

# GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

February 3, 2008

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Pastor: James Voth

Keyboard: Teresa Martin

Whitewater, Kansas

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Youth Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Chorister: Gladys Reimer

## 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.*

## \* Call to Worship *Excerpts of Psalm 99*

**Leader:** The Lord reigns, let the nations tremble; He sits enthroned between the cherubim, let the earth shake.

**People:** Great is the Lord in Zion; He is exalted over all the nations.

**Leader:** Let them praise your great and awesome name - He is holy.

**People:** The King is mighty, He loves justice - You have established equity; in Jacob You have done what is just and right.

**Leader:** Exalt the Lord our God and worship at his footstool; He is holy.

**People:** Exalt the Lord our God and worship at His holy mountain, for the Lord our God is holy.

## \* Gathering Prayer

## \* Hymn of Praise No. 71 *Joyful, joyful, we adore thee*

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

**Offering** Mennonite Church USA

**Catechism Class Dedication**

## A congregational prayer of encouragement and support

Almighty and loving father in heaven,

We give thanks for these persons who now seek to prepare for baptism and identity as members of the body of Christ.

By the Holy Spirit and the Word help them to learn well of Jesus as the Savior and Lord of their lives.

Bless each of them that this may be a vital and joyful part of their journey of faith. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.

## Congregational Sharing and Prayer

**Choral Anthem** *Like a River Glorious*

Men's Chorus

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

**Scripture Reading** Matthew 17:1-9

Barbara Schmidt

**Sermon** *God invites us to a higher mountain view!*

## \* Hymn No. 232 *Christ upon the mountain peak*

## \* Benediction

## \* Choral Benediction *May the Grace of Christ, Our Savior* Men's Chorus

## 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!**

## **For Sharing and Prayer**

Early Tuesday morning, January 29, one of our neighboring churches, the Emmaus Mennonite Church, burnt to the ground. Today they are meeting in the Berean Academy gym. Let us keep them in our prayers as they seek God's direction from here.

Thanks to those who are helping with the Homeless Shelter Ministry this week. If you would like to know more about this ministry and consider being a volunteer for the next week we serve, please contact Pastor Jim.

Next Sunday, the first Sunday of Lent, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper. In preparation for this meal prayerfully read Romans 5:12-19 and ponder what God's gift means to you. As you do, consider what the gift of God's righteousness means in your relationships, choices and attitude.

**Western District Conference:** Pray for Buhler Mennonite Church as it begins a process of visioning today. Also pray for young adults in our congregations who long to be shaped in their faith, their identities and their relationships.

**Mennonite Mission Network:** Please pray for MMN associates Disa and Tom Rutschman as they and local families in Jokkmokk, Sweden, host 19 Uruguayan students and teachers today through February 17. During this time a three-day camp will focus on teaching about the world in which we live.

## Church Events

**Today** – A noon meal at the church followed by a presentation from Harry Hines Memorial Hospice on advanced directives and end of life issues. If you have questions contact Kaye Penner or Barb Voth.

**Monday at 1:30 p.m.** Quilting on the MCC quilt, Monday afternoon from 1:30-5 p.m. All quilters are welcome.

**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

\*If you are unable to attend the meal, please contact Kaye Penner (283-3948) or Barb Voth (283-2644).

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

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

**Monday, February 11 at 7:00 p.m.** Hands of Friendship meet at church. Program: Work projects – tie comforts and cut quilt blocks; Devotions: Miriam Claassen; Hostess: Mary Ann Wiebe; Financial Project: Western District Women Mission.

### HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

**Friday, February 8**, the youth will be having a 5th Quarter at Countryside hosted by Doug and Katherine Claassen after the basketball game. During Sunday School, a sign-up sheet for food will be passed around. Thanks!

**Wednesday, February 13**, Dustin Galyon, "an inspiring young speaker, coach and communicator" will be speaking during Youth Group. Invite your friends! It's sure to be good!

## Announcements

**Harvey County Food Pantry suggested items to donation this month:** boxed meals. A basket for goods is located in the foyer by the front entrance.

