



**GRACE HILL
Mennonite Church**

February 21, 2016 Whitewater, Kansas
Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School: 10:45 a.m.

Worship
Second Sunday in Lent

Pastor: Weldon Martens
Musician: Ellen Mosiman Song Leader: Bonita Schroeder

Gathering Music
Welcome and Announcements Weldon Martens
Video introduction to Youth Service Trip June 11-20, to Elkhorn, WV
with **Serving With Appalachian People (SWAP)** Josh Janzen

GATHERING

*Call to Worship (Based on Psalm 27)
Pastor: The Lord is our light and our salvation: whom shall we fear?
ALL: The Lord is the stronghold of our lives; of whom shall we be afraid?
Pastor: One thing we ask of the Lord, one thing we seek;
ALL: We seek to live in the house of the Lord all the days of our lives, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in the Lord's temple.
*Prayer
ALL: God, we come to you in humility, with deep thankfulness for your hospitality to us. Prepare us to worship you.
Congregational Silence
Pastor: May we see and feel your light of hope in this place. Amen.

Gathering Hymn *When Peace Like A River* HWB 336

CONFESSING AND RECONCILING

Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance (Based on Psalm 27)
ALL: Hear, O Lord, when we cry aloud. Be gracious to us and answer us. Do not turn your servants away in anger, you who have been our help. Do not cast us off. Do not forsake us, O God of our salvation! (Ps. 27:7, 9).

Pause for silent confession.

ALL: Teach us your way, O Lord, and lead us into a straight path (Ps. 27:11).

PASTOR: Be confident of this: that "you shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living" (Ps. 27:13).

Theme Hymn *I Love to Tell the Story* HWB 398

PROCLAMATION

* Gospel Reading Luke 13:31-35 Kris Goossen

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

Sermon "Where Do You Find Hope?"

RESPONSE

* Hymn *Longing for Light* STJ 54

Offering and Offertory Grace Hill Youth Group
* *Doxology* HWB 119

Sharing and Prayer

SENDING FORTH

*Sending Hymn *And I Will Raise You Up* HWB 596

*Benediction

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.

The Adult Sunday School classes will begin 10 minutes after the service is over. Everyone is welcome!

For Sharing and Prayer

Western District Conference: Pray for Jenny Schrag, youth pastor for Buhler, Inman and Hoffnungsau Mennonite churches, as they join this Wednesday evening in a licensing service for Jenny's Credential for Specific Ministry.

Mennonite Mission Network: Praise God for Margot and Stephen Longley's 30 years of ministry with Mennonite Mission Network, first in Nepal and now in Korpo, Finland. Margot's degenerative neurological condition is progressing more slowly than anticipated. Pray for continued health as the Longleys retire in Korpo.

Church Family News

. . .Chelsea Vaught's address is: 3025 Bracebridge Place, Fort Wayne, IN 46815. . .

Nursery This Sunday: Jane Washburn and Catina Wiebe

Nursery Next Sunday: Kris Goossen and Renata Goossen

Ushers Next Sunday: Josh Patterson and Rob Schunn

Greeters Next Sunday: John and Miriam Claassen

Offering Last Sunday: Local Church \$8,961.67

Offering Next Sunday: Western District Conference

Church Events

Monday at 7:00 p.m. The craft group will meet at Valerie Klaassen's home.

Wednesday at 6:15 p.m. All Church Meal – everyone is invited! We are having meals every Wednesday through March 16.

Menu this week: Cavatini Pasta

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

Wednesday Family Night – we are studying parables this spring. All are invited to attend!

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Youth Group

Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. Adult Choir practice

Thursday at 8:00 a.m. Senior Breakfast at Mom's Café, Whitewater

Announcements

There is an opportunity to serve as Grace Hill's Everence Advocate. The Everence Advocate attends informational meetings and completes grant applications. If you would like to serve in this way, please contact Kim Claassen.

CHURCH OFFICES

Pastor's Office Hours:

Tuesday & Thursday - Mornings, Wednesday - Afternoon, Friday - day off

Pastor: Weldon Martens

Email: weldon.martens@gmail.com

Director of Youth Ministry: Joshua Janzen

Email: joshuadjanzen@bethelks.edu

Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen

Secretary's E-mail: secretary@gracehillmc.org

Et Cetera

KIPCOR Film Series continues with Groundswell Rising, February 21 at 3 p.m., about citizen opposition to fracking, Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center at Bethel College. Talk-back session with a panel including filmmaker Renard Cohen, and a reception with music, to follow.

