

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

February 13, 2005

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Pastor: James Voth

Keyboard: Teresa Martin

Whitewater, Kansas

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Youth Pastor: Brett Klingenberg

Chorister: Suzy Burch

The First Sunday of Lent- Marvelous in our eyes!

Put to the test, we show our doubtful, disobedient and deceitful selves. But there is One who shows a trusting, obedient, and truthful self. Who could imagine that one day we will do as he has done and live as genuine sons and daughters of God? This is the Lord's doing! It is marvelous in our eyes!

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

A special welcome to each of our guests! During this time we welcome 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.

Choral Call to Worship *Good News!*

Cherub Choir

* Call to Worship

Brett: Come for blessings!

Dan: Come for forgiveness!

People: Steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.

Brett: Just as sin came into the world by one person,

Dan: So by one person's obedience everyone is made righteous.

People: Happy are those whose transgressions are forgiven.

All: This is the Lord's doing. It is marvelous in our eyes!

* A Prayer for God's Presence and Guidance in Worship

* Hymn of Praise No. 36 *God Of Our Strength*

Children's Moments

Pastor Brett

Special Music

Jesus Loves Me

I Love My Family

Cherub Choir

Morning Offering Local Church

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Happy are those whose sin is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

While I kept silence my body wasted away.

Then I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,"

And God forgave the guilt of my sin.

Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to the Lord

(Adapted from Psalm 32:1-5)

Congregation: O Lord, encouraged by your steadfast love,

I face my undisciplined desire and my disobedience.

I confess the trouble I have caused my neighbors and myself.

Thank you for saving me, for I cannot save myself.

In your mercy, teach me to love and obey your word.

During the following song we witness the ritual of pouring sand as a symbol of pouring out our sins to the Lord and trusting God to cleanse us. Please feel free to join in singing with the Praise Team or simply listen in a meditative and thankful spirit.

Song of Confession *Refiner's Fire*

Verse 1: Purify my heart

Let me be as gold and precious silver,

Purify my heart

Let me be as gold, pure gold, Lord

Chorus: Refiner's fire, my heart's one desire

Is to be holy, set apart for you, Lord.

I choose to be holy, set apart for you, my Master.

Ready to do your will.

Verse 2: Purify my heart

Cleanse me from within, and make me holy.

Purify my heart

Cleanse me from my sin, deep within.

Words of Assurance

I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go;

I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

Many are the torments of the wicked,

But steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.

Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, you upright in heart.

(Adapted from Psalm 32:8, 10-11)

Song of Assurance *I will call upon the Lord*

I will call upon the Lord

Who is worthy to be praised.

So shall I be saved from my enemies.

The Lord liveth and blessed be the Rock

And may the God of my salvation be exalted.

The Lord liveth and blessed be the Rock and may the God of my salvation be exalted.

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

The Gospel Reading Matthew 4:1-11

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Reader: Olin Claassen

Sermon *How to Avoid Identity Theft!*

* **Hymn No. 530** *What Wondrous Love Is This* Verses 1, 3 & 4

Sharing and Prayers of the Church

Know Jesus report by the Junior Youth

* **Benediction**

* **Sending Hymn** *Benediction* Patricia J. Shelly

The Lord lift you up, the Lord take your hand,

The Lord lead you forth, and cause you to stand,

Secure in God's Word, seeking God's face,

Abounding in love, abiding in grace.

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

In the Hospital

Bob Janzen - Newton Medical Center

I want to thank all who remembered me in the hospital, for Pastor Jim's visits and all who stopped in. Also thank you for the telephone calls and cards I received.
Bless you all, Ray Balzer

A huge thanks to everyone for your donations to the youth group. Your donations exceeded the mark by \$500. The high school youth thank you for all your support.

Western District Conference: Pray for Camp Mennoscah, its ministry to youth and adults, as it recruits staff for the summer program.

