

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

March 11, 2007

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Pastor: James Voth

Keyboard: Teresa Martin

Whitewater, Kansas

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Youth Pastor: Brett Klingenberg

Chorister: Suzy Burch

Third Sunday of Lent *God pours out life-giving drink*

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

A special welcome to each of our guests! During this time we spend a few moments introducing 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 *Goodbye Grumpy Feelings* Kids in Praise

* **Words for Gathering based on Psalm 63** Pastor Brett

Leader: O God, you are our God. We seek You.

People: **Our souls thirst for You**
As in a dry and weary land
Where there is no water.

Leader: We have seen You in the sanctuary.
And know your power and glory.

People: **We will praise You and bless You as long as we live.**

All: **O God, you satisfy our souls as with a rich feast.**
In the shadow of Your wings, we sing for joy and You uphold us.

* **Gathering Hymn No. 521** *Come thou fount*

This morning Tim Harms places flowers and greenery on the stones. Out of the dry earth and stone, hope and new life emerge. A flower can grow. God forgives us even when it seems there is no hope.

Children's Moments *God satisfies our hunger and our thirst!*

Worship in Giving Local Church Missions

Sharing our Praises and our Prayers Pastor Brett

Scripture Reading Revelation 14:1-3 Kim Claassen

Anthem *Carol of the Fishermen* Celebration Singers

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

Scripture Reading Revelation 14:14-20 Kim Claassen

Message *The Harvest of the Earth*

* **Hymn No. 70** *Immortal, invisible, God only wise*

Prayer of Confession and Reconciliation

Reading of Isaiah 55:1-3a

Congregational Prayer

God of life, we listen to You,
for You alone have the words of life.

When we realize that we have paid too much attention to the
voices in our world, help us to listen to You.

Leader: When we sense the poverty of our souls ...
Help us to listen to You.

When our souls hunger for abundant life ...
Help us to listen to You.

All: In the morning and in the evening, we will listen to You!

Leader: Our Generous God provides for us!

* **Hymn of Response** *Fill us with your feast* Hymnal pocket

* **Benediction**

* **Choral Benediction** *Shine, Jesus, Shine* Celebration Singers

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!

Summary Outline – Revelation 12-14

Rev. 12 Mother of Messiah - Victory won by Christ in heaven

A woman clothed with the sun, with child – the Messiah

An enormous red dragon – *anti-God* – Satan, evil personified

Rev. 13-14 The Beasts and Lamb – The choice? Follow the Lamb or beasts

The beast out of the sea – *anti-Christ* - political power of Rome

The beast out of the earth – *anti-Holy Spirit* – portrays false religion

The triumph of the Lamb with the 144,000

Three angels proclaim the Gospel, Babylon's fall and a warning

The harvest of the earth

One “like a son of man” on a white cloud harvests the earth

An angel with a sickle harvests clusters of grapes

For Sharing and Prayer

In the hospital: Newton Medical Center

Willard Wiebe and Miriam Claassen

Thank you to the church family for supporting the High School Youth Group in their auction fundraiser last Sunday night. The church raised over \$5,000 for the youth group, which should complete our goal for San Jose. We were amazed at your generosity and support for us.

Youth Group

Pastor Brett will be on vacation March 18-26.

Western District Conference: Pray for the Gifts Discernment Committee as it begins to prepare the Tulsa '07 ballot for leadership of WDC Executive Board and Commissions.

Mennonite Mission Network: MMN workers Jeanette and Todd Hanson, China, request prayer that the Nanchong congregation will experience a renewal in its commitment to each other as a body and healing of relationships during the final phases of a long, difficult building project.

Church Events

Today at noon Home fellowship meals.

This evening at 7:00 p.m. Youth Led Worship Service. The speaker is Marty Troyer from Hesston. All are invited to attend!

Monday at 7:00 p.m. Hands of Friendship meet at church. Program: Bake peppernuts for Relief Sale; Devotions: Elaine Patterson; Hostess: Rita Patterson; Financial Project: Western District Women in Mission *Discipleship Now* and *Know Jesus*.

Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Spiritual Council meets at church.

Wednesday at 7:00 – 8:15 p.m. Children's and Youth Programming
7:00 – 7:40 p.m. Adult Bible Study
7:45 – 8:30 p.m. Adult Choir

Next Sunday at noon Home fellowship meals.

Saturday, March 24 5:00-7:00 p.m. Community German Supper at Grace Hill. Please make reservations with Virgil Penner by March 18. Cost: Adults \$10, children age 6 and under \$6. Proceeds go to the church's outreach programs. Invite your neighbors and friends!

March 27-31 Western District Basketball and Volleyball (March 30-31) Tournament. Talk to Brett Klingenberg or Rob Schunn if interested in playing basketball, talk to Debbie Claassen or Diana Schunn if interested in playing volleyball.

April 13 & 14 Mennonite Relief Sale in Hutchinson.

Announcements

The Search Committee has been formed for the Youth Pastor position and the first meeting with Dorothy Nickel Friesen, conference minister, is scheduled for March 14. Search Committee members are James Regier, Diana Schunn, Marie Wiebe, Brittany Claassen and Emily Burch.

The Health Resource Team will do blood pressure checks the second Sunday of each month in the library at 11:30 a.m. (following Sunday school). If you have any questions please contact Kaye Penner or Barb Voth.