Mennonite Agri-Urban has just finished another successful year and you are invited to help us celebrate. Anyone interested in learning about our organization and everyone who donated feed and worked with Agri-Urban cattle is invited to a faspas on Sunday, February 21 at Eden Mennonite Church, rural Moundridge. Drop in between 3:30 and 5:00 p.m. Information about the organization, a financial report and written reports from our beneficiaries will be available. A special thanks to all those who raised cattle and donated feed again this year. Proceeds from the cattle sales benefit Western District Conference, Mennonite Church USA and Bethel College.

Criminal Justice System, What Can We Do? You're invited to join the conversation as Mennonite Central Committee Central States dives into this broad topic. Speakers will share on various aspects and from a variety of viewpoints on the topic of the criminal justice system and our response to it. Join us in the Chapel in the H.W. Lohrenz Building on the Tabor College campus on Feb. 27 from 9am-noon. Speakers include Jill Schellenberg, Nathan Koontz, David King and Pam Nath.

MCC Comforter Blitz: March 7 12:00- 5:00, March 8 and 9 9:00-5:00 at the Journey Mennonite church at the Yoder Campus. See the flyer on the bulletin board for more information.

The 48th Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale will take place April 8 & 9 at the Kansas State Fairgrounds in Hutchinson. The sale includes a general auction, quilt auction, silent auction, quilters' corner, 5K Run/Walk for Relief and much more. See the table in the foyer for sign-up sheets for various areas where help is needed. Also, don't forget to deposit your coins in the wagon on the table for **My Coins Count!** See Mike and Kathy Balzer or Kim and Debbie Claassen if you have questions.

Prayer and Scripture Continuing Ed. Opportunity Available from AMBS-Kansas Center - AMBS-Kansas Center will host a short course on prayer and Scripture entitled "Being Formed by God through Scripture." This course is open to anyone interested in learning how Scripture shapes our prayer practices. This course will be led by Kathryn Damiano, a spiritual director of 33 years and adjunct professor for AMBS-Great Plains. The course will meet on April 9, 16, 23, and 30 from 9:30-11:30am at Mennonite Church of the Servant in Wichita (2401 N. Woodland, Wichita, KS 67204). If interested in taking this course for masters-level credit or if you have any questions, please contact Katherine Goerzen (kgoerzen@ambs.edu) for more information. The cost of this continuing education course is only \$50 for WDC participants who register before March 19. This is a savings of \$150. Registration will be available shortly on <https://www.ambs.edu/academics/AMBS-Kansas-Center.cfm>

New books, new books! In the last 3 months, the WDC Resource Library has added over 250 new items! We now have the latest from MennoMedia (including *Trouble I've Seen: Changing the Way the Church Views Racism* by Drew Hart, *Rewilding the Way* by Todd Wynward, and 4 volumes of the *Abundant Faith Women's Bible Study Series*). Visit our online card catalog to review these titles and the other 11,000+ resources we have available for check out at <http://mennowdc.booksys.net/opac/crl/index.html?mode=start#menuHome> Also available are Lent and Easter resources for worship planning, personal devotion, and family celebration. To request books: reserve online (requires library card), email crlib@mennowdc.org or call 316-283-6300. I look forward to helping connect you with the right resource. -Jennie Wintermote, WDC Resource Library Director

Hold the dates! "Held Together in Mission" is the theme the WDC Executive Board has identified for Annual Assembly, July 29-30 at Bethel College in North Newton. Reference Council sessions in 2016 will also explore this theme in both rural and urban settings, as opportunity to share worship, stories, and conversation about how God is at work in the diverse contexts of WDC:

-Spring Reference Council: "*Held Together in Mission: Being Church in the Rural Context*" - Saturday, April 23, 9 am - 3 pm at First Mennonite Church, Beatrice, NE

-Fall Reference Council: "*Held Together in Mission: Being Church in the Urban context*" - Saturday, October 22 in Dallas, TX (schedule/location to be announced)

All WDC board, commission and committee members, delegates, pastors and congregation members are invited to attend Reference Council sessions. Lunch and snacks will be provided. Plan now to attend, and watch for more information on registration and schedules.

Resolutions Policy: Resolutions must be submitted a minimum of 120 days prior to Annual Assembly, which will be held July 29-30. This year, resolutions must be submitted by March 31. Send to: WDC Executive Board, PO Box 306, North Newton KS 67117