

Grace Hill Mennonite Church

Worship – 9:30am / Sunday School – 10:45am

March 4, 2018

"Spiritual House Cleaning"

Third Sunday in Lent

PRELUDE

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- PIANO INTERLUDE -

CALL TO WORSHIP

PSALM 19

Leader: The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul.
The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making
wise the simple.

People: *The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the
heart. The commands of the Lord are radiant,
giving light to the eyes.*

All: **May these words of our mouths and the
meditations of our hearts be pleasing in your
sight, O Lord, our Rock and our Redeemer.**

* GATHERING SONG

"Teach Me, O Lord"

HWB 487

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

God, we call you ruler of all, but sometimes we make excuses.
We try to avoid applying your rules to our actions and interests.
At other times, we hold so tightly to rules that we break
relationships.

It is easier to imagine that you are like us than it is for us to be
like you.

We judge ourselves by success; you judge us by how we treat
others.

Help us to face our truth.

Forgive us when we sin.

Give us the courage to live as you love.

Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (LEADER)

Psalm 118:27, 29

The LORD is God, and in the darkness of our sinfulness he has
given us the light of salvation. O give thanks to the LORD, for
he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever. Amen.

OFFERING TO GOD

MENNONITE CHURCH USA

Offertory

**Doxology* (Psalm 100)

HWB 119

"MY COINS COUNT"

OFFERING FOR MCC SALE

CHILDREN'S STORY

SCRIPTURE READING

John 2:13-22

LENT THEME SONG "*Christ, We Do All Adore Thee*" HWB 105

SERMON "*Spiritual House Cleaning*"

HYMN "*Breathe on Me, Breath of God*" HWB 356

SHARING AND CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

LENTEN SENDING "*I Bind My Heart This Tide*" (vs. 3) HWB 411

* BENEDICTION

*Indicates those comfortable in doing so, please stand.

- Following the children's story children to age 5 may be dismissed to the library for childcare.
- The Adult Sunday School classes will begin 10 minutes after the service is over. Everyone is welcome!

Serving in Worship

Pastor

Weldon Martens

Scripture Reader

Kris Goossen

Keyboard

Ellen Mosiman

Song Leader

Bonita Schroeder

Greeters

Allen & Elaine Patterson

Ushers

Lucas Goossen & Dean Patterson

Nursery

Kris Goossen & Bethany Regehr

For Sharing and Prayer

Thank you to all of you dear friends and fellow church members for the well-wishes, the cards, the prayers, the calls and the e-mails that I have received. Thank you to Pastor Weldon for his visits. Chemotherapy is going as well as can be expected. We know that we have a loving and caring God. And we know that we cannot drift beyond his love and care.

Kaye Penner

Western District Conference: Pray for WDC congregations as they seek to follow Jesus' way of peace in response to the many forms of violence in our communities, nation and world.

Mennonite Mission Network: Pastors and their wives who minister in Ukraine's militarized zone look forward to a retreat this month. Mary Raber of Mennonite Mission Network, serving as a resource person, requests prayer for a restful gathering for those who have given their all to congregations for several stress-filled years.

Church Events

Wednesday at 6:15 p.m. All Church Meal – followed by Weldon's Weekly Wisdom – everyone is invited!

Menu this week: Sloppy Joes & Root Beer Floats

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

Wednesday at 7:45 p.m. Leadership Council meets.

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

Monday, March 26 at 1:00 p.m. Hands of Friendship will be making peppernuts for the MCC Sale.

Et Cetera #1

KIPCOR Film Series presents The Empathy Gap: Masculinity and the Courage to Change, Sunday, March 4 at 3 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center at Bethel College.

The Newton Et Cetera Shop is hiring a **housewares sorter/receiver** for 20-30 hours/week. The sorter/receiver maintains an active presence in the processing area, in both receiving and sorting donations. S/he will be primarily responsible for sorting through houseware donations, placing items in appropriate price categories, recycling and discarding, as needed. The full job description and applications are available at the store (619 N. Main in Newton) or via e-mail at generalmanager@newtonetceterashop.com. Applications are due Monday, March 5, and can be submitted in person to the general manager or by e-mail.

2018 MCC Comforter Blitz March 5-7 at Journey Church, 3605 E. Longview Road, Yoder. March 5 from 10am-5pm, March 6 from 9am-5pm, March 7 from 9am-4pm. Questions? Call or email Shirley Jost at 785-250-7437 or jostshi@cox.net. Sponsored by Kansas Friends of MCC.

