

# Grace Hill Mennonite Church

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

March 19, 2017

## "Restore Us, O God! We Thirst!"

### Third Sunday in Lent

PRELUDE

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*"Here By the Water"*

Praise Team

- GATHERING INTERLUDE -

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In a dry and weary land,

**All: restore us, O God.**

Leader: Parched and depleted,

**All: restore us, O God.**

Leader: Longing for your Living Water,

**All: restore us, O God.**

Leader: We thirst. Receive our worship as a sign of our yearning for you.

\* GATHERING SONG

*"Rain Down"*

STJ 49

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: O God, *you* are the Living Water. You restore us to life. We confess that in the desert moments of our lives we forget your faithfulness. Our bodies grow tired; our hearts dry up. Our minds become clouded and we do not remember that you are our deliverer.

**People: When we see the dryness behind and before us, we quarrel among ourselves and burden one another. We cry out: "Is the Lord even among us?"**

Leader: Forgive us, O Lord, for in the harshness of life's desert journey we quickly focus on ourselves. We forget that you have been, you are, and you will forever be our deliverer.

**People: Restore in us a remembering spirit that we may hope in you again. Renew our hearts, O Lord. Make us generous in our praise, that we may worship you anew!**

*(Pause for silent confession)*

Leader: God of our Living Water,

**All: restore us.**

Leader: Let all who thirst, come. Come and drink from the Living Water. Let all who have nothing, come to the Lord. Come—without money or price. Come and draw freely from the well of our Lord, which will never run dry. Amen.

OFFERING TO GOD

BETHEL COLLEGE

Offertory

\**Doxology* (Psalm 100)

HWB 119

CHILDREN'S STORY

SHARING AND CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

*"YOU ARE ALL WE HAVE"*

STJ 29

\* SCRIPTURE READING

John 4:5-30

SERMON

*"Drink From the Living Water"*

\* HYMN

*"O HEALING RIVER"*

HWB 372

\* BENEDICTION

\*Indicates those comfortable in doing so, please stand.

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- 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!

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### Serving in Worship

Pastor	Weldon Martens
Scripture Reader	Courtney Nethercot
Keyboard	Ellen Mosiman
Music	Praise Team
Greeters	Galen & Roberta Harms
Ushers	Mike Balzer & Kendall Claassen
Nursery	Kaye Penner & Quinn Dove

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### For Sharing and Prayer

**Western District Conference:** Pray for WDC board, commission and congregation members participating in adaptive leadership training programs at the Kansas Leadership Center, that God would use this experience to equip them more fully for effective ministry.

**Mennonite Mission Network:** C. Paul and Hildi Amstutz have served with Mennonite Mission Network since 1985. Pray for C. Paul as he works with more than 50 business chaplains in Paraguay who reach out to employees in the workplace, and pray for Hildi as she provides spiritual direction to help people deepen their faith.

### Church Events

**Monday at 1:00 p.m.** Peppernut Baking for MCC Monday at 1 p.m. The dough is ready to cut and bake in the church kitchen. Come and enjoy the fun. All are welcome.

**Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.** Care Council meets.

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

## Announcements

**Coins** (or any form of money) will be collected for a **My Coins Count** (MCC) offering today, next Sunday, and April 2.

**The Organizational Structure Task Force** is working on updating the church guidelines. If you have any comments or suggestions about the guidelines, please contact Tim Harms.

**Mennonite Church USA Convention 2017** will be July 4-8 in Orlando, Florida. **Western District Assembly** is August 4-6 in Dallas, Texas. If you are interested in being a delegate for either of the conferences, please talk to Tim Harms.

**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.

**Nursery Next Sunday:** Courtney Nethercot and Lily Hilgenfeld

**Greeters Next Sunday:** Doug and Katherine Claassen

**Ushers Next Sunday:** Josh Patterson and Rob Schunn

**Offering Last Sunday:** Local Church \$3,932.00

**Offering Next Sunday:** Western District Conference

### CHURCH OFFICES

Pastor's Office Hours:

Wednesday - Afternoon, Friday - day off

**Pastor: Weldon Martens**

*Email:* [weldon.martens@gmail.com](mailto:weldon.martens@gmail.com)

**Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen**

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

## Et Cetera #1

**Mennonite Women Spring Supper** is Thursday, March 23, at 6 p.m. in the Bethel College Cafeteria, North Newton. Full meal @ \$12 by BCWA (Bethel College Women's Association). Program in Krehbiel Auditorium by four women "Living Faithfully in our Communities." Music by "Hopeful Blues" from Hope Mennonite Church, Wichita. Offering for MCC: Bangladesh (Girls Education). Reservations by Monday, March 20: [westerndistrictwomen@gmail.com](mailto:westerndistrictwomen@gmail.com) or call Marlene Faul, 316-283-3342.

