

# GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

March 22, 2015

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Musician: Ellen Mosiman

Song Leader: Penny Hiebert

Transition Pastor: Randy Smith

## UPSIDE DOWN AND INSIDE OUT

Fifth Sunday of Lent

*Which way will you live?*

Gathering Music

Ellen Mosiman

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude to Worship

\*Call to Worship

Psalm 51

Create in me a pure heart, O God;

Renew a right spirit within me.

**Do not cast me from your presence;**

**Do not take your Holy Spirit from me.**

Restore to me the joy of your salvation.

Sustain me with a willing spirit.

**Then I will teach others your ways so that**

**sinner will turn back to you.**

Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God;

**You who are God, my savior.**

**My tongue sings of your righteousness.**

**Open my lips Lord, and my mouth will declare your praise.**

\*Praise Hymn

Hymnal 76

*Praise, I will praise you, Lord*

\*Prayer

Offering

Children's Story

Grant Claassen

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

The Shadow of the Cross

Mark 10:17-22

Kim Claassen

Extinguishing the Light

Silent Reflection

The Light Behind the Cross

Guided Confession

*Precious Lord, take my hand*

Hymnal 575

Scripture Lesson

Mark 10:46-52

Levi Goossen

Sermon

*Getting in the Way*

*\*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

*\*Take my life*

Hymnal 389

\*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 Western District Conference.

\*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

**Thank you** Grace Hill for the abundant expressions of compassion and concern following my father's passing, and for the release as I spent time on family matters. This is a striking testament of the congregation's character and your care for the pastor. Randy

**Western District Conference:** Pray for the Youth Ministry Network and Network Team Leader, Dwight Regier, as they support youth pastors and plan bi-conference youth events.

**Mennonite Mission Network:** Passionfest, held in New Zealand last month, is an annual celebration of Jesus, community, and justice. Pray for Mark and Mary Hurst of Mennonite Mission Network, based in Australia, as they follow up on contacts they made during the festival.

### **Church Family News**

. . . **Natalie Sollo's** husband, **David**, is recovering well from a heart attack and hopes to be back to work this week . . **Agnes Harder** is mending a broken arm . . .

**Palm Sunday** Bible texts for next week are: Mark 11:15-18; 11:28-34.

### **Announcements**

**Regular Sunday School classes** will be held next Sunday. There will not be a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Social.

**Hands of Friendship** is giving you an opportunity to contribute to the Wheat State Manor Auxiliary through an offering that will be taken **today** during the Sunday School Hour. The auxiliary purchases items that are beneficial to the residents of the Manor. Make checks payable to Hands of Friendship.

**Debbie Claassen** is planning to participate in the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale 5K Run on April 18. If you would like to sponsor her and help raise money for Mennonite Central Committee, please give donations to her by April 15. Checks should be made to KMRS and labeled "Run for Relief" on the memo.

**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.

## Church Events

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

**Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.** Administrative Council meets.

**Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.** Youth Group will meet.

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

**Palm Sunday, next Sunday 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.

**Maundy Thursday, April 2 at 6:30 p.m.** Maundy Thursday worship service will begin in our fellowship hall around tables with a light meal, a remembrance of Passover, and communion. We will then move to the sanctuary for a Tenebrae service – reading through the Passion, with song, as the lights dim.

**Easter Morning April 5 at 7:30 a.m.** Rise and Shine - Plan now to join the youth at the sunrise service located at the North Side Pavilion Easter morning at 7:30 am. Breakfast will be served in the fellowship hall by the Social Council following the service from 8:00 - 8:30 am.

**The Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale will be April 17 & 18 at the Kansas State Fairgrounds in Hutchinson. Volunteers are needed for serving at the Feeding of the Multitude (6 from Grace Hill) on Saturday from noon – 2 p.m., Grace Hill Bakers - pie plates and bread sacks are available on the table. Grace Hill Runners and Walkers Run for Relief forms are available, return form by March 31 to guarantee shirt. Check out the noisy cow as you donate your coins and remember “My Coins Count”!! April 14 is the Verenike Making Day in Hillsboro, morning or afternoon shifts and we need to contribute 7 dozen cookies for break time. See all information and sign-up sheets on the table in the foyer. 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.**

## Church Roles in the Pastor Search Process

### Role of Administrative Council:

- Appoints the Pastor Search Committee.
- Along with the Pastor Search Committee, recommends a Pastoral candidate to the congregation.
- Co-hosts, with the Pastor Search Committee, a visitation of the prospective pastor to meet with the congregation.
- Makes a motion to the congregation to issue a call to the prospective pastor.