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: Debbie Claassen and Camille Claassen
Nursery Next Sunday: Kaye Penner and Brittany Claassen

Special Music Next Sunday: Darren Enns
Keyboard Next Sunday: Linda Harms
Ushers Next Sunday: Mike Balzer and Kendall Claassen

Offering Last Sunday: Mennonite Church USA \$1,956.35
Offering Next Sunday: Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale

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
Cell phone: 316-772-6267
E-mail: brett_210@hotmail.com
Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen 1-888-516-8474
Secretary's E-mail: kimdebc@wheatstate.com
Church Website: www.gracehillmc.org

Et Cetera

A memorial service for Delton and Marian Franz will be held in the Bethel College Mennonite Church sanctuary this afternoon at 3:00 p.m. Delton, who was the first director of Mennonite Central Committee's Washington Office, died March 6, 2006. Marian, long-time director of the National Campaign for a Peace Tax Fund, died November 17, 2006.

Kathy Kelly, coordinator of Voices for Creative Nonviolence, will address "Maladjustments for Peace: Why We Won't Adjust to Racism, Poverty, and War," at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 15, in Krehbiel Auditorium on the Bethel College campus, North Newton. The event is co-sponsored by the Kansas Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (KIPCOR) and the Students for Social Change at Bethel College. The event is free and open to the public. A freewill offering for Voices for Creative Nonviolence will be taken. Call KIPCOR (316-284-5217) for further information.

The annual Spring Sunset Supper for women will be Thursday, March 15 at 6:00 p.m. at Whitestone Mennonite Church, Hesston. The theme "Women Proclaiming Jesus as Lord" will provide an evening of fellowship and inspiration. Supper will be served at 6:00 p.m. (costing \$5.00 per person) followed by a program featuring the Tom and Lois Harder family. An offering will be taken for Mennonite Women USA. This event is for women of South Central and Western District Conference and their guests. Make reservations by contacting Agnes Harder or see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

Explore The Night Sky Retreat at Camp Mennoscah! Have you ever wondered about the phases of the moon? Do you know about the Kepler Space mission? Come to Camp Mennoscah March 16-18 for our star party! We will have presentations Saturday afternoon from Mike Ford of Holton, KS, Joel Walker of the Kansas Cosmosphere, and Fred Gassert from the Kansas Astronomical Observers; telescopes ranging in size from eight inches to 16 inches and. . . we even have lousy movies to make fun of in case of cloudy skies! Cost for lodging and meals, at the Retreat Center, is \$80 per person for the weekend. For more information contact Joyce at 620-297-3290 or campmno@mennowdc.org

Living with Grief: Before and After the Death is the topic of this year's video teleconference presented by the Hospice Foundation of America. The conference will be held on Thursday, March 22, from 12:30-3:30 p.m. at Krehbiel Auditorium on the Bethel College campus with registration from 12:00-12:30 p.m. Anyone interested in knowing more about the grieving process will benefit from this conference. There is no charge unless continuing education credit is desired. Call 283-8220 for more information.

Do you sense a call to be a church planter? Ever wondered what church planters do? You are invited to attend a workshop March 23-25 in Waxahachie, TX, learn about current Western District Conference and South Central Conference initiatives, and meet others who sense God's call. Presenter is Mauricio Chenlo, Director of Church Plant Academy of Mennonite Mission Network. All sessions will be in both Spanish and English. Cost is \$136 for all costs. Contact Esther Martinez, 214-943-4207 or emartine@earthlink.net for info.

Mennonite Relief Sale Bohne Beroggi Bake Day will be April 7 at the Moundridge High School Commons. Shifts are from 6:45 – 10:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Bring a cap or hairnet and a lunch if you want. Fresh bohne beroggi will be available for purchase. If interested in working, contact Jay and Linda Goering at 620-345-2899 or jay_linda_67107@yahoo.com or contact Brad & Suzy Burch or Cal & Jo Frye.

Men and Boys Retreat at Camp Mennoscah, April 20-22. Come enjoy a weekend with the guys at the annual retreat. We'll tickle your funnybone, feed your stomach, and allow you to wear the same clothes for 3 days! Come to camp or sleep in more civilized cabins. This is for all men, not just dads and sons. Invite a friend, this is a great outreach opportunity. Bring your work clothes and guitars... we'll have projects for you workaholics and a chance to jam for you bluegrass fans. Questions? Call Brent Voran, 316-284-2657 or email: voranhomeinspections@cox.net. See the poster with all the details.

Retirees Relaxation Retreat is coming up April 23-25 with a theme of "The Good Ole Days". We will have speakers on: Early Camp Years; Bees: Stings & Honey; Building Antique Wagons; Scrolling: Sawdust to Satisfaction along with a catered meal and special music. Cost for this retreat (which includes meals) is as follows: Retreat Center \$85, Staff House \$75, Own Camper or RV \$65 (these are per person). Please contact camp for partial event fees. To reserve your spot or get more information, contact camp at 620-297-3290 or by email to: campmno@mennowdc.org

Urgent Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Relief Response to Iraq You can help more than 500,000 people who have been displaced by the war in Iraq. MCC is shipping material aid, including 4,200 relief kits and raising \$60,000 for shipping and related costs in the month of March. In Central States, we are committed to collecting 865 relief kits and \$12,000. Designate funds for "Iraq Emergency Assistance." Kits can be brought to any MCC center. Details about relief kits and other drop-off sites can be found at www.mcc.org/iraqrelief. Questions? Please call 316-283-2720. MCC is supporting peace building to address the root causes of violence and displacement throughout the Middle East. MCC believes the U.S. should take steps toward withdrawing troops, not adding more.