

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

February 15, 2009

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Interim Pastor: Marvin Zehr

Youth Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Keyboard: Linda Harms

Chorister: Ben Lichti

Worship Leader: James Regier

Special Music *When Jesus the healer*

Celebration Singers

Scripture Reading Leviticus 13:1-2, 44b-46

Debbie Claassen

Children's Moments

Lisa Schmidt

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

* **Hymn No. 143** *Amazing grace!*

Scripture Reading Mark 1:40-45

Debbie Claassen

Sermon *Drawing Circles*

Pastor Marv

* **Hymn No. 495** *O let all who thirst*

Congregational Sharing and Prayer

* **Hymn No. 427** *You shall go out with joy*

* **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!**

For Sharing and Prayer

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to the Doug Hiebert and Lonnie Hiebert families on the recent death of Doug and Lonnie's grandmother, Elizabeth Vogt. May God's love and presence sustain them during this time of loss and in the days and weeks to come.

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.

Choral Call to Worship *I will call upon the Lord* Celebration Singers

* **Call to Worship** Based on Psalm 30

Leader: Sing praises to the Lord, O you faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name.

People: **For his anger is but for a moment; and his favor is for a lifetime.**

Leader: Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

People: **Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me! O Lord, be my helper!**

Leader: You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,

People: **so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.**

All: **O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever.**

* **Prayer of Invocation**

* **Opening Hymn No. 66** *O worship the King*

Offering Western District Conference

Western District Conference: Pray for Vision 2012, the prayer and funding campaign of WDC, that it will grow and support the mission of our area conference in camping, church planting, resourcing congregations and pastors.

Mennonite Mission Network: Please pray for Hannah Eberly, Tara Harms-Becker, Beth and Marcos Wright Kuhns, Eva Michel and Ruth Wiens as they minister in the community of Philippi, West Virginia, through Service Adventure. Pray they will show Christ's love as they work at KidReach, Myers Clinic and elementary schools.

Western District Conference Executive Board announces the appointment of Clarence Rempel as half-time Associate Conference Minister for Kansas/Nebraska beginning May 1, 2009 for a two-year period. Clarence will complete nearly 15 years as lead pastor of First Mennonite Church, Newton, on April 30. He has served with the (former) WDC Ministerial Committee and Leadership Commission. Let us give thanks for God's guidance in the calling of leaders to serve the church.

Chelsea Vaught will be performing her Master's Organ Recital on Tuesday, March 3 at 7:30 p.m. at the Bales Recital Hall on the University of Kansas Campus in Lawrence. She will be performing works by Guilain, Sweelinck, Bach, Brahms and Reger. Everyone is invited to attend. Chelsea will finish her masters in the summer and then begin studies on a doctoral degree, also at KU.

Thank you for your generous contributions to the High School Youth Group! We are excited about our trip to the MCUSA Convention in Columbus OH this summer! We will be taking a charter bus there with the Zion Mennonite Church youth group. We will also be visiting Bluffton University and Goshen College on our way there. The cost is looking to be a little less than \$700 per person to be able to go, which puts our grand total at a little more than \$19,000. Because of your generosity, we already have a little over \$16,000 worth of funds available to us, which leaves a little less than \$3,000 that we need yet to be able to go! Please bear this in mind for the March 15 offering, as it goes towards the Youth Group. Thank you again for your generosity!

Announcements

A **recycling tub** is now located in the foyer for recycling bulletins.

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: Lisa Harms and Melinda Regehr

Nursery Next Sunday: Nancy Harms and Jana Harms

Ushers Next Sunday: Caleb Regehr and Rob Schunn

Offering Last Sunday: Local Church \$6,247.25

Offering Next Sunday: Bethel College

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 Events

Tonight from 5:00-9:00 p.m. Know anyone who is interested in babysitters for Valentine's Day? The High School Youth Group is planning on offering baby-sitting this evening from 5-9. Supper will be provided. Donations are accepted, as this is a fund-raiser for the MCUSA Convention in Columbus this summer.

Monday at 7:00 p.m. Administrative 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

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Upon the request from a number of persons, Pastor Marv will lead Bible study on the Wednesday nights when we have church meals. The group will meet in the classroom next to the kitchen from 7:00-7:35 p.m. The study will focus on the lectionary text for the following Sunday. The texts for next week are: Isaiah 40:21-31; Psalm 147:1-11, 20; I. Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Wednesday at 8:30 p.m. Spiritual Council meets at church.

Next Sunday Bethel College Sunday – 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service. The Bethel College concert choir will be ministering to us at our worship service next Sunday, February 22. We have invited them to stay for a potluck meal that day. Social Council will provide bread and drink and we ask each of you to consider the extra people we will feed when you prepare for the potluck – 60+ college students and other guests! We are looking forward to an uplifting time of worship and fellowship around the tables!

