

# GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

March 8, 2015

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Musician: Ellen Mosiman

Worship Leader: Roberta Harms

Whitewater, Kansas

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Song Leader: Bonita Schroeder

Transition Pastor: Randy Smith

## **UPSIDE DOWN AND INSIDE OUT**

**Third Sunday of Lent**

**What voice do you hear?**

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude to Worship

\*Call to Worship

Psalm 19

The heavens declare the glory of God;  
the skies proclaim the work of God's hands.  
Day after day they pour forth speech;  
night after night they make God known.

**They have no speech.**

**They use no words.**

**No sound is heard from them.**

Yet their voice goes out into all the earth,  
Their words to the ends of the world.

**May the words of my mouth and the meditation**

**of my heart be pleasing in your sight,**

**O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.**

\*Praise Hymn

*I'll praise my Maker*

Hymnal 166

\*Prayer

Offering

Special Music

Jeff Toews

Children's Story

Valerie Klaassen

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

The Shadow of the Cross

Mark 7: 1-9

Extinguishing the Light

Silent Reflection

Kim Claassen

The Light Behind the Cross

Guided Confession

*Jesus, rock of ages*

Hymnal 515

Scripture Lesson

Mark 6:30-44

Cody Claassen

Sermon

Eric Massanari

*"Even the best-laid plans..."*

*\*I want to walk as a child of the light*

Sing the Journey 95

Sharing and Prayer

The Good News of the Cross

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The Lord's Prayer

*\*I heard the voice of Jesus say*

Hymnal 493

\*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 Local Church Missions.

\*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**

**Welcome Eric Massanari** to Grace Hill Mennonite Church. Thank you for bringing the sermon this morning. Eric is chaplain at Kidron-Bethel and former pastor of Shalom Mennonite Church.

**Western District Conference:** Pray for wise discernment for the Search Committee and Chair Sondra Bandy Koontz as they seek a new Executive Conference Minister for WDC.

**Mennonite Mission Network:** Freddy and Margrit Kipfer Barrón of Mennonite Mission Network are using Alpha courses in Bolivia to strengthen existing Mennonite congregations and to lay the groundwork for new ones. Pray that God will water the seeds they are planting and that people will receive Jesus' healing and hope in their lives.

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

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

### **Announcements**

**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:** Kaye Penner and Rita Patterson

**Nursery Next Sunday:** Deb Regier and Katrina Regehr

**Ushers Next Sunday:** Mike Balzer and Kendall Claassen

**Offering Last Sunday:** Mennonite Church USA \$1,280.00

**Offering Next Sunday:** Grace Hill Youth Group

### **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](mailto:transitionpastor@gmail.com)

***Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen***

***Secretary's E-mail:*** [secretary@gracehillmc.org](mailto:secretary@gracehillmc.org)

## Church Events

**Monday 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.

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

**Menu this week:** Pizza

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

This will be our last meal and last evening of programming for the Junior Dept. and Adult Bible Study for the winter/spring term. Adult Choir will continue and Melinda will be in contact with the youth about the youth schedule.

**Wednesday**

**7:00 p.m.** Junior Dept. Programming

**7:00 p.m.** Youth Programming

**7:00 p.m.** Adult Choir

**7:00 p.m.** Adult Bible Study

**Thursday at 8:00 a.m.** Senior Breakfast at Curtis C's, Newton.

**The 2015 WDC Basketball Tournament** will be held March 16-17 and 19-21 at Bethel College. Grace Hill/Zion are planning to have two teams – one in each division. If you are interested in playing in Division 1 (more competitive), contact Grant Claassen (316-708-0332). If you are interested in playing in Division 2, contact Grant Klingenberg (620-877-7606). Cost will be about \$15 per person depending on how many people play. Information at: [mennowdc.org/wdc-basketball-tournament/](http://mennowdc.org/wdc-basketball-tournament/).

**Palm Sunday, March 29 at 4:00 p.m.** All are invited to a special Palm Sunday worship service at Zion Mennonite Church in Elbing on March 29 at 4 p.m., as Karen Andres and Marcene Entz offer some dramatic interpretations of Passion Week. A light fasha will follow.

**The Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale will be April 17 & 18 at the Kansas State Fairgrounds in Hutchinson.** Sign-up sheets, sign-up sheets, sign-up sheets...New Year's Cookies, Verenike Making, Verenike Frying, Verenike Selling, Ten Thousand Villages, Feeding the Multitude, Quilt Auction, Kansas Crafts....**To sign up** see the table in the foyer. **Check out the noisy cow** as you donate your coins and remember "My Coins Count"!! **Questions?** Contact Mike & Kathy Balzer or Kim & Debbie Claassen. **Check out the Relief Sale** at the website: [www.kansas.mccsale.org](http://www.kansas.mccsale.org) or the Facebook page: Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale.

