

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

February 20, 2005

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: James Voth

Youth Pastor: Brett Klingenberg

Keyboard: Emma Mae Litton

Chorister: Suzy Burch

Worship Leader: Dan Schroeder

The Second Sunday of Lent

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 *Come Into His Presence* Kids In Praise

* **Call to Worship** Hymnal No. 725 prayer in unison

* **Hymn of Praise No. 169** *I To The Hills Will Lift My Eyes*

Children's Moments *The Surprise of His Life* Pastor Jim

Special Music *We Were Made To Love The Lord* Kids In Praise

Morning Offering Western District Retreat Program

Prayer of Confession

O Lord encouraged by your boundless grace.
I face the shortcomings of my faith.
I sorrow for what I have missed in life through unbelief.
Help me not to waste today in regret.
In your mercy, complete my faith,
as I look on the complete life of your Son.

Song of Confession Hymn No. 527 *Lord Jesus, Think On Me* verses 1-

Ritual of pouring sand. During the hymn we witness the ritual of pouring sand as a symbol of pouring out our sins to the Lord and trusting God to cleanse us.

Words of Assurance

This is the confidence we have in approaching God:

That if we ask anything according to God's will, God hears us.

And if we know that God hears us,

we know that we have what we asked of him.

(adapted from 1 John 5:14-15 NIV)

Song of Assurance Hymn No. 527 *Lord Jesus, Think On Me* verse 5

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

The Gospel Reading John 3: 1-17

Reader: Kenneth Wiebe

Sermon *Under the cover of darkness*

* **Hymn No. 521** *Come, Thou Fount*

Sharing and Prayers of the Church

* **Benediction**

* **Sending Hymn No. 366** *God Of Grace And God Of Glory*

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

Robert W. "Bob" Janzen went to be with the Lord Sunday, February 13, 2005 at the age of 66. The funeral service was Wednesday, February 16 at the church. We give thanks for his life lived among us and his many years of service to the congregation and pray for God's comfort and peace upon Judy and the family during these days.

I want to thank all who remembered me with cards, visits and telephone calls while I was in the hospital and after returning home.

Allen Patterson

The youth group, sponsors and Pastor Brett are at Camp Mennoscah this weekend for a retreat.

Western District Conference: Pray that many teachers and planners of summer Vacation Bible School will be inspired at the VBS "Celebrate the Psalms" introduction to be held today at First Mennonite Church, Newton.

Mennonite Mission Network: MMN urban ministry directors appreciate prayer for pastors serving in urban areas who face unique opportunities and challenges. May they be encouraged as they reach out to people "across the street" in their communities.

Joyce Pankratz has been named Camp Mennoscah Director by the Western District Conference Executive Committee. She begins March 1. Currently, Joyce is "traffic manager" for Mennonite Mission Network, Goshen, IN where she schedules, tracks, and manages all communication activities of MMN. She has worked at several Mennonite camps, has an AA degree from Bethel College, and has been active in the Anabaptist Disability Network. She is married to Mark, a self-employed building contractor; mother to Daniel - a first year student at Hesston College. WDC welcomes Joyce!

Church Events

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

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

7:00 – 7:35 p.m. Adult Bible Study

7:40 – 8:15 p.m. Adult Choir

Thursday at 7:30 p.m. Education Council meets at church.

Next Sunday at 4:00 p.m. Wheat State Manor Vesper Service – Pursuers S.S. Class is in charge.

Coming March 11-12, 2005: The annual KLASS 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.

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 **6:00 a.m.** Easter Sunday. Sunrise is at 6:22 a.m. this year!

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.

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: Marge Harms and Joyce Wedel

Nursery Next Sunday: Bonita Schroeder and Emily Burch

Keyboard Next Sunday: Debbie Claassen

Special Music Next Sunday: Celebration Singers

Ushers Next Sunday: Rob Schunn and Becky Voth

Offering Last Sunday: Local Church \$5,781.00

Offering Next Sunday: Western District Conference

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

Stewardship University *Helping you cultivate your God given gifts* will be held on Saturday, February 26 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Hesston College. Learn ways your time, talents, money, health, and relationships can enhance and deepen your faith! For more information, see the yellow brochures in the foyer.

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.

Sunday-Afternoon-at-the-Museum, February 27, 3:30-4:30 p.m., "Hope Amidst Devastation: Images of Postwar Germany." Robert Kreider, the first MCC volunteer stationed in Germany after World War II will present a slide-illustrated talk about his experiences. The program accompanies the new special exhibition "The Art of Sharing, the Sharing of Art: Responses to Mennonite Relief in Postwar Germany." Free and open to the public. Kauffman Museum is located at 27th and North Main in North Newton. Call 316-283-1612 for more information.

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.

Prison Arts' Theater Production Offender/Victim Ministries Prison Arts' Project invites members of the public to attend a drama production by the inmates at Hutchinson Correction Facility Central Unit at 7:30 p.m. on March 6. The director is Bethany Amstutz of Bethel College. Arrive by 7:00 p.m. at the Gatehouse. Prior notification with information necessary for your clearance is needed by February 28. Submit your name, social security number, driver's license number and date of birth to the OVM office: Ph (316)283-2038; email ovm@southwind.net.

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 and 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.

Mennonite Relief Sale News: April 8 – 9, 2005

- ◆ Don't miss a fun & easy way to raise \$\$ for MCC! Plan now to run or walk in the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale Run for Relief. The event is open to all ages and there are 2 options for participation: Option 1 is to solicit your own sponsor donations & Option 2 is to pay an entry fee. *More people are needed to try Option 1!* If you choose Option 1, mail in your entry form by March 1 (or email Amy Schmidt at mattamy2249@sbcglobal.net) Join the Run for Relief at 8:00 a.m. Saturday, April 9 (day of the relief sale) at Rice Park in Hutchinson.
- ◆ For the last several years numerous small contributions to the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale have resulted in large amounts used to assist needy people in many ways. The year's Penny Power collection before and during the sale will support MCC Water Work Projects promoting cleaning water for everyone throughout the world. The Penny Power project throughout North America generated \$300,000 last year. MCC's goal is to raise \$500,000 through the Penny Power Collection.
- ◆ Is your hand-crafted needle work, wood or hobby item well on its way to completion? Do you have some other item to donate that should be included on the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale bill? Contact Becky Blough at 620-345-3088, for assistance with publicity. Sale bill deadline is March. 5.