### Role of Pastor Search Committee:

- The Pastor Search Committee is accountable to the Administrative Council and communicates regularly with the Council and to the congregation.
- Commits to working as a team. Must be able to listen; able to express thoughts; able to summarize and synthesize materials and opinions; capable of honest but non-reactive dialog with other members of the Committee.
- Surveys the congregation and prepares a congregational information packet to be provided to prospective pastor candidates to learn about Grace Hill.
- Works with the Conference Minister developing a pool of prospective pastor candidates.
- Engages and interviews prospective pastors.
- Makes a recommendation to the Administrative Council regarding the calling of a pastoral candidate to bring before the congregation. The Pastor Search Committee must come to 100% consensus on a candidate before they can be recommended to the Administrative Council.
- Members of the Committee are: Doug Claassen (Chair), Roberta Harms, David Janzen, K. John Klaassen, Kaye Penner, Rob Schunn, and Ken Wiebe.

### Role of the Congregation:

- Prays for the Pastor Search Committee and their work.
- Provides input as requested by the Administrative Council and/or Pastor Search Committee.
- Participates in the congregational survey.
- Participates in an open interview of a pastoral candidate once they are invited before the congregation.
- Votes to affirm or reject the pastor candidate.

## Et Cetera

**Dr. Beverly Rogers speaks at Kauffman Museum, today at 3 p.m.**, as the second program connected to the special exhibit "Sorting Out Race." Rogers is dean of arts and sciences and professor of anthropology at Ottawa University and will speak on "Stereotypes and Realities of the 21st-Century Indian in the United States."

**This afternoon at 4:00 p.m. Bethel College Mennonite Church** will host organist Shirley Sprunger King for "*Looking Toward Easter*," a program of Lenten and Easter music for the organ. A freewill offering will be received for BCMC's Living Stones Organ Renovation Fund, and a reception will follow. Members of the community are invited!

**Ervin Stutzman, Executive Director of Mennonite Church USA**, invites Western District Conference delegates to Kansas City 2015 to a meeting at **First Mennonite Church, Newton** (change of location from original announcement) 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.

**The Harvey County Homeless Shelter** (900 W. Broadway) is having a free carnival on Saturday, March 28 from 5-8 p.m. FREE event!! Free carnival games and prizes! Free bounce houses! Free live music! Ongoing optional open house to tour the new shelter building. There will be food for sale, but there is no obligation to buy. There will also be a gift basket silent auction, 100% of the proceeds from the silent auction will benefit the Harvey County Homeless Shelter. We are blessed to have amazing supporters in our community! Come on out and enjoy the fun!

**Bethel College Concert Choir Home Concert** will be March 29 at 7:00 p.m. in Memorial Hall, Bethel College.

**Community Good Friday Service and Prayer Vigil:** Shalom Mennonite Church (800 E First St, Newton) is hosting the annual Community Good Friday Service, April 3 at 7:00 p.m. A prayer vigil will also be held in the afternoon from 1:00 - 6:00 p.m. prior to the service, when community members are invited to stop by for quiet prayer any time during those hours. The Good Friday service is organized by the Newton Ministerial Alliance (NMA). An offering will be taken which goes to the NMA Community Assistance Fund account for distribution through the Salvation Army. All are welcome to this service and prayer time.

**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.

**Newton Et Cetera Shop** invites applications by local nonprofits for the 2015 Local Giving Fund grants by April 10. Grants up to \$5000 will be distributed in May. See [newtonetceterashop.com](http://newtonetceterashop.com) for information. Applicants must hold legal nonprofit status and operate out of and serve at least one of the following local communities: Newton, Hesston, Goessel, Moundridge, Whitewater, Elbing, Halstead, Walton.

**Nursery This Sunday:** Jo Frye and Kris Janzen

**Nursery Next Sunday:** Marge Harms and Quinn Dove

**Ushers Next Sunday:** Terry Klassen and Dean Patterson

**Offering Last Sunday:** Grace Hill Youth \$1,307.00

**Offering Next Sunday:** Camp Mennoscah

## 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)