Mennonite Mission Network: Mission worker Anne Garber Kompaore, Burkina Faso, asks prayer for the Sicite literacy work in villages, many where there is no Christian presence. The second year students are introduced to scripture reading. Pray that the Lord will provide resources for this wonderful opportunity for the language development of the Sicite people.

Lent is a season for confession; confessing Jesus as Savior and Lord of our lives and confessing our sins to the Lord. 1 John 1:9 is a great promise regarding confession: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." Sometimes confession calls us to "clear the air" with others. As Jesus taught in the Sermon on the Mount, Matthew 5:23-24: "If you enter your place of worship and, about to make an offering, you suddenly remember a grudge a friend has against you, abandon your offering, leave immediately, go to this friend and make things right. Then and only then, come back and work things out with God." (The Message)

The following "Seven A's of Confession" come from Ken Sande, founder of Peacemaker Ministries, www.HisPeace.org.

- Address everyone involved (All those whom you affected)
- Avoid *if*, *but*, and *maybe* (Do not try to excuse your wrongs)
- Admit specifically (Both attitudes and actions)
- Acknowledge the hurt (Express sorrow for hurting someone)
- Accept the consequences (Such as making restitution)
- Alter your behavior (Change your attitudes and actions)
- Ask for forgiveness

Church Events

Monday 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: Carol (Olin) Claassen; Hostess: Joyce Wedel; Financial Project: Mennonite Women USA.

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

7:00 – 8:10 p.m. Children's and Youth Programming

7:00 – 7:40 p.m. Adult Bible Study

7:40 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 \$3.00 Children \$2.50

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

Saturday & Sunday Next weekend the high school youth will be traveling to Camp Mennoscah for a retreat. We will experience some of the many spiritual disciplines, including an 18-hour fast. We will also be doing some clean up work. Please pray for us this weekend.

March 28 – April 2 Western District Basketball & Volleyball Tournament – if you are interested in playing volleyball contact Diana Schunn or Debbie Claassen, basketball - Rob Schunn.

Please make note of these important Lenten announcements and plan now to attend these special services.

- **On Palm Sunday, March 20 the worship service will begin at 9:15 a.m. The Bethel College Choir and Bethel College students will give leadership to the service.**
- **Joint Holy Week services will begin Sunday, March 20, 7:00 p.m. at Zion Mennonite Church, Elbing. Speaker to be announced.**
- **The Joint Maundy Thursday service on March 24 will be at Grace Hill beginning at 7:00 p.m.**
- **Our annual Easter Sunrise service will begin at 6:30 a.m. Easter Sunday. Sunrise is at 6:22 a.m. this year!**

Announcements

Are you interested in attending Adult Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Church Canada Assembly and Conventions in Charlotte, North Carolina July 4-9? Administrative Council is willing to paying the registration fee or a portion thereof to those who are interested in going. Please contact James Regier by the end of February if you are interested. Registration forms are available from Pastor Jim or online at www.charlotte2005.org.

NOTE: NEW LOCATION - 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.

You can HEAR the worship service even better using the church's FM radio transmitter. All that is needed is a small AM/FM radio with headphones. Tune to FM 104.9 and you may receive the worship service seated anywhere in the sanctuary. Several radios are available at church or bring your own. If you have any questions our sound technicians will be glad to assist you.

Nursery This Sunday: Debbie Claassen and Camille Claassen
Nursery Next Sunday: Marge Harms and Joyce Wedel

Keyboard Next Sunday: Emma Mae Litton
Special Music Next Sunday: Kids in Praise

Ushers Next Sunday: Kendall Claassen and Mike Balzer

Offering Last Sunday: Mennonite Church USA \$1,475.25
Offering Next Sunday: Western District Retreat Program

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: <http://gracehill.ks.us.mennonite.net/>

Et Cetera

Jim Wallis, a Christian leader for social change, will speak on “Peacemaking in Hard Times” in Memorial Hall at Bethel College, North Newton, Friday, February 18, 2005, at 11:00 a.m. His lecture, sponsored by the Kansas Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (KIPCOR), is free and open to the public. Wallis--speaker, author, activist, and international commentator on ethics and public life--was a founder of Sojourners over 30 years ago and continues to serve as the editor of *Sojourners* magazine, covering faith, politics and culture. He is president of Call to Renewal, a national federation of churches, denominations, and faith-based organizations from across the theological and political spectrum working to overcome poverty. His most recent book, *God's Politics: Why the Right Gets It Wrong and the Left Doesn't Get It* (Harper Collins, 2005), is on the NY Times best seller list.