**New book: "Unexpected Invitations – Surprises, adventures, and opportunities in Mennonite ministry"** by Angela Rempel, with Erwin Rempel. (Mennonite Press 2016, self-published). The Rempels grew up on the fringes of the former General Conference Mennonite Church but through a series of unexpected invitations eventually served at the hub of the denomination in its offices in Newton, Kansas. Their path led through pastoral ministry, missions in Brazil and Botswana, Erwin's role as executive secretary of the General Conference Mennonite Church Commission on Overseas Mission, and the transition to Mennonite Mission Network of Mennonite Church USA. Book signing at Faith and Life Bookstore in Newton on March 25, 1-3 p.m. Available for \$19.95 at <http://unexpectedinvitations.com/>.

**Iglesia Menonita Casa Betania** (Newton) IBA students are planning to have their monthly fund raiser. Menu: Tamales. Chicken or Pork (not spicy). Place your order by March 22. Email Suhelen at [suhelen\\_c@yahoo.com](mailto:suhelen_c@yahoo.com) or text her (316)227-0090. Pick up your order at 510 SE Second on March 25 between 4-7 pm.

**Bethel College Concert Choir home concert**, March 26 at 7 p.m., Memorial Hall. The choir is touring in Minnesota, South Dakota, Manitoba, Iowa, Illinois and Missouri during spring break, March 18-25, raising money for MCC with its offerings. The home concert offering will go to defray tour expenses.

**Do you enjoy mentoring young adults and living in community?** Service Adventure is looking for unit leaders for our Colorado Springs, Colo. and Jackson, Miss., units. The two year term begins late July. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Susan Nisly at [SusanN@MennoniteMission.net](mailto:SusanN@MennoniteMission.net) or visit us at [www.MennoniteMission.net](http://www.MennoniteMission.net).

## Et Cetera #2

**Congregational Ministry in the Face of Sexual Abuse and Domestic Violence** - an educational event for WDC church leaders - will be held on Saturday, April 29 from 8 am - 3:30 pm at First Mennonite Church in Hutchinson. Kathy Goering Reid, Executive Director of the Family Abuse Center in Austin, TX, will lead the day. This event is for church chairs, deacons, Christian educators, youth leaders, and pastors. Cost: \$30 per person or \$100 per group from the same congregation. Register and pay online by April 20 at: [mennowdc.org/congregational-ministry-in-the-face-of-sexual-abuse-and-domestic-violence](http://mennowdc.org/congregational-ministry-in-the-face-of-sexual-abuse-and-domestic-violence).

**You are needed! Camp Mennoscah** is looking for kitchen staff for our summer youth camps. Kitchen staff are people with big hearts, smiling faces, and the ability to follow directions. It's not a big deal if you aren't the world's best cook. We have a head cook to lead you in making wonderful meals for our youth campers! Weeks available are June 11-17, June 25-29, and July 9-13 with only a smattering of spots for other weeks. Contact us at [olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org](mailto:olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org) or 620-297-3290. Being at Camp Mennoscah is fun!

**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!

**This year is the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Western District Conference.** As we seek to tell the story of WDC, its congregations and God's faithfulness in those years, we invite people to visit the WDC website (<http://mennowdc.org/wdcs-125-year-anniversary-is-in-2017/>) and provide information about their congregations' history. You'll find several questions you may respond to. This ongoing project provides one way for all of us to learn more about our history and be inspired to live faithfully as we move on.

**Help Needed** to detail the donated vehicles for the MCC sale. Help clean windows, vacuum, and wax vehicles. Volunteer days will be the week of March 26. Call Jerry Toews at 620-367-8257 for details.

**Have you considered purchasing MCC Bucks?** MCC Bucks are good for your kids, grandkids, neighbors, co-workers, friends, enemies, or anyone. They come in books of 10 one dollar bills for \$10 and spend like cash at the MCC sale on April 7 and 8, 2017 and can be used to purchase anything. There is one more chance to get MCC Bucks before sale day. If you are interested, contact your church MCC Sale Liaisons (Mike & Kathy or Kim & Debbie) and they can pick them up at this Thursday's meeting.

**The Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale** will be April 7 & 8 at the Kansas State Fairgrounds in Hutchinson.

- Quilter's Corner, Friday Night Verenike Frying, Children's Activities, New Year's Cookies, Kansas Crafts, Plants & Things, Feeding of the Multitudes.....many sign-up sheets – take a look at what interests you!
- Bakers: We need baked items – we have zwieback bags and pie tins.
- Cool whip containers and ice cream buckets are needed for the verenike making day. If you have some to spare, please leave them on or below the table in the foyer.
- See the table and bulletin board in the foyer for sign-up sheets and all kinds of information!
- Questions – talk to Mike & Kathy Balzer or Kim & Debbie Claassen. Also, go to [www.kansas.mccsale.org](http://www.kansas.mccsale.org) or Facebook.

*Our vision at Grace Hill Mennonite Church is for a revitalized ministry seeking authentic community that honors Christ by:*

*discerning our gifting;*

*developing a leadership team;*

*deepening our core ministries of*

*care, education and hospitality.*