

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

February 27, 2005

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Pastor: James Voth

Keyboard: Debbie Claassen

Whitewater, Kansas

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Youth Pastor: Brett Klingenberg

Chorister: Suzy Burch

The Third Sunday of Lent

Prelude

Samantha and Camille Claassen

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 *Shine, Jesus, Shine* Celebration Singers

Call to Worship

Leader: Come to the living waters!
Come with thanksgiving and song!

People: **Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.**

Leader: In the wilderness, the Lord said to Moses,
"Strike the rock, and water will flow out."
When Moses obeyed, the people received abundant water
to drink.

People: **This is the Lord's doing
Sing to the Lord a new song,
for God has done marvelous things!**

Gathering Prayer

Pastor Brett

* **Hymn of Praise No. 26** *Holy Spirit, Come With Power*

Children's Moments

Sue Ann Jantz

Special Music *A Lenten Love Song*

Celebration Singers

Morning Offering Western District Conference

Sharing and Prayers of the Church

Pastor Jim

Invitation to Prayer

Let us kneel before the Lord our Maker
For the Lord is our God and we are the sheep of God's hand.
O that today you would listen to God's voice!
Do not harden your hearts as your ancestors did in the wilderness

Prayer of Confession

O Lord forgive my impatience. I acknowledge my despair
over the problems that are never solved,
and the pain that never goes away.
Lord, help me not to harden my heart.
In your mercy, save me Lord.

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

Prayers of the Church

Words of Assurance

God knows how we are formed;
God remembers we are dust
and has compassion on those who fear him.
As high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is God's love for those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west
so far has God removed our transgressions from us.
(from Psalm 103:11-12)

* **Song of Assurance No. 145** *There's A Wideness In God's Mercy*

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

The Gospel Reading John 4:5-26

Reader: Gladys Reimer

Sermon *An Unexpected Encounter with Renewing Waters*

* **Hymn No. 582** *Guide Me O, Thou Great Jehovah*

* **Benediction**

Pastor Jim

* **Sending Hymn No. 427** *You Shall Go Out With Joy* Pastor Brett

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

We want to thank the entire Grace Hill Church family for walking with us through Bob's four and one-half month journey with leukemia followed by his death. We felt your support through your prayers, visits, cards, food and memorial gifts and other ways that you showed your care and compassion. In many ways, you were always there for us. Thank you, Pastor Jim and Pastor Brett for your wonderful care. Your love was felt beyond measure. "Our God is a Great God" and we know that He is ever present with us. Thank you to all!

Judy Janzen
Jeff and Leel
Mike, Jodi, Madison & Grant

Western District Conference: Pray for the deacons/elders of your congregation as they discern and provide spiritual leadership.

Mennonite Mission Network: As Liberia approaches elections in 2005, MMN workers Hank and Marilyn Rossiter request prayer that peace and stability might continue and a fair and just government may be established.

Today at 4:00 p.m. Wheat State Manor Vesper Service – Pursuers S.S. Class is in charge. Also at Wheat State this week: Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. – mending and Friday at 3:00 p.m. – bingo.

Wednesday 6:10 p.m. Kid's Meal at the church*
7:00 p.m. Children's and Youth Programming
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

Next Sunday at noon Business Council will meet at the home of K. John Klaassen.

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 **9:30 a.m. (not at 9:15 a.m. as previously announced)** 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

The Junior Youth Group is planning on attending the rescheduled Steven Curtis Chapman concert held on Sunday, March 13. Tickets are \$24.00 per person. If you are planning on attending, please give money, a list of names and number of tickets needed to Tim or Lisa Schmidt as soon as possible. If you are not a Junior Youth Group member, but would like to attend, Tim or Lisa will be glad to pick up tickets for you.

SMILE!! It's time for a new Grace Hill pictorial directory! Olan Mills will be at the church on April 4 and 5 (Monday and Tuesday, 3:00 – 9:30 p.m.) to take pictures of our families. Check your calendars. Sign-up for picture appointments will begin next Sunday, March 6. If you have any questions, contact Debbie Claassen or Lisa Schmidt.

The Quilt for the Mennonite Relief Sale is on display in the Fellowship Hall.

The Mennonite Relief Sale is April 8 and 9 in Hutchinson. What can you bring as your gift to the hungry and hurting at home and abroad? Quality woodwork and needlework items, cotton tea towels, hobby items, crafts, plants and baked foods are much in demand. Also requested are "recycled" quilt supplies and linens for Quilter's Corner. There are also many opportunities to help – sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board in the foyer. And don't forget to leave your extra change in the penny jug in the foyer! Questions? – contact Kendall Claassen or Kim or Debbie Claassen.

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.

Et Cetera

Sunday-Afternoon-at-the-Museum this afternoon 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.

You are cordially invited by the Newton area Church Women United to participate in a celebration of World Day of Prayer on Friday, March 4 at 7:00 p.m. at Trinity Heights United Methodist Church, Boyd and 12th Street, Newton. Chopin and Old Master Concert at 6:45 p.m. This year's recipient is Poland. All denominations welcomed.

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.

The Friends University "Singing Quakers" will be giving a concert to benefit the Mennonite Relief Sale on Sunday, March 6 at 7:00 p.m. at the Eden Mennonite Church, rural Moundridge. Everyone is invited to attend.

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 our 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.

Become a hospice volunteer. Volunteer in patient care, bereavement care, special events, or office work. The training will be held in Newton, Saturdays, March 12 and 19, 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. There is no fee or obligation. Pre-registration by phone is required. Call Donna E. Becker

at Central Homecare and Hospice, 283-8220 or 1-800-301-9499 by March 7 to reserve a place.

Mennonite Women's Spring Sunset Supper will be Thursday, March 17 at 6:00 p.m. at the Hesston Mennonite Church. Aziza Hasan will be the special guest speaker. Wendy Miller of Whitestone will lead the devotions. A trio for Eden Mennonite Church will provide special music. Contact Lois Loflin at 316-835-2529 for more information.

Mennonite Central Committee tsunami relief kits: Can you walk with us the second mile? Thank you for your generous response of relief kits for tsunami survivors. We are nearing our original goal of 1,000 kits but have been asked to increase to 2,100 kits from Central States. The deadline is extended until mid-March. Help us double the blessings as MCC partners with sisters and brothers around North America and Europe to fulfill our commitment to the Indonesian Mennonite churches who are assisting their neighbors in need. We encourage those at a distance to contribute cash designated "tsunami relief kits." See www.mcc.org for more information and kit contents (or check the bulletin board), or call 316-283-2720.

Nursery This Sunday: Bonita Schroeder and Emily Burch
Nursery Next Sunday: Nancy Harms and Jana Harms

Keyboard Next Sunday: Chelsea Vaught
Special Music Next Sunday: Cherub Choir
Ushers Next Sunday: Lon Hiebert and Dean Patterson

Offering Last Sunday: Western District Retreat Program \$828.10
Offering Next Sunday: Mennonite Church USA

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
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Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen *1-888-516-8474
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