

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

March 19, 2006

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Pastor: James Voth

Keyboard: Emma Mae Litton and Mary Ann Wiebe

Chorister: Suzy Burch

Whitewater, Kansas

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Youth Pastor: Brett Klingenberg

Offering Offender Victim Ministries

Offertory

Emma Mae Litton

Hearing the Word

Scripture Reading 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 Pg. 1128 Casey Schunn

Letter from God based on 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 Merrill Harms

Children's Time Sara Burch

As the children come forward let us join in singing *Into My Heart*

Into my heart, Into my heart, Come into my heart, Lord Jesus;
Come in today, Come in to stay, Come into my heart, Lord
Jesus.

Children to age 5 may be dismissed to the library for childcare

Gospel Reading John 2:13-22 Pg. 1051 Cody Claassen

Lenten Memory Verse for last week Psalm 22:27

All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the LORD,
And all the families of the nations will bow down before him.

Lenten Memory Verse for the week 1 Corinthians 1:25

For the foolishness of God is wiser than man's wisdom,
and the weakness of God is stronger than man's strength.

Sermon *Getting our Attention with Stone Tablets, a Whip,
and a Cross!*

Responding

Prayer of Confession based on Psalm 19

Leader: God of wisdom, through Moses, your faithful servant,
You gave us your law;

People: God's law is perfect.

Leader: We disregard your Law,
Saying it is too difficult to follow in our busy lives.
Thinking it is obsolete and irrelevant for today's world.

People: God's commandments are clear.

Leader: Yet we ignore your commandments,
Thinking they are obsolete and irrelevant for today.

Lenten Theme: Write on our hearts

"This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time,"
declares the LORD. "I will put my law in their minds and **write it on
their hearts**. I will be their God, and they will be my people." Jeremiah
31:33

Third Sunday of Lent An Illuminating Word

Prelude Emma Mae Litton

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.

Gathering

*** Call to Worship and Prayer**

Leader: Come, beloved children of God, come worship the Lord.

**People: The Lord offers us a new way to live that
revives our souls, makes us wise,
rejoices our hearts and enlightens our eyes.**

All: We worship the Lord who teaches us true wisdom.

Leader: Let the words of our mouths
and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to You,
O Lord, our Rock and our Redeemer. Amen.

Praising

*** Calling Hymn No. 84 Oh, that I had a thousand voices**

Scripture Reading – Hymnal No. 807 The Ten Commandments

Hymn No. 161 We give thanks unto you verses 1-3

Sharing and Prayer

People: God's decrees are sure.

Leader: We have all disobeyed your decrees,
Saying they are foolish according to today's wisdom.

All: In your mercy, forgive us. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Pastor Jim

* *Sending Hymn No. 566 In the cross of Christ I glory*

* *Benediction*

Leader: Hear this promise of God:
"I will show steadfast love to all generations."

**People: The message of the cross is foolishness
to those who are perishing,
but to us who are being saved, it is the power of God.**

*All: Thanks and Praise be to our God
Forever and ever, Amen!*

* *Sending Hymn No. 127 Glory be to the Father*

Postlude

Emma Mae Litton

* 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!**

For Sharing and Prayer

The high school youth are attending Snow Camp at Rocky Mountain
Mennonite Camp in Colorado this weekend. They will return tonight.

Those attending are Emily Burch, Camille Claassen, Adam Freking, Jana Harms, Tara Harms-Becker, Cory Hiebert, Grant Hill, Daniel Klaassen, Justin Klassen, Amanda Regehr, Caleb Regehr, Emily Toews, and Kristen Toews. Sponsors: Brett Klingenberg, Cassie Friesen, Doug and Katherine Claassen, Kendall and Carol Claassen.

Pastor Brett will be attending a youth ministry conference in Elkhart, Indiana, March 21-25.

Western District Conference: Pray for Marlene Bogard, WDC Minister of Christian Nurture, as she spends sabbatical time studying, resting and writing.

Mennonite Mission Network: MMN seeks to recruit English teachers for ministry in China, South Korea and Mongolia. Pray that God will touch the hearts of people who are willing to serve in this way in these Asian countries.

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: <http://gracehill.ks.us.mennonite.net/>

Church Events

This afternoon at 2:00 p.m. Grace Hill Basketball Team: We will be playing at Remington High School on Sunday afternoons starting at 2:00

p.m. each Sunday until the big dance the week of March 27 - April 1. Come out and practice.

3:30 p.m. Volleyball practice at RHS.

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

Saturday 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. the Social Council will host a Community German Supper (sausage, verenike, zwiebach, cherry moos or cake) in the Fellowship Hall. Serving time will be 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Tickets for the supper are available from Virgil Penner. Please turn in reservations by March 21. Profits will be used for church missions. Be sure to tell your neighbors and invite a friend!

March 27 – April 1 Western District Basketball & Volleyball Tournament.

April 5 at 7:00 p.m. Book discussion: *End Of The Spear* (current movie) by Steve Saint. The story of a tribesman from the jungles of Ecuador. When five young missionaries are speared to death in 1956 by these tribesmen, a series of events change the lives of the slain missionaries' families and the tribe's people. The 1958 story *Through Gates Of Splendor* by Elizabeth Elliot is also in our church library.

April 7-8 Mennonite Relief Sale in Hutchinson.

June 5-9 Daily Vacation Bible School at Zion Mennonite, Elbing.

October 21-22 Church Retreat at Camp Mennoscah.

