

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

March 25, 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

Praise Team

Fifth Sunday of Lent

God makes a way through mighty waters

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.

* **Gathering Song** *You're Worthy of My Praise* David Ruis

* **Words for Gathering based on Psalm 63 and Psalm 126**

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: The Lord does great things for us and we rejoice!

People: **The Lord restores our fortunes, and we shout for joy.**

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.

Songs of Worship

* **Hymn No. 99** *We praise thee, O God*

This morning Orville and Nancy Schmidt bring forward to our dry river bed a pitcher and a basin. In Jesus we are washed and made new. The washing of hands stirs hope within us as God does a new thing.

Rivers of love

Laurie Oswald Robinson

Chorus

Rivers of love, rivers of peace, flow over me.

Rivers of love, rivers of peace, flow within me.

Verse 1

Healing my heart, my broken heart.

Filled with the sin and the grief of this world.

Healing my soul, my broken soul,

Searching for others to make me whole.

Chorus

Verse 2

Healing my mind, my broken mind,

Hearing false voices that only bring strife.

Healing my life, my broken life,

Needing a savior for all time.

Chorus

I Will Not Be Shaken

Norm Strauss

I will declare my choice to the nations,
I will shout for joy in the congregation,
I will worship God, worship God, all my days.

Those who loved the Lord are satisfied,
those who trust in Him are justified,
I will serve my God, serve my God, all my days.

When the nations crumble, the word of the Lord will stand.
Kings may rise and fall, His love will endure.

Though the strong may stumble,
the joy of the Lord is strength to my soul.
I will not be shaken, I will not be moved, I will not be shaken.

Children's Moments *God wants to do new things, and we celebrate!*

Valerie Klaassen

Worship in Giving Western District Conference

Sharing our Praises and our Prayers

Scripture Reading Revelation 21:1-7

Lon Hiebert

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

Message *The New Jerusalem - The Glorious Fulfillment*

* **Hymn No. 606** *Oh have you not heard*

Prayer of Confession and Reconciliation

Reading of Psalm 43:16-21

Congregational Prayer

**God of hope, give us eyes to see the new work
You are doing among us.**

**When we struggle to discern what lies ahead we
will see the new work of God.**

Leader: When our circumstances appear to hold no hope ...
We will see the new work of God.
When our souls hunger for Your presence ...
We will see the new work of God.

All: *In the morning and in the evening, we will put our trust in You!*

Leader: Our Generous God provides for us!

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

* **Benediction**

* **Benediction Hymn No. 427** *You shall go out with joy*

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!**

For Sharing and Prayer

Thank you for the flowers, food and visits while I was in the hospital and since returning home. May God bless you all. Miriam Claassen

Harold Schmidt, Miriam Claassen's brother, passed away March 19. The funeral service was yesterday in Salina.

On Sunday, April 1, Aliah, Brandy, Elizabeth, Sarah, and Lexi will be dedicated. Following the worship service, there will be a dedication/adoption party for the girls and their adoptive parents, David and Ashley Enns. Coffeecake and refreshments will be served in the fellowship hall. All are welcome! (Sunday School teachers: food will be served to children in the classrooms.)

Western District Conference: Pray for Norma Johnson, Bethel College Mennonite Church, as she retires from full-time pastoral ministry today. She also served the (former) General Conference Mennonite Church as an Executive Secretary for 10 years and will, in retirement, volunteer her leadership this summer as Director of the WDC Vacation Bible School Traveling Troup. Thank God for her ministry!

Mennonite Mission Network: Pray that God will grant wisdom to the many high school and college seniors who are making choices and are considering an assignment with MMN's Christian Service programs.

The Youth Pastor Search Committee will meet again on March 28 and will continue to review the responsibilities of youth pastor and complete a variety of paperwork. If anyone has suggestions of potential applicants, please forward the names to James Regier or Dorothy Nickel Friesen.

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: Joyce Wedel and Elizabeth Martin

Nursery Next Sunday: Katherine Claassen and Lisa Harms

Special Music Next Sunday: Adult Choir

Keyboard Next Sunday: Chelsea Vaught

Ushers Next Sunday: Lon Hiebert and Dean Patterson

Offering Last Sunday: Mennonite Relief Sale \$2,073.70

Offering Next Sunday: Mennonite Church USA

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

Church Events

Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Administrative 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

Western District Basketball & Volleyball Tournament

Grace Hill/Zion Basketball at Bethel College – games to be announced - Tuesday – Saturday

Grace Hill/Zion Volleyball Schedule at Hesston College Yost Center

Division II Friday, March 30 at 7:45 p.m. vs. Eden

at 9:15 p.m. vs. S. Hills/Rainbow

Saturday, March 31 at 9:30 a.m. vs. Eden

at 10:15 a.m. vs. S. Hills/Rainbow

May be additional games in the afternoon, depends on record.

