

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

February 4, 2007

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: James Voth

Youth Pastor: Brett Klingenberg

Music by Possum Boys

A Special Welcome to the Possum Boys. Members are Bethany Amstutz, Pastor Brett Klingenberg, Derek Klingenberg, Grant Klingenberg and Nat Stucky.

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!**

For Sharing and Prayer

I wish to thank each of you that have prayed and thought of me as I had my knee replaced. I appreciate the cards, telephone calls and all of the help.
Allen Patterson

Western District Conference: Pray for the musicians in your congregation who lead music and nurture faith through voice and instrument - with joy! Pray that the WDC Choral Festival today hosted by Eden Mennonite Church, Moundridge will be a celebration of faith through music.

Mennonite Mission Network: MMN workers Cesar Moya and Patricia Uruena in Quito, Ecuador, request prayer for a theological training program that began last month for 140 indigenous pastors and leaders from all of Ecuador.

Pray for the 45 participants, three trainers and three chaplains meeting February 8-10 at Bethel College Mennonite Church to learn about and challenge racism in our communities, churches, and institutions. Organized by Western District Conference, Mennonite Church USA, Mennonite Central Committee-Central States, Bethel College, Mac Diversity Team-McPherson, and Inter-Faith Ministries of Wichita.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

A special welcome to each of our guests! 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.

* **Gathering Hymn No. 582** *Guide me, O thou great Jehovah*

* **Gathering Prayer**

Hymn No. 398 *I love to tell the story*

Worship in Giving Mennonite Church USA

Sharing Joys, Thanksgivings and Prayers

Prayer Response Hymn No. 117 *Fairest Lord Jesus* Verses 1 & 4

Scripture Reading Revelation 4:1-11 Reader: Alma Schmidt

Special Music *Living Prayer* Possum Boys

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

Sermon *The Very Center and Nexus of God and Life*

* **Hymn No. 120** *Holy, holy, holy!*

Postlude

* Indicates those comfortable in doing so, please stand

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: Deb Regier and Katie Regier

Special Music Next Sunday: Kids in Praise and Celebration Singers

Keyboard Next Sunday: Linda Harms

Ushers Next Sunday: Doug Hiebert and Orville Schmidt

Offering Last Sunday: Western District Conference \$1,388.50

Offering Next Sunday: Local Church

CHURCH OFFICES

Pastor: James Voth *Pastor's Study:* 283-2644 *E-mail:* jvoth@cox.net

Pastor's Cell Phone (in case of emergency) 1-316-655-2811

Youth Pastor: Brett Klingenberg *Office Phone:* 799-2238

Cell phone: 316-772-6267

E-mail: brett_210@hotmail.com

Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen 1-888-516-8474

Secretary's E-mail: kimdebc@wheatstate.com

Church Website: www.gracehillmc.org

Church Events

This afternoon at 4:00 p.m. Wheat State Manor Vesper Service. Pursuers S.S. Class is in charge. Also at Wheat State this week: Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. – mending; Friday at 3:00 p.m. – Bingo.

Monday afternoon Quilting on the MCC quilt.

Wednesday 6:10 p.m. Kid's Meal at the church*
7:00 – 8:15 p.m. Children's and Youth Programming
7:45 – 8:30 p.m. Adult Choir**

*To make or cancel reservations for the meal please contact Tammy Regehr (799-2911) or Barb Voth (283-2644).

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

** **Come and join the Adult Choir**, directed by Chelsea Vaught! Rehearsals begin Wednesday, February 7 and will run from 7:45 to 8:30 p.m. in the sanctuary! Everyone is welcome to come regardless of part! Come and enjoy making music together to the glory of the Lord!

Homeless Shelter The Grace Hill/Zion week is February 7-13. This time we split up the week with Zion, so our dates are February 7, 9, 11, and 12. Please sign up on the bulletin board or talk to Brett or Cassie.

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

Monday, February 12, at 7:00 p.m. Hands of Friendship meet at church. Program: Care packages for college students and voluntary service workers, other work projects; Devotions: Alma Schmidt; Hostess: Miriam Claassen; Financial Project: Mennonite Women USA & Western District Scholarship Fund.

February 17 Congregational date night on the Youth will be February 17. Drop your kids off at the church and let the youth watch them while you go out and have fun. Times to be announced soon.

