

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

March 1, 2015

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Musician: Ellen Mosiman

Song Leader: Gladys Reimer

Transition Pastor: Randy Smith

UPSIDE DOWN AND INSIDE OUT

Second Sunday of Lent

Where do you belong?

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude to Worship

*Call to Worship

Psalm 22

I will declare your name in the assembly;
In the congregation I will praise you.

You who fear the Lord, praise him!

All you descendants of Jacob, honor God.

**All you descendants of Israel, stand in awe
before the Lord.**

**All the ends of the earth will remember and
turn to the Lord.**

**All the families of the nations will worship
before the Lord.**

Dominion belongs to the Lord;

The Lord rules over the nations.

All the proud of the earth will feast and worship;

All who go down to the dust will kneel

before the Lord,

and I shall live for him.

*Praise Hymn

Holy, holy, holy

Hymnal 120

*Prayer

Offering

Children's Story

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

The Shadow of the Cross

Mark 6:1-6

Extinguishing the Light

Silent Reflection

Kim Claassen

The Light Behind the Cross

Guided Confession

Kyrie eleison (3 times)

Hymnal 144

Scripture Lesson Mark 5:1-20

Sermon

What about the Pigs?

K. John Klaassen

O God, how we have wandered

Sharing and Prayer

Sing the Story 58

The Good News of the Cross

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The Lord's Prayer

**Marvelous grace of our loving Lord*

Hymnal 151

*Benediction

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.

Amen

This morning's offering is designated for Mennonite Church USA.

*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!

Church Events

Wednesday at 6:15 p.m. All Church Meal – everyone is invited!

We are having meals every Wednesday through March 11.

Menu this week: Hamburgers

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

Wednesday

7:00 p.m. Junior Dept. Programming

7:00 p.m. Adult Choir

March 6, 8 & 10 Grace Hill week at the Harvey County Homeless Shelter. Please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board to help provide food or volunteer.

Monday, March 9 at 1:30 p.m. Hands of Friendship will meet at church. Program: Bake peppernuts for MCC; Hostess & Devotions: Marge Harms & Rita Patterson; Financial Projects: Mennonite Women USA.

Remember to “spring forward” one hour on Saturday night.

For Sharing and Prayer

Randy Smith's father, William Smith, passed away on Wednesday, February 25. The service will be Saturday, March 7, at Belin United Methodist Church in Murrell's Inlet, South Carolina. Randy and Ann plan to leave this afternoon and will be gone all week. Eric Massanari, chaplain at Kidron-Bethel, will bring the sermon on March 8. For pastoral care needs, please contact a member of the Spiritual Council: Carl Goossen, Judy Janzen, Russ Janzen, Rita Patterson, Alma Schmidt, Jeff Toews.

Our families want to thank everyone for your thoughts, prayers, cards and other acts of kindness over the last two months as we dealt with dad's illness and death. We greatly appreciate our Grace Hill family.

The family of Melvin Klaassen -K. John and Valerie,
Linda and Gary, Chuck and Liz, Ellen and Rex

Western District Conference: Praise God for Marlene Bogard's 25 years as Resource Librarian and Minister of Christian Formation with Western District Conference. Pray for God's wisdom and strength as she begins her work as Executive Director of Mennonite Women USA.

Mennonite Mission Network: Pray for Mennonite Mission Network personnel in Paris, France – Janie and Neal Blough, Linda Oyer, and Brad and Brenna Steury Graber – as they help youth and adults in their congregations and communities make sense of the recent violence. May they help provide a Jesus-centered perspective to the outrage and anger.

Church Family News

Edgar Harder returned home this past week after spending time with physical therapy at Wheat State Manor . . . **Virgil Penner** has provided the painting of the crucifixion by local artist Vernon Rickman displayed in the sanctuary **Laurie Dove** is recovering at home following a scheduled surgery on Thursday . . .

The Mark scriptures for Lent each Sunday represent contrasting responses to Jesus. The remaining texts are:

March 8 – Mark 7:1-9; 6:30-44

March 15 – Mark 8:11-15; 8:22-30

March 22 – Mark 10:17-22; 10:46-52

March 29 – Mark 11:15-18; 11:28-34

Pastor Search Committee Update: The following people have been called by the Administrative Council to serve on the Pastor Search Committee: Doug Claassen, Roberta Harms, David Janzen, K. John Klaassen, Kaye Penner, Rob Schunn and Ken Wiebe. Their focus in the short-term will be compiling information about Grace Hill and completing a Congregational Information Form (CIF) that will be presented to prospective pastors to help them learn about our church. This process will most likely include a congregational survey. The completed form will be made available to the congregation prior to being posted on the Western District Conference website (which is part of the formal Mennonite Church USA pastor search process). The Administrative Council would like to remind the congregation that the formal search process of reviewing/interviewing pastoral candidates will not start until after an affirmative vote from the congregation at some point in the coming months. If you have questions about the search process, please contact Tim Harms, Administrative Council Chairperson.