Next Sunday after the meal A congregational meeting will be held February 22 following the carry-in dinner to discuss and review pastor search information. Please contact Diana Schunn or one of the search committee members if you have questions/ideas.

March 17, 19-21 WDC Basketball & Volleyball Tournaments

Et Cetera

Ronald J. Sider will speak on “It’s Time to Get Serious About Christian Peacemaker Teams” in Krehbiel Auditorium on the Bethel College campus, North Newton, this afternoon at 4:30 p.m. Sider is Professor of Theology, Holistic Ministry and Public Policy, and director of the Sider Center on Ministry and Public Policy at Palmer Theological Seminary, Wynnewood PA. This lecture is free and open to the public. Contact Kansas Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (KIPCOR) (316-284-5217) for further information, or check <http://www.bethelks.edu/kipcor/lectures/pls.php>.

Hesston College Music and Theatre Departments are presenting *Godspell* February 19-21, 26 and 27 at 7:30 p.m. and February 28 at 8:30 p.m. All shows take place in Northlawn Studio Theater on Hesston College Campus. For more information, see the poster on the bulletin board.

Stewardship University, sponsored by Mennonite Mutual Aid, will be held on the Bethel College campus February 21 from 8:00 a.m. -2:30 p.m. This is an opportunity to focus on stewardship issues through a wide variety of workshops. Brochures are available on the literature shelf in the foyer. Registration fee is \$39. Group registration is available in addition to a \$10 coupon available through our church office. Youth may register and attend without cost. Contact our MMA advocate, Tim Harms, or one of the pastors for detailed information.

Furley United Methodist Church will be hosting a soup supper on February 21 beginning at 4:30 p.m. Homemade chicken noodle soup, chili, sandwiches and pie. Free will offering.

New Wine/New Wineskins: Reshaping Mennonite Central Committee for the 21st Century is engaging all MCC stakeholders in discerning God’s direction by creating a common vision and revised structure for MCC. The process will incorporate the voices and best ideas of the entire MCC community around the globe. It holds the potential to unify MCC and increase its capacity for meaningful impact around the world. We want your input! You are invited to participate in a meeting on February 21 from 1:00-5:00 p.m. at the MCC Center (121 E. 30th) in North Newton, please contact Tina Schrag (316-283-2720 or trs@mcc.org) to see if there is room available. You can also go online to www.mcc.org/newwineskins and give your input.

Documentary to be shown The public is invited to view a recently developed documentary entitled, *Out of the Shadow*, on February 26 at 7:00 p.m. in the Projection Room of the Mennonite Library and Archives on the Bethel College Campus. The documentary, written and produced by Susan Miller, gives an inside look at what it is like to live with a parent suffering from schizophrenia. It portrays the pain of the realization of the illness and the family’s struggle to finally find their way through medical and governmental confidentiality laws – to hope. This video was recently shown on TV Channel 10. For more information call: Marlan Ratzlaff at 620-345-8145 or Florene Wiens at 316-283-5814.

1st Mennonite Church in Halstead (427 W. 4th) will be hosting a Verenike Supper on February 28 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Menu: verenike, ham gravy, sausage, green beans, zwieback, pie, cherry moos. Cost by donation – proceeds go to the high school youth service trip.

Attention: youth and young adults: You are invited to a conversation with Shane Claiborne on Thursday, March 5, 7 p.m. at Memorial Hall, Bethel College. Free. (Sponsored by Faith Mennonite Church, Newton and Bethel College. Contact: Mindy Smith, 316-283-2145 or faith@sbcglobal.net)

Zion Mennonite Church, Elbing, is sponsoring a "Building Vitality in Rural Congregations and Communities" seminar on March 7, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Shannon Jung, Professor of Town and Country Ministries, St. Paul School of Theology in Kansas City, Missouri, will help you consider how you can build the future of your rural church. See <http://www.mennowdc.org/RuralCongregationsSeminar030709.pdf> for information/registration form.

The third annual Comforter Blitz will be held at The Journey, 1 mile north of Yoder, KS, on March 9, 12:00 – 9:00 p.m. and Tuesday March 10, 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. For more information, or to volunteer supplies (frame, pin magnets, etc.) call JoLene Kaufman 620-241-5489 or Debra Selzer 620-628-4629.

"From Reality to Hope: Road Signs for the Church's Journey", an interactive consultation with Conrad Kanagy, author of *Road Signs for the Journey: A Profile of Mennonite Church USA*, will be held March 20-21 at Journey at Yoder (a campus of the South Hutchinson Mennonite Church). Sponsored by South Central Conference, South Hutchinson Mennonite Church, and Hesston College. Weekend includes performance of Ted & Company. For more information/registration see <http://www.mennowdc.org/ConradKanagyMarch2009.pdf>.