The WDC/SCC Women's Spring Supper will be at 6 p.m. on Thursday, March 15, at Whitestone Mennonite Church, 629 Crescent Drive in Hesston. Meal (Ham, potatoes & more) for \$10 by Whitestone Mennonite Youth with payment to them. Program at 7 p.m. with Joanna Gerber Pinkerton, daughter of Mennonite missionaries in the Belgian Congo, on *Faith in Everyday Life*. Music, *Sadie and the Prowlers*, from Hesston College. Offering for AIMM, Women's Literacy training in the Congo. Checks made to WDWM and memo line AIMM. Reservations due by March 8 to Marlene Faul, 316-283-3342 or westerndistrictwomen@gmail.com.

Youth attack! Those in grades 7-12 are invited to descend like hordes upon Camp Mennoscah on March 16-17 for the Youth Volunteer Weekend. There will be singing, worship, s'mores, service projects, and likely some silliness. Rachel Miller and Isaac Entz will lead the frivolities. This is your chance to stay in the Retreat Center because of the kitchen renovations! Parents and sponsors do not need to attend. Register online at campmennoscah.org or call 620-297-3290 for assistance. Come join the fun!

On March 18-19, the Mennonite churches of Beatrice, NE will host "Faith, Hope, and the Mission of Rural and Small Town Churches", a WDC Year of Evangelism event. Brad Roth, pastor at West Zion, Moundridge, and author of *God's Country: Faith, Hope, and the Future of the Rural Church* will be the speaker. A workshop session for pastors and church leaders has been added to the schedule on the afternoon of March 19. Detailed information can be found at: <http://mennowdc.org/year-of-evangelism/>.

Healthy circulation in Western District Conference (WDC) results from wide input from our congregations! Pray for WDC Gifts Discernment Committee as they begin once again to gather names of those willing to serve on WDC committees. Contact your pastor if you have suggestions for names.

We are a sponsoring church for Community Playschool, a preschool that has been in operation in the Newton area for over 50 years. A board of directors made up of representatives from each sponsoring church, the parents, the community and the teachers governs Playschool. The staff consists of a paid director and volunteer teachers and helpers. The school is housed at the Bethel College Mennonite Church. Many changes have occurred over the years and once again it is time to look at the structure of the directorship. The governing board has decided to hire an assistant director with succession planning in mind and would like your help in recruiting for this position. This would be a half time position. If you or someone you know might be interested please give prayerful consideration and send inquiries to current director, Jeanette Leary at the Bethel College Mennonite Church, 316-283-3667. If you have further questions please contact Courtney Nethercot or Karma Hill as our church's representative to the board.

Hello, kitchen staff wannabes! Camp Mennoscah is searching for warm-hearted and fun kitchen staff and volunteers to be part of our summer youth camp ministry. Some weeks fill up quickly. Kitchen helpers can receive a camper discount up to full camp fees (limited number per week). Contact us at 620-297-3290 or olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org with questions or to sign up! You'll be in the newly renovated kitchen!

Et Cetera #2

We've got 8 weeks! Camp Mennoscah has 8 summer camps for youth in grades 3-12 (fall 2018) and we want you to come. We're discovering amazing adventures in God's love and seeking God in creation and community. Register for your adventure at Camp Mennoscah at campmennoscah.org. Early registration discount until May 1 when full camp fees are paid!

50th Annual Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale, April 13-14, in Hutchinson, the theme is "Praising God through Service".

- See the table in the foyer for sign-up sheets and other information. Pie tins and bread sacks coming soon!
- Stay up-to-date on all things relating to Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale by liking us on Facebook at Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale or our website at www.kansas.mccsale.org. Also, download the new Kansas MCC sale app by clicking on the link on our homepage.

REMEMBERING 50 years of the Relief Sale in Kansas In 1988 a new venture was child care for kids 1-5 years of age. Teenagers and adults interacted with the kids bringing smiles to the faces of both the young and the old. The Beef Walk began at Ebenfeld Church after a time of worship and the Dairy Walk began in Kingman after devotions. The walks ended at the Fairgrounds just in time for the sale of all the animals donated to the Sale. The combined walks raised \$60,000. Rain was present on Sale day, the number of quilts was down, the number of bidders was down but the result in dollars raised was very close to the previous year with 40 less quilts. Maynard Shelly who Chaired the Publicity Committee indicated that the Sale is one of the major inter-Mennonite events. MCC received \$400,000 from the work and contributions of many. Praising God through Service.

Announcements

If you would like to be added to the schedule to read scripture on Sunday morning or you are currently on the schedule and would like to no longer be listed, contact Donna Balzer at donnabalzer@hotmail.com. The next schedule begins in April.

Nursery Next Sunday: Katherine Claassen and Kaye Penner

Greeters Next Sunday: John and Miriam Claassen

Ushers Next Sunday: Doug Hiebert and Adrian Nethercot

Offering Last Sunday: Western District Conference \$1,063.35

Offering Next Sunday: Local Church

CHURCH OFFICES

Pastor's Office Hours:

Wednesday - Afternoon, Friday - day off

Pastor: Weldon Martens

Email: weldon.martens@gmail.com

Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen

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