

Announcements

For all who are involved in the service on Sunday mornings (Worship Leaders, Choristers, Scripture Readers, etc.), Pastor Marv and

Pastor Katherine would like to meet with you at 9:05 a.m. on the Sunday morning that you are involved to run through the order of service and to spend time in prayer together. We will be meeting in the back of the sanctuary by the A/V booth. Thank you!

Pastor Marv will have office hours at the church on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. – noon each week. He is also available other times by appointment.

Reports for the church yearbook – If you are responsible for a report, please get it to Debbie Claassen as soon as you can. E-mailed reports are preferred, if possible. Thanks!

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.

Keyboard Next Sunday: Teresa Martin

Special Music Next Sunday: Adult Choir

Nursery This Sunday: Tammy Regehr and Amanda Regehr

Nursery Next Sunday: Debbie Claassen and Samantha Claassen

Ushers Next Sunday: Ben Lichti and Rob Schunn

Offering Last Sunday: Local Church \$7,665.00

Offering Next Sunday: Western District Conference

CHURCH OFFICES

Interim Pastor: Marvin Zehr

E-mail: pastor@gracehillmc.org

Youth Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

E-mail: youthpastor@gracehillmc.org

Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen

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

Church Website: www.gracehillmc.org

Et Cetera

Kansas Mennonite Disaster Service will be having their annual meeting this afternoon at 2:30 p.m. at the Center A.M. Church Rural Hutchinson. Scott Sundberg will be the speaker. See the flyer on the bulletin board.

Mennonite Central Committee Central States is working for justice in New Orleans. Pre-existing systemic injustices in New Orleans were made worse by Hurricane Katrina and the breaking of the levees in 2005. You are invited to a community meeting at the MCC Center (121 E. 30th) in North Newton this evening at 7:00 p.m. to learn about the work MCC is doing in New Orleans. We continue to partner with grass roots groups to empower communities for racial justice. All are welcome, please call our office if you have questions, 316-283-2720. To find out more or make a donation online, go to www.mcc.org/centralstates and click on New Orleans Program.

Connecting to God: understanding your personality and how it influences your prayer life is a Saturday Morning Seminar at First Mennonite Newton on January 24 from 8:30 - noon. Explore your personality and how to connect to God through a variety of prayer experiences. We will have times of learning, Bible study, small group discussion and prayer. It's a great way to begin the new year! Marlene Bogard, Western District Conference Minister of Christian Nurture is facilitator. \$10 fee; call 316-283-6300 to register by January 20.

Western District Conference invites you to an Open House in honor of Marco Guete, Associate Conference Minister for Texas on Sunday, January 25, from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. at the WDC offices (2517 North Main, North Newton). Marco will become the new Conference Minister for Southeast Mennonite Conference (Florida) beginning February after eight years of service to WDC as church planter and associate conference minister. We praise God for Marco's gifts to the church and we thank him for his dedicated ministry to our congregations in Texas, especially, but to the wider church and area conference as well.

There are a few spaces left on the Western District Ski Retreat for Adults and Families, which will be January 30 - February 3, at Copper Mountain in Colorado. This trip leaves from North Newton, and the cost includes chartered sleeper bus, two nights lodging, ski rental, and lift tickets for three days of skiing. (Adults \$472, 18-14 yr olds \$447, and children 13 and under \$407). A limited number of spaces are also available for those who would rather drive on their own. For registration forms and/or additional information call the WDC office at (316) 283-6300.

Soup-er Bowl Saturday: On Saturday, January 31 Ten Thousand Villages, Newton is teaming up with The Lord's Pantry for a soup-er event. Bring a non-perishable food item to Ten Thousand Villages and receive 5% off your purchase. The more food items you bring, the bigger your discount: up to a maximum of 25% off your entire

purchase! Extra donated items are greatly appreciated, so feel free to bring as large a donation as you would like. This is a great opportunity to help restock the shelves at one of Newton's high demand food pantries. We will also be offering samples of soups made from the Women's Initiative Network in Wichita to enjoy while you shop.

Stewardship University, a ministry partnership between Mennonite Mutual Aid and our local faith community, is coming to the Bethel College campus on February 21. In one of many available courses, you can gain a better understanding of how credit cards work, your legal rights, avoiding debt, and how to improve and protect your credit score, taught by credit expert Darryl Dahleimer. For more information or to register, contact MMA 877-467-7294, or visit www.StewardshipUniversity.org.

The Relief Sale Fellowship Meals will be on Sunday, February 22, and Sunday, March 1. Please pick up a form in the foyer and mail it to Marvin and Marjorie Stucky at 200 17th Village, Apt. 18, Moundridge, KS 67107-7002 by January 25. The adult meals are \$15.00 each and children (6 – 12) are \$6.00. Children under 6 are free. Checks should be made payable to: Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale and sent in with the form. Gift certificates are available.

Camp Mennoscah—Anxious for camp? So are we! But please wait until the catalogs are sent out before sending in your camper registration. We have new camp registration software thanks to your donations to Vision 2012, and the format has changed somewhat. The catalogs will be in the mail to you by the end of February, and also available on the Camp Mennoscah webpage shortly at www.mennowdc.org/Camp.html. (We hear that patience is a virtue.) Thank you for your patience and understanding.