

Grace Hill Mennonite Church

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

March 5, 2017

"Restore Us, O God! We Hunger!"

First Sunday in Lent

PRELUDE

* GATHERING SONG "I Sing the Mighty Power of God" HWB 46

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- GATHERING INTERLUDE -

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In the midst of myriad distractions, we gather, longing for you.

All: Restore us, O God! We hunger.

Leader: In the midst of the temptation to live in fear, we gather, trusting in you.

All: Restore us, O God! We hunger.

Leader: In the midst of the challenges of daily living, we gather, craving your presence.

All: Restore us, O God! We hunger.

Leader: Come, worship the One who feeds our deepest hungers and sustains us with love.

* GATHERING SONG "I Am the Bread of Life" HWB 472

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: God of abundance, you give us *all* we need. We confess that, too often, we focus on what we *don't* have. We forget that it is you who truly sustains us. Forgive us. Satisfy us with your steadfast love, and

help us to take refuge in remembering that what you provide is good. It is enough.

(Pause for silent confession)

Leader: God of abundant grace,

All: restore us.

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord and be glad. Sing praises to the Lord! Taste and see that the Lord *is* good.

OFFERING TO GOD

Mennonite Church USA

Offertory

*Doxology (Psalm 100)

HWB 119

CHILDREN'S STORY

SHARING AND CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

* SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 4:1-11

SERMON

"Just Say No"

"JESUS, TEMPTED IN THE DESERT" - QUARTET

LENTEN RITUAL: COMMUNION

Communion Song

"Taste and See"

STJ 86

* BENEDICTION

*Indicates those comfortable in doing so, please stand.

- After the Children's story children to age 5 may be dismissed to the library for childcare.
- 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!

Serving in Worship

Pastor

Weldon Martens

Scripture Reader

Deb Hiebert

Keyboard

Joel Brejda

Song Leader

Penny Hiebert

Quartet

Penny Hiebert, K. John & Valerie Klaassen, Curt Regehr

Children's Story

Valerie Klaassen

Greeters

Allen & Elaine Patterson

Ushers

Lucas Goossen & Terry Klaassen

Nursery

Kris Janzen & Bethany Regehr

For Sharing and Prayer

Western District Conference: Pray for pastor Jaime Cazares whose ordination will be celebrated at Iglesia Menonita Casa Betania, Newton, at 3 pm today.

Mennonite Mission Network: A Mennonite Mission Network family with two young children is serving in Turkey. Pray that this family may hold the light and hope of Jesus in an uncertain political environment, and that they may find friends and other believers to encourage them in difficult times.

Church Events

Wednesday at 6:15 p.m. All Church Meal and following the meal, Family Night Bible Study for all ages – everyone is invited!

Menu this week: BBQ Meatballs

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

Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. Leadership Council meets.

Thursday at 8:00 a.m. Senior Breakfast at the Whitewater Café.

Thursday at 7:30 p.m. Missions Council meets.

Announcements

Debbie Claassen is planning to participate in the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale 5K Run on April 8. If you would like to sponsor her and help raise money for Mennonite Central Committee, please give donations to her by April 5. Checks should be made to KMRS and labeled "Run for Relief" on the memo.

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.

Nursery Next Sunday: Katherine Claassen and Marge Harms

Greeters Next Sunday: John and Miriam Claassen

Ushers Next Sunday: Doug Hiebert and Adrian Nethercot

Offering Last Sunday: Western District Conference \$1,429.00

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

Et Cetera #1

Today, March 5, at 3 p.m., Pastor Jaime Cazares' ordination will be celebrated during the worship service at Iglesia Menonita Casa Betania. Worship services are held in the sanctuary of First Mennonite Church, Newton. A time of fellowship will be enjoyed after the service. Anyone interested in encouraging and joining the celebration with Pastor Jaime is welcome.

"Make a Joyful Song: Celebrating the Legacy of Walter Jost" is the theme of the Newton Chorale's 40th season concert on Sunday, March 5, 6:30 pm at Bethel College Mennonite Church, North Newton. Director Renae Schmidt Peters has included many of Jost's favorite works, including Harold Moyer's "Songs of Faith." Admission is free with an offering taken to help cover concert expenses.

Hopeful Blues, a 5-piece instrumental ensemble from Hope Mennonite Church, Wichita, extends an invitation to a benefit concert March 5 at 7:00 p.m. at First Mennonite Church, Halstead, 427 W 4th St, Halstead. Many of the selections performed originate in the Mennonite Church USA conference hymnals and songbooks, ranging from traditional to gospel to jazz. A freewill offering will be taken with all proceeds to be donated to Camp Mennoscah. CD's will be available for purchase, as well. Members of Hopeful Blues are: Eldon Chlumsky (djembe), Galen Fast (saxophone and other woodwinds), Leon Greaser (guitar), Rod Kremer (bass), and Laurie Regehr (piano).