**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 Melinda Regehr  
**Nursery Next Sunday:** Bonita Schroeder and Emily Burch

**Special Music Next Sunday:** Praise Team  
**Keyboard Next Sunday:** Linda Harms  
**Ushers Next Sunday:** Doug Hiebert and Orville Schmidt

**Offering Last Sunday:** Western District Conference \$1,792.00  
**Offering Next Sunday:** Local Church

### CHURCH OFFICES

*Pastor: James Voth*

*E-mail: [pastor@gracehillmc.org](mailto:pastor@gracehillmc.org)*

*Youth Pastor: Katherine Goerzen*

*E-mail: [youthpastor@gracehillmc.org](mailto:youthpastor@gracehillmc.org)*

*Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen*

*Church Website: [www.gracehillmc.org](http://www.gracehillmc.org)*

**Et Cetera**

**URGENT NEED:** Galen Waltner, chair of the building committee and construction oversight for the new director's house at Camp Mennoscah, fell at work and broke his pelvis on January 29 requiring surgery at Wesley Medical Center, on Wednesday, January 30. Please pray for his healing, recovery and strength. Also, a site supervisor is needed ASAP to cover for Galen while he recuperates. If you can volunteer or know someone with construction skills who can offer assistance for the next month at Camp Mennoscah, please contact Bruce Janzen, Retreat Commission chair, at [jti@elbingks.com](mailto:jti@elbingks.com), 316-799-2890, 316-772-7006 (cell); or Dorothy Nickel Friesen, conference minister at [dorothyf@mennowdc.org](mailto:dorothyf@mennowdc.org) or 316-283-6300, ext. 205.

**Peace Connections** annual meeting has been rescheduled for Thursday, February 7 with a soup supper at 6 p.m. and presentation by Barry Bartel at 7 p.m. It will be held at the same location - First Presbyterian Church, 900 Columbus Ave., Newton. Everyone is invited to attend!

**Sausage and Pancake Supper** at Palmyra Baptist Church (Butler Road at 10<sup>th</sup> St. NW) on Saturday, February 9 from 4:30 – 8:00 p.m. Free will offering – half of the proceeds will go to Wheat State Manor.

**The M-2 (Match Two) program of Offender / Victim Ministries** is holding an orientation for new volunteers February 14, 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. More than 50 men are waiting to be matched. 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 11 so that clearances may be obtained for admission. You may also email [ovm.ks@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ovm.ks@sbcglobal.net).

**John McCutcheon**, nationally acclaimed singer, songwriter and peace activist, will perform at Memorial Hall on the Bethel College campus, North Newton, Saturday, February 16, at 7:30 p.m. Doors will open at 6:45 p.m. This concert, which is free and open to the public, headlines KIPCOR's 35<sup>th</sup> annual Peace Lecture Series. For details, call KIPCOR at 316-284-5217.

**Offender/Victim Ministries** will celebrate 35 years of ministry to those affected by crime on Monday, February 18 at 6:30 p.m. Enjoy fellowship, reflection, and entertainment at our Annual Meeting, held at Bethel College Mennonite Church. Please RSVP by February 11. Telephone: 316-283-2038 or email: [ovm.ks@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ovm.ks@sbcglobal.net).

**The 2008 Mennonite Central Committee Central States Annual Meeting** will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 23, at the Ethiopian Evangelical Church, 15150 E. Evans Ave., Aurora, Colorado. All constituents in Central States are welcome to attend the meeting, which is a combination worship service and business meeting. Please join us to review the past year in MCC Central States and look forward to the year ahead.

**Explore The Night Sky Retreat at Camp Mennoscah!** Have you ever wondered about the phases of the moon? Have you seen a dwarf star in the middle of a nebula? Come to Camp Mennoscah February 29 – March 1 for our star party! We will have informal discussions Saturday afternoon with experts from the Kansas Astronomical Observers; telescopes ranging in size from 8-16 inches and... we even have lousy movies to make fun of in case of cloudy skies! See the brochures on the bulletin board. Cost for lodging and meals, at the Retreat Center, is \$85 per person for the weekend. For more information contact camp at 620-297-3290 or [campmno@mennowdc.org](mailto:campmno@mennowdc.org).