Go Teams!

Friday, April 20, 6:30 p.m. is set for the All Women and Girls Salad Supper at the Grace Hill Fellowship Hall. The guest speaker is Sheralynn Neff, a junior at Newton High School. She will do a drama "Food Out of Famine". Violin music by Rachel Voran, a senior at Newton High School, will be the special music. Invite your family and friends and bring salad for you and your guest.

Upcoming Worship at Grace Hill

April 1 Morning Worship – Special Child Dedication Service

April 1 Evening Holy Week service at Zion. Speaker: Barry Bartel, president of Bethel College.

April 5 Maundy Thursday Communion service at Grace Hill

April 8 The Easter Sunrise Service will begin at 6:50 a.m. on April 8. The youth are planning the service and Spiritual Council is providing breakfast.

April 8 Sunday morning Easter service.

Et Cetera

Mike Palecek, author of "The American Dream," will be stopping in Newton during a cross-country book tour. Palecek will be speaking at Peace Connections, 612 N Main, Newton on Thursday, March 29 from 12:00-1:30 p.m. You are welcome to bring a bag lunch for this event. You are also invited for coffee and conversation during his book signing at Faith and Life Bookstore, 724 N. Main, Newton from 3:30-5:30 p.m. Palecek was a federal prisoner for peace and Iowa's 2000 Democratic Nominee for U.S. House. Please call (316)284-0000 or (316)283-2210 with any questions.

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.

Mennonite Relief Sale in Hutchinson – April 13 and 14

- See the sign-up sheets on the bulletin board for many opportunities to serve.
- Don't forget the penny collection – the jug is in the foyer.
- Grant Claassen is planning to participate in the 5K Run for Relief and would like your support. Let him know if you are interested in giving him a pledge for Mennonite Central Committee.

Camp Mennoscah Do you have family coming to take part in the MCC sale? Have a family reunion at Camp Mennoscah while enjoying the MCC sale. The Retreat Center and Main camp are both available for rent during the weekend of April 13-15. If interested, please contact Joyce at 620-297-3290 or campmno@mennowdc.org.

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 funny bone, 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.

Campers Spring has just sprung and the camp catalogs will soon be following. Camp catalogs will be mailed the first of April, look for yours in the mail. If you do not receive one, check at church or contact the camp at 620-297-3290 or campmno@mennowdc.org. Posters with the dates should be posted in your church or, check online at www.mennowdc.org and click on the camp tab. The theme this year is "Jesus: The Upside Down Mission". Come to camp and experience God through nature and fellowship.

Arthur Marks, renowned tenor, and Laura Bergquist, pianist, will present a benefit concert Sunday, April 29, at 4:30 p.m. at the Trinity Heights United Methodist Church, 1200 Boyd Avenue, Newton. A full dinner will be served. Tickets are \$50 each, \$85 for two, and \$320 for a table of eight, with reservations needed by April 23. For tickets and information, contact the Kansas Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (KIPCOR) at 2515 College Avenue, P.O. Box 276, North Newton KS 67117 or call 316-284-5217. The concert benefits KIPCOR's Community Mediation Center.

Offender/Victim Ministries (Newton) is seeking a half-time administrative assistant to begin mid-April. For further information, please contact Libby at 316-283-2038.

Western District Conference Vision 2012 update: The first phase of the Resource Library renovation and expansion is completed. The library lounge was dedicated for use by Seminary students and all library patrons. Also, a new room (to the south of present library) that will house the children's book collection is now ready for occupancy. Thank you for your generous, above-budget support for Vision 2012. We have over \$600,000 (of a goal of \$1.5 million) already committed. Check out the new WDC web site (www.mennowdc.org).

DEO (Discipleship, Encounter, Outreach) is looking for young adults (ages 18-25) who are ready to experience an intimate encounter with Jesus. Participants spend two months developing their faith before serving in community-based organizations in Phoenix and Denver. The 12 or 15 month-long program wraps up with a two-month internship in the participant's home congregation. For more information, e-mail Diana Cook at Service@MennoniteMission.net or check online: Service.MennoniteMission.net/DEO or www.d-e-o.org.