March 27-31 Western District Conference Basketball Tournament

March 30-31 WDC Volleyball Tournament

Et Cetera

A Celebration in Song! The Music and Worship Task Force of the Western District Conference is sponsoring a **Hymn and Choral Festival** this afternoon at Eden Mennonite Church, Moundridge. Prelude music will begin at 3:15 p.m., with the program following at 3:30 p.m. The program will include anthems sung by a choir made up of members from 12 area churches, congregational singing, and reflections by contributors to the book "Eden Peace Witness."

The M-2 (Match Two) program of Offender / Victim Ministries is holding an orientation for new volunteers February 8, 6:00 p.m., at the Hutchinson Correctional Facility East Unit. M-2 is an in-prison Christian friendship program. Your friendship, love and concern can be the catalyst for lasting inner changes. Most of the inmates in M-2 receive no other visits than those of their M-2 friend. Applicants awaiting a friend presently number 66. A volunteer commits to visit one evening per month. Contact OVM (316-283-2038) to submit your name and other required information no later than February 5. You may also email ovm.ks@sbcglobal.net.

Bruce Bradshaw will be ordained to Christian ministry on Sunday, February 11, at 3:30 p.m. at Zion Mennonite Church, Elbing. The congregation and Western District Conference invite you to this worship celebration and reception.

On February 17, Hesston College, will host Stewardship University, a ministry partnership between Mennonite Mutual Aid and our local faith community. Among the courses available is the Good Sense Budget Workshop. This popular course, based on the nationally acclaimed *Good Sense* ministry, explores what the Bible and our culture say about the four uses of money. You will learn practical ways to implement biblical principles - and leave with a personal spending plan. For more information, talk to Pastor Jim or Edgar Harder or visit the website (www.StewardshipUniversity.org).

Mennonite Mission Network (MMN) staff and Board are meeting in the Newton area the weekend of March 9-11 and are available for sharing in local WDC congregations on Sunday, March 11. Angela Rempel, MMN Congregational Relations, will be contacting area churches regarding invitations to MMN staff/board members. If you are interested in hosting a representative, contact Angela at 316-283-5100.

Camp Mennoscah Happenings "Explore the Night Sky" is a new retreat, March 16-18, 2007. This is a great way to learn about the different stars, moons and galaxies, and where they belong. This will be led by John Hobbs and staff from the Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center. Cost for this weekend is \$80 per person and includes meals and snacks. If you'd like to come out just for the gazing in the evening, the cost is \$5 per person per night (meals are an extra charge). Please pre-register by March 1. "**Retirees Relaxation Retreat**" is coming up April 23-25, 2007 with a theme of "The Good Ole Days". We will have speakers on: Early Camp Years; Bees: Stings & Honey; Building Antique Wagons; Scrolling: Sawdust to Satisfaction along with a catered meal and special music. Cost for this retreat (which includes meals) is as follows: Retreat Center \$85, Staff House \$75, Own Camper or RV \$65 (these are per person). Please contact camp for partial event fees. To reserve your spot or get more information, contact camp at 620-297-3290 or by email to: campmno@mennowdc.org.

The Retreat Commission (with the approval of Western District Conference Executive Board) is creating two new positions of "Long Term Volunteers" (maintenance/grounds/custodial and food service), at Camp Mennoscah. These positions would follow traditional voluntary service guidelines with modest stipends and food/lodging costs covered by Camp. (These positions are in addition to current long-term staff – Camp Director, Maintenance Coordinator.) The Retreat Commission is exploring the possibility of creating an MVS unit at camp with Mennonite Mission Network and the Hutchinson MVS unit Leadership team. We hope to announce the names of the first volunteers by April. We are excited about this new chapter in the Camp's life and ministry. Thank you for your prayers and support.

Wheat State Manor is asking for volunteers for van drivers to take residents to appointments etc. Call 799-2181 if available and speak to Rogene Libby, Secretary or Lori Seifert, Administrator.

The Newton Et Cetera Shop is in great need for Saturday clerks. No experience is required, training is provided. If you are available from either 9:00 a.m.-1:15 p.m. or 1:15-5:30 p.m. on Saturday, please call Diana Miller at 316-283-9461.

Spend the summer somewhere new. Are you interested in traveling to Germany, Northern Ireland, Israel or somewhere in North America? Do you want to serve others and have new experiences? Plan a summer of service with Youth Venture. Youth Venture, a program of Mennonite Mission Network, provides summer service opportunities for individual youth and young adults, ages 14-25, both in North America and internationally. To find out more visit our website: Service.MennoniteMission.net, email: YouthVenture@MennoniteMission.net or call 1-866-866-2872.