Organizational Structure Task Force Update: The following people have been called by the Administrative Council to serve on the Organizational Structure Task Force: Kim Claassen, Tim Harms and Virgil Penner. The task force will be working with Pastor Randy at potential organizational structure changes for Grace Hill with an emphasis on increased leadership, gift discernment, core ministries (congregational care, missions/outreach, etc), as well as visioning for the future of the Church. Please contact a member of the Task Force if you have questions.

Et Cetera

Ya'll come! We're saying goodbye to Marlene Bogard on Sunday, March 1, from 3-5 p.m. at the WDC office. Come and go, refreshments served.

Third in the KIPCOR 2014-15 film series, the 2013 documentary *Released*, March 1 at 3 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium, Luyken Fine Arts Center. Four convicted felons are released from prison and manage to defy the odds (which are that 66 percent of freed felons will be back behind bars within three years); talk-back session follows with Steve Dechant, retired deputy warden at Hutchinson Correctional Facility.

Remington Area "Hunger Challenge" Packing Event (40,000 meals going to the hungry in Vietnam) Saturday, March 7 – Shift 1: 9 – 11 a.m., Shift 2: 11 am to 1 pm. at Remington High School. Register to volunteer at www.hsminc.org (You do not have to give funds to volunteer.) See last Sunday's insert for more details, extras are in the foyer.

2015 MCC Comforter Blitz sponsored by Kansas Friends of MCC will be March 9 – noon to 9:00 p.m. & March 10 – 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Journey Mennonite Church at Yoder Campus. See the poster on the bulletin board for more details.

Women, reserve Thursday, March 26, for an evening of fellowship and inspiration at Hesston Mennonite Church, Hesston. The annual Spring Supper will feature Carolene Jackson, speaker. Carolene has been a public school educator in Oklahoma and now teaches university courses part-time and serves as a literacy coach. Her seven young grandchildren bring her much delight. A light supper will be served at 6:00 p.m. Cost is \$6.00 per person. The program will include music by the talented McKinney Sisters from Moundridge. An offering for Mennonite Women USA will be received. This event is for women of all ages of South Central Conference and Western District Conference and their guests. Reservations are required by March 16th. Contact Agnes Harder from our church or add your name to the signup sheet on the bulletin board. You may also contact Amanda Rempel, secretary of WDWM, directly: 316-284-0470 or carempel@sbcglobal.net.

Don't miss this once-in-a-generation event! Make plans now to attend PA 2015, the Global Assembly of Mennonite World Conference. Prepare to be transformed as you worship and fellowship with Anabaptist brothers and sisters from around the world. Experience the global Church through five days of great music, inspirational speakers from different countries, small sharing groups, tours, workshops, and much more. PA 2015 will be held July 21-26, 2015 in Harrisburg, PA. Register online now at <https://www.mwc-cmm.org/pa2015>.

Freezing temperatures and snow are adding another layer of deprivation to Syrians and Iraqis who have been forced from their homes to escape violence from the Islamic State group and battling armies in Syria. Mennonite Central Committee is calling for financial donations as it provides heating fuel and blankets this winter and continues to address basic needs of food, shelter and education throughout the year. In addition, MCC welcomes contributions of blankets and comforters to replenish the more than 18,500 that were sent to Iraq, Lebanon, Jordan and Syria for the winter months. You can donate to the Syria and Iraq crisis response and learn how to contribute blankets at mcc.org.

Announcements

The Whitewater & Potwin Food Pantries are in need of items throughout the year. A basket for goods is located in the foyer by the front entrance.

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: Joyce Wedel and Quinn Dove

Nursery Next Sunday: Kaye Penner and Rita Patterson

Ushers Next Sunday: Doug Hiebert and Russell Janzen

Offering Last Sunday: Western District Conference \$1,218.00

Offering Next Sunday: Local Church

CHURCH OFFICES

Pastor's Office Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 a.m.-Noon, Thursday 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Transition Pastor: Randy Smith

Email: transitionpastor@gmail.com

Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen

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