You are invited to attend Peace Connections' Annual Review & Fundraiser, February 24, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., Salem United Methodist Church, Newton. Come and enjoy a lasagna dinner followed by a short review of our year's activities, donor recognition, and entertainment with Joe Carr, Christian Peacemaker Teams. Joe Carr will share *Performance Art for Palestine: poetry, music, & storytelling inspired by occupation & resistance*. See poster for more information or call 316-284-0000.

The High School Youth Group from First Mennonite Church, Halstead will serve a Verenike Supper on Saturday, February 26 from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Cost is by donation – proceeds will go to a youth service trip. Menu: verenike with ham gravy, sausage, green beans, relishes, zwiebach and pie. The church is located at 4th and Sante Fe in Halstead.

Bethel College Mennonite Church invites all our friends to an exotic Indian banquet scheduled for February 26. The food and ambience will be first class. As a special treat, you will also be offered a performance of Indian dance by Nina Priya Sudarsan of Wichita. The \$50-a-plate dinner offers you a unique experience and is a fund-raiser for the BCMC Fire Alarm Fund. Most of your reservation is a tax-deductible contribution. For reservations or if you have questions, call the BCMC church office at 316-283-3667. Reservations due Feb. 18. We hope to see you there!

The M-2 (Match two) program of Offender / Victim Ministries is holding an orientation for new volunteers March 3, 6:30 p.m., at the Hutchinson Correctional Facility East Unit. M-2 is an in-prison Christian friendship program that seeks to help inmates make the

necessary life changes to become successful when they are released. Most of the inmates in M-2 receive no other visits than those of their M-2 friend. A volunteer commits to visit one evening per month. Contact OVM (316-283-2038) to submit your name and other required information by February 25.

Kidron Bethel Village 6th annual Builders Banquet will be held Tuesday, March 8, at 6:00 p.m., at Cross Wind Conference Center in Hesston. Tickets cost \$125 (\$108 charitable donation) and are available from your church representatives, Doreen Harms or Kaye Penner, or from Ron Braun, Director of Development, Kidron Bethel Village, (316) 284-2900, ext. 226. Proceeds are designated for the Bethel Health Care Neighborhoods Project.

Plan now to attend the next area-wide training for Bridges Out of Poverty: Strategies for Professionals & Communities, held March 10 & 11, 2005, Prairie View, Newton. All are welcome to be a part of this unique opportunity to learn more about how to interact with and learn from those persons in poverty. Aha! Process consultant, Jodi Pfarr, of Minneapolis, Minnesota, will present the 2-day conference based on Dr. Ruby Payne's Framework for Understanding Poverty. See brochure posted on the bulletin board or call Peace Connections, 316-284-0000 for more information.

Coming March 11-12, 2005: The annual KCLASS Leadership Training Conference will be held at Riverlawn Christian Church in Wichita. Grace Hill has registered as a group and anyone from our church is welcome and encouraged to attend. There will be two full days of workshops including topics for Daycare/Preschool, Special Interest Small Groups, Women's Ministry, Men's Ministry, Worship Ministry, Outreach Opportunities, Early Childhood, Elementary, and Youth Programs, Counseling Ministries, Mental Health, and Children's Ministry Seminar. The general sessions will focus on topics from “How to Raise Positive Kids in a Negative World” to “How to Prepare Your Kids to Win Life's Biggest Battles.” For more information, contact Kris Goossen.