## Et Cetera

**Everence Financial** will present an informational seminar, *Retiring soon?* Make sense of your Medicare and Social Security choices at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. on two upcoming Mondays –March 9 and April 13. Everence Financial Advisor Robert Wall will speak on Medicare and Social Security, provide instructions on how to enroll, explain your options if you continue to work and answer related questions. The seminars will take place at Everence Financial, 371 N. Old Highway 81, Hesston. To reserve your spot, contact Darlene Buller at (877) 467-7294, (620) 327-4043 or [darlene.buller@everence.com](mailto:darlene.buller@everence.com).

**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.

**Rev. James Atwood will speak on “America’s Fascination with Violence,”** on March 19 at 7 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center at Bethel College, sponsored by the Kansas Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (KIPCOR). The retired Presbyterian pastor is a gun owner, deer hunter and NRA member who became involved in gun violence prevention after a member of his congregation was shot and killed by a robber with a “Saturday night special.” He received the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship National Committee’s 2014 Peaceseeker Award.

**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 is from Oklahoma, teaches university courses part-time and serves as a literacy coach. 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 16<sup>th</sup>. 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 WDWDM, directly: 316-284-0470 or [carempel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:carempel@sbcglobal.net).

**Mennonite Central Committee Central States** is hiring for a regional Human Resources Coordinator. This position is available starting on April 1st. Location can be flexible and some travel is expected. Check out the job description at <http://mcc.org/get-involved/serve/openings/human-resources-coordinator-central-states> or contact Melissa Waltner at [MelissaWaltner@mcc.org](mailto:MelissaWaltner@mcc.org) for more information.

**Ervin Stutzman, Executive Director of Mennonite Church USA,** invites Western District Conference delegates to Kansas City 2015 to a meeting at Faith Mennonite Church on March 27 at 7 p.m. The purpose of the 90-minute meeting will include:

- briefly sharing the vision for the future of Mennonite Church USA, focusing on Jesus as the center of our faith, community as the center of our lives, and reconciliation as the center of our work
- providing a guide that outlines the delegates' overall responsibilities at the assembly
- explaining how the results from the online delegate survey shaped the Executive Board's decisions about the agenda
- distributing an agenda for the delegate sessions, and explaining the specific decisions which delegates will be invited to make
- providing handouts which delegates can use in congregational study groups
- engaging in a time of feedback and discussion

Interested pastors and members who are not serving as delegates, but would appreciate a first-hand briefing, are welcome as well. If you would like to connect via the internet for this meeting, notify Nancy Funk at [wdc@mennowdc.org](mailto:wdc@mennowdc.org) or 316-283-6300.

**Newton Et Cetera Shop** needs your donations! Bring your clean, gently used clothing, household items, bikes, and furniture to the back door between 9:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Monday-Friday and between 9:30 and 5:00 p.m. Saturday. Thank you for supporting Mennonite Central Committee and our local community with your donations.

**Action alert!** We need your help to support Mennonite Pastor, Max Villatoro, of Iowa City who was detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and is facing deportation. ICE arrived unannounced at Max's home at 6:30 a.m. yesterday (March 3) and didn't even give him a chance to say goodbye to his wife and children. Max has four U.S. citizen children, Anthony, Etna, Angela, and Aileen, and his wife, Gloria, who love him dearly and depend on him as a pillar for their family. Please take time to call the ICE Field Office at 888-351-4024 (choose option 2) and tell them to grant Max Villatoro a stay of removal, and explain how separating families breaks our community. Tell them that Max might be eligible for DAPA (Deferred Action for Parents of Americans), and he should be granted enough time to stay to apply once it is available. Explain to them why keeping families together is important to you, and to stop Max's deportation immediately. Max's A# is 094-338-085. You may be directed to call another number and make the case for Max to a different agent. Please call them too! The more people who hear about Max and our support of him, the better!

**The early volunteer gets the free tee shirt!** **Camp Mennoscah** is looking for volunteer kitchen staff for almost all of our summer youth camps. Kitchen volunteers receive the highly sought after free camp tee shirt and the option of a camper discount of up to full camp fees. We'd love to talk to you about the wonderful opportunities that await our kitchen staff, so give us a call at 620-297-3290 or send us an email at [office@campmennoscah.org](mailto:office@campmennoscah.org). It's a rootin', tootin' good time!