

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

February 17, 2008

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: James Voth

Youth Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Keyboard: Teresa Martin

Chorister: Ben Lichti

Second Sunday of Lent – Out of the Depths! Psalm 130
Out of the Depths Into New Birth

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 Prayer

Pastor Katherine

* **Call to Worship** *Where does our help come from?* Psalm 121

All: I lift up my eyes to the hills - where does my help come from?

Leader: My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.

People: He will not let your foot slip - he who watches over you will not slumber; indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

Leader: The LORD watches over you - the LORD is your shade at your right hand; the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night.

All: The LORD will keep you from all harm - he will watch over your life; the LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.

* **Hymn No. 102** *To God be the glory*

Offering Offender Victim Ministries

Words of Confession

Pastor Jim

Leader: We look to God, crying out for rescue.

People: **We have not responded to the Lord's call;
Our feet have slipped from God's ways.**

Leader: If we do not trust God's voice, where will we find help?

People: **Our help comes from the Lord,
maker of heaven and earth.
The Lord will keep our steps;
The Lord's care never ceases.**

Congregational Sharing and Prayer

Pastor Jim

A Lenten Drama *The Commute* by Julie Martin Burruss

Based on Genesis 12:1-4a and John 3:1-17

Characters: Abe - Pastor Jim; Nick - Cal Frye

Choral Anthem *Love the Lord With All*

Kids in Praise

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

Scripture Reading John 3:1-17

Levi Goossen

Sermon

Peter Goerzen

Moment of Silent Meditation

Reflect on the beginning of your journey with Jesus.

How have you experienced God's help and guidance?

Share these stories with your family or friends this week.

* **Hymn No. 545** *Be thou my vision*

* **Sending**

Pastor Katherine

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

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: Donna Klaassen - Newton Medical Center

Western District Conference: Pray for Esther Vazquez, pastor of House of Healing, Dallas, Texas as she is ordained to the Christian ministry today. Pray for Rainbow Mennonite Church, Kansas City, Kansas as it celebrates its 50th anniversary this weekend.

Mennonite Mission Network: The Soli Deo church in Halle, Germany, has a teaching series on the book of Romans. MMN workers Sharon and Steve Norton request prayer that believers will understand the foundation of Christian faith and apply its truths.

New phone number: Marjorie Harms 316-283-1130

Coming During Holy Week, Palm Sunday to Easter, March 16-23

Two Shared Services with Zion Mennonite Church, Elbing
Sunday evening, March 16 David Grieser, director of the Hesston
College Pastoral Ministries program will bring the message.
Thursday evening, March 20 Maundy Thursday Communion
at Zion Mennonite Church.
Sunday Easter Sunrise Service: 7:15 a.m. (Sunrise 7:16 - 7:27 a.m.)
Service led by the Youth Group

CHURCH OFFICES

Pastor: James Voth *E-mail:* pastor@gracehillmc.org

Youth Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

E-mail: youthpastor@gracehillmc.org

Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen

Church Website: www.gracehillmc.org

Church Events

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

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

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

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

7:00 – 7:40 p.m. Adult Bible Study

7:45 – 8:30 p.m. Adult Choir

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

Wednesday at 7:15 p.m. Business Council meets at church.

March 31-April 5 Western District Basketball Tournament

April 4-5 Western District Volleyball Tournament

High School Youth Group

Dustin Galyon, who wasn't able to come on Wednesday due to a canceled flight, will be coming on Wednesday, February 27 instead. All High School and Junior High Youth are invited to this! It will be in the Fellowship Hall. Invite your friends! He's looking forward to speaking with you!

Announcements

Hands of Friendship would like a good used quilt frame. If anyone wishes to donate one contact Gladys Reimer or Agnes Harder.

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 Camille Claassen

Nursery Next Sunday: Diana Schunn and Emily Klassen

Special Music Next Sunday: Adult Choir

Keyboard Next Sunday: Linda Harms

Ushers Next Sunday: Ben Lichti and Rob Schunn

Offering Last Sunday: Local Church \$9,728.50

Offering Next Sunday: Western District Conference

Et Cetera

UPDATE: Galen Waltner (chair of the Camp Mennoscah new director's house building committee and construction oversight) is at home recuperating following surgery for a broken pelvis after a fall on Jan. 29. Volunteers are still needed at Camp Mennoscah for the house building. Current projects are sheetrock hanging, siding and roofing. There will be on site supervision all week. If you can assist, please contact Galen: 620-386-0287 (cell); galenwaltner@hotmail.com.

Halstead First Mennonite Church Youth Group will host a Verenike Supper on Saturday, February 23 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at Stuaffer Hall, 427 West 4th St, Halstead. Menu includes verenike with ham gravy, sausage and pie. Proceeds will go to a youth service trip.

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.

Remember - the Conference Resource Library (with over 12,000 resources) at 2517 N. Main, North Newton is open until 8:00 p.m. on Thursday nights! On February 28, church librarians are invited to come to network, ask questions and browse in the library.

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. Register by February 22.

Celebrate women on Saturday, March 8 at Ten Thousand Villages in Newton during International Women's Day. Ten Thousand Villages will donate 10 percent of all sales March 8 to Women's Initiative Network. Women's Initiative Network provides transitional employment for women recovering from domestic violence. Ten Thousand Villages sells soup and baked goods mixes that are packaged by women in the program. Samples of products will be available throughout the day. In addition, Ten Thousand Villages is happy to feature a performance by Full Circle at 11:00 a.m. Visit Ten Thousand Villages during International Women's Day and celebrate the accomplishments of women around the world.

Western District Conference Children's Choir Festival will be March 9 at 4:00 p.m. at the Bethel College Memorial Hall. The choir will be directed by Mark W. Bartel.

MENTORING PROGRAM

The mentoring program currently includes 18 young people and their mentors. The pairs of young person and adult meet on an individual basis. The goal continues to be that of connecting a youth with an adult as a spiritual growth experience and as a relationship tool.

We are currently in the process of evaluation and possible restructuring of expectations of the program. As we work with Safe Sanctuaries programs in group experiences, we also are attempting to use those guidelines for individuals in the mentor program. The chair of the Spiritual Council and the Youth Pastor have met with the director to establish guidelines and program.

We continue to covet the prayers of the congregation as young people and adults learn to share experiences, as we discover what it means to be Christian together, and as we restructure the program to meet the needs of youth in the church.

Kaye Penner, director