Announcements

Next Sunday during the Sunday School hour, the adult and high school Sunday School classes will meet together. Jim Stucky, Western

District Conference Pastor Relations Committee, will present the results of the church survey conducted in January.

Mennonite Relief Sale, April 7-8 at the State Fairgrounds in Hutchinson

- ◆ Please check the bulletin board in the foyer to sign-up to work and help make the sale a success!
- ◆ Pie tins and bread sacks are available in the foyer for those who would like to bake.
- ◆ Grant Claassen will be running in the Relief Run and would like for everyone to sponsor him to raise money for MCC. Catch him after church or Sunday School!
- ◆ The Relief Sale website is www.kansas.mccsale.org. The quilts are on display on the website.
- ◆ Any questions? Talk to Brad and Suzy Burch or Kim and Debbie Claassen.

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: Carol Claassen (Olin) and Brittany Claassen

Nursery Next Sunday: Joyce Wedel and Kaye Penner

Special Music: Celebration Singers and Praise Team

Ushers Next Sunday: Rob Schunn and Becky Voth

Offering Last Sunday: Local Church \$6,205.00

Last Sunday: Wheat State Manor Auxiliary \$218.00

Offering Next Sunday: Western District Conference

Et Cetera

Wheat State Manor Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 23 at 7:30 p.m. at the Manor. Everyone is invited to attend.

Deepening Relationships Nonviolent Communication Workshop is offered by Peace Connections on Sat., March 25, 8:30-noon. For couples, friends, families: This workshop will help you accurately hear what others need, make clear requests to get what you need and resolve conflicts by finding solutions that work for everyone. Come to learn and practice nonviolent communication skills that build on the relationships that you have with those closest to you. The workshop is taught by Jean Ryan, M.Ed., Center for Nonviolent Communication Certified Trainer. She has worked with individuals, couples, families and organizations for 8 years. Cost: \$20 individual / \$30 couple. Partial scholarships available. For more information call 316-284-0000 or stop by 612 N. Main, Newton.

Hebron Mennonite Church celebration: With the sale of the building and the contents, the Hebron congregation of Buhler will celebrate its ministry and release the building to the community on March 26, 3:00 p.m. at Buhler Mennonite Church. Everyone is invited, especially former members, pastors, and friends of the church.

Alain Epp Weaver will give a special peace lecture, "Memory against forgetting: The church and the end(s) of Palestinian refugee rights" on Monday, March 27, at 7:30 p.m. in Krehbiel Auditorium at Bethel College. Epp Weaver, who lives in Amman, Jordan, is country co-representative, with his wife, Sonia Weaver, for Mennonite Central Committee in Palestine, Jordan and Iraq. The lecture, sponsored by the Kansas Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (KIPCOR), is free and open to the public, although donations will be accepted for Sonia and Alain's work with MCC. Alain and Sonia will have received two of the three 2006 Young Alumnus awards that morning at Bethel College. For details, call KIPCOR, (316) 284-5217.

Fun for the whole family. The Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale features events for the whole family. Located outside the Meadowlark Building (Quilt Auction) is the newly organized Children's Activity Area featuring a Moon Walk, bale maze, barrel rides, and the 9-hole MCC Mini-Golf. Also, don't forget the Big Yellow Slide on the way to Feeding the Multitude. Come enjoy a weekend of fun with your family and help make a difference through your donations to MCC.

MCC Kit Supplies Needed Because of all the disasters last year, our warehouse is empty. We need supplies for kits. School kits are especially needed for a new kit-packing activity at the Kansas Relief Sale, April 7-8. Please bring kits to the Mennonite Central Committee Material Resource Center, North Newton. Thank you.

Alternatives for Simple Living Presentation offered at Peace Connections, 612 N. Main, Newton, on Sat., April 15, 12:00-1:30 pm. Gerald Iversen, Alternatives' National Coordinator, will speak on the 5 Standards of Voluntary Simplicity during the lunch hour. Bring an ingredient (fruit or vegetable) for a salad; drink & dessert provided. Call 316-284-0000 to register or for more information. Alternatives for Simple Living is a national non-profit educational organization that "equips people of faith to challenge consumerism, live justly, and celebrate responsibly." Started in 1973 as a protest against the commercialization of Christmas, Alternatives emphasizes relationships and traditions over things... to avoid stress and debt and to promote alternative giving - helping needy people instead of spending so much on ourselves. Visit www.SimpleLiving.org for more information.

Retirees' Relaxation Retreat: April 24-26 at Camp Mennoscah. Join other retirees for a time of fun and relaxation, planned activities and free time, fine dining and entertainment. Costs range from \$65-\$85 depending on housing. Pre-register by April 11. For information, contact Verney Unruh: 316-283-2298, or Joyce Pankratz: 620-297-3290.

Camp Mennoscah is now recruiting for 2006 summer staff positions which include a mixture of the following: crafts, lifeguard, groundskeeper, maintenance, music, nature, office, assistant lifeguard, maintenance/emergency counselor. You must be between the ages of 18-24. If you are interested, or know of someone who might be interested, in any of these positions, please contact Joyce Pankratz: 620-297-3290 or campmno@mennowdc.org Applications are being accepted through March 24.

Full-time management position available. The Thousand Villages - Newton. Send resume including address, e-mail and contact information to Kristen Mayhue, 22 Regal Crescent, N. Newton, KS 67117, 316-283-3660.