The MCC Comforter Blitz will take place March 6: 10 am to 5 pm; March 7: 9 am to 5 pm; March 8: 9 am to 4 pm at Journey Mennonite Church at Yoder, 3605 E. Longview Road, Yoder. Sponsored by Kansas Friends of MCC. Lunch available for a donation each day. At the 3-day Blitz in 2016, 385 women from 69 churches completed 287 comforters for MCC. Questions? Call or email Shirley Jost 785-250-7437 or email jostshi@cox.net.

Youth Volunteer Weekend has room for more Youths! Camp Mennoscah welcomes more folks in grades 7-12 to come out for worship and service during our Youth Volunteer Weekend on March 10-11. Additional time to talk about faith has been added and there will be singing and time for games! Register online at campmennoscah.org or call us at 620-297-3290.

Et Cetera #2

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary and Western District Conference will host a reception on Sunday, March 12 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. to honor the ministry of the AMBS-Kansas Center. The reception will be held at the Western District Offices, 2517 N. Main Street, North Newton, Kansas. Words of gratitude and blessing will be offered at 4:00 p.m. The center provided numerous continuing education events for congregational and pastoral leaders over the last three years.

63rd Anniversary Dinner, Prairie View, Inc. – March 28 - 6:30 p.m. – 1901 E. First Newton, Special Guests: Mark and Nanette Potter. Mr. and Mrs. Potter will present “Victory over Depression.” Mark Potter is entering his 19th year as the head coach of the Newman men's basketball program. Eleven years ago, Potter knew something wasn't right and he began a downward spiral into a world of darkness. Potter missed eight games and 25 practices due to severe depression. Since that time, he has been on a crusade to educate people about depression and encourage others suffering from mental illness to seek assistance. His passion is to share his story in hopes that people will pursue treatment and find a way to live productively with mental illness. Proceeds from ticket sales support the mission of Prairie View. Tickets - \$20. RSVP – Brandy Beer 316-284-6443

Retirees Relaxation Retreat is ready for you! Retirees of all ages are invited to come to Camp Mennoscah on April 24-26 for a time of community, coffee breaks, conversation, and Bible study. Amanda Rempel will lead us in music, Stan and Marlene Smucker will share Bible study, and we'll hear stories of courage, faith, and journeys. Contact us at 620-297-3290 or office@campmennoscah.org to register! Online registration also available at campmennoscah.org.

Sister Care Level 2 “Going Deeper” will take place May 5-7 at the Spiritual Life Center in Wichita. Presenters are Rhoda Keener and Carolyn Heggen. Sister Care seminars provide women with tools for ongoing personal healing and for responding more effectively to the needs of others. Sister Care seminars are a ministry of Mennonite Women USA. For more information, see the brochures on the bulletin board or contact Pam Schrag at 316-217-1448 or WesternDistrictWomen@gmail.com.

Spring cleaning? Please bring your clean, gently-used clothing to the Newton Et Cetera Shop! We welcome all styles and sizes of clothing, but could especially use children's clothing. Your donated clothing (and other goods) get a second life in a new home, stay out of the landfill, and help us support those in need--nearby through our Local Giving grants, and around the world through Mennonite Central Committee. Every donation helps us keep the store fresh and fun! Thank you for your support!

Newton Et Cetera Shop invites applications to their annual Local Giving grant process. Local Giving grants are made available each spring by the Newton Et Cetera Shop board of directors. Application forms may be downloaded at newtonetceterashop.com and must be submitted by e-mail to localgiving@newtonetceterashop.com by April 7, 2017. More than \$20,000 will be awarded to selected groups by June 2017, in amounts up to \$5,000. Applicants for the Local Giving grants must hold legal nonprofit status and operate out of and serve Newton, Hesston, Goessel, Moundridge, Whitewater, Elbing, Halstead or Walton. Applicants do not need to have a religious affiliation or mission, but they must function in a manner consistent with Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) and be guided by purposes consistent with MCC's.

Kitchen helpers needed! We think kitchen helpers are some of the greatest people ever, giving a week (sometimes more or less) of their summer to laugh, cook meals, and be friends during our youth camps. Camp Mennoscah is looking for men and women to help peel potatoes, stir pots, and basically follow directions. Contact us at olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org or 620-297-3290 for information. We can't wait to see all you great folks at camp!

The Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale will be April 7 & 8 at the Kansas State Fairgrounds in Hutchinson. The theme this year is “You Did It For Me” from Matthew 25:40. Dates to remember: **March 13** – Quilt Auction Deadline; **April 1** – Bohne Beroggi Making at Moundridge High School; **April 4** – Verenike Making at Hillsboro Fairgrounds. See the table and bulletin board in the foyer for sign-up sheets and all kinds of information! For even more information about the sale, go to www.kansas.mccsale.org or Facebook.