

# Grace Hill Mennonite Church

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

April 2, 2017

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

### Fifth Sunday in Lent

#### PRELUDE

#### GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*"Holy Spirit, Come With Power"*

HWB 26

- GATHERING INTERLUDE -

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come. Bring your weary bones and your trodden souls.

**People: Now is the time to worship the life-giving Spirit.**

Leader: Come. Bring your dashed hopes and broken dreams.

**People: Now is the time to worship the life-giving Spirit.**

Leader: Come. Bring your heavy sorrow and lingering sadness.

**People: Now is the time to worship the life-giving Spirit.**

Leader: Bring all you that you have and all that you are. The Spirit is here to breathe new life into all that is lifeless.

\* GATHERING SONG *"When Peace Like a River"* HWB 336

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: God, we confess that when we look into the valleys of our lives, we are tempted to fix our gaze on the remnants of our past. We see the dry bones, and we wonder, "Will these bones ever live?"

**People: But in the midst of our doubt, we proclaim that you are the life-giving Spirit. You breathe new life into all that is dead.**

Leader: For you, O God, raised up the dry bones in the valley. Your Son, Jesus, called forth dead Lazarus out from the tomb, and your Spirit empowered the feeble disciples. Empower us, O Lord, to trust in your life-giving breath.

**People: Blow your mighty wind into the hollow chambers of our hearts, that we may never settle for death but rise again as your beloved people.**

*(Pause for silent confession)*

Leader: God, holy Breath, Lazarus-raiser, breath-giver, grave-opener, hope-giver...

**People: restore us.**

Leader: Through sin we are dead. But in you there is new life, forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, serve you, once more. We waited for you, O Lord, and you answered us. In you there is life giving love and full redemption. You redeem us from all our sins. Amen.

#### OFFERING TO GOD

MENNONITE CHURCH USA

Offertory

\**Doxology* (Psalm 100)

HWB 119

#### CHILDREN'S STORY

#### **MY COINS COUNT** OFFERING

#### SHARING AND CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

*"YOU ARE ALL WE HAVE"*

STJ 29

\* SCRIPTURE READING

John 11:1-45

#### SERMON

*"Do You Believe This?"*

\* HYMN

*"SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD"*

HWB 349

\* 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		Doug Claassen
Keyboard		Ellen Mosiman
Song Leader		Penny Hiebert
Greeters		Allen & Elaine Patterson
Ushers		Lucas Goossen & Terry Klassen
Nursery		Kathy Balzer & Katherine Claassen

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**For Sharing and Prayer**

Elva Unruh will celebrate her 95th birthday on April 8. Her family invites you to send a card or greeting to Elva in honor of this milestone birthday. Her address at Kidron Bethel Village Assisted Living is: 3056 Ivy Court, Apt. 9, North Newton, KS 67117. Thank you for making this event special for her!

**Western District Conference:** Pray for immigrants and refugees within WDC congregations and communities, and for congregations seeking faithful response to their needs and concerns.

**Mennonite Mission Network:** Ministries among refugees are a significant part of Mennonite Mission Network's engagement in Australia, Turkey, the United States, Southeast Asia, and Western Europe. Pray for peace in the world, safe places for all people, and that mission workers will continue to share Jesus' love in culturally appropriate ways.

## Church Events

**Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.** Missions Council meets.

**Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.** Choir practice. The choir will also practice on April 12 and will sing on Easter Sunday, April 16.

**Wednesday at 7:45 p.m.** Leadership Council meets.

**Next Sunday, April 9 at 7:00 p.m.** All are invited to a special Palm Sunday worship service at Zion Mennonite in Elbing on Sunday, April 9 at 7:00 p.m.; we will consider some of the artifacts of Passion Week, with associated scripture and song. Light refreshments and fellowship will follow.

**April 13 at 7:00 p.m.** On Maundy Thursday, April 13 at 7:00 p.m., we will gather in worship with Zion Mennonite Church at Grace Hill for the Lord's Supper - the night our Lord Jesus Christ was betrayed. I will also give spiritual reflection regarding Good Friday and the crucifixion of Jesus. - Pastor Weldon

**The Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale** is this Friday and Saturday, April 7 & 8 at the Kansas State Fairgrounds in Hutchinson. Friday the sale begins at 4:00 p.m. and Saturday the breakfast begins at 7:00 a.m. and the Quilt and General Auctions begin at 8:45 a.m.

- **Help is needed to fry New Years Cookies at the relief sale. If you are interested in working a shift, please contact Cedric or Becky Blough at [crblough@mtelco.net](mailto:crblough@mtelco.net) or 620-345-3088.**
- Bakers: There are still a few pie tins and zwieback bags.
- We will take items to the sale – please have them to the church by **Friday, April 7 at noon or by Saturday, April 8 at 6:00 a.m.** Please leave baked items in the kitchen.
- Don't forget to put the Kansas MCC Sale app on your phone for information about the sale at your fingertips!
- See the table and bulletin board in the foyer for 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.

## Announcements

**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.

**The Whitewater & Potwin Food Pantries** are in need of items throughout the year. A basket for goods is located in the foyer by the front entrance.

**Nursery Next Sunday:** Tammy Regehr and Bethany Regehr

**Greeters Next Sunday:** Judy Janzen and Marianne Eichelberger

**Ushers Next Sunday:** Doug Hiebert and David Janzen

**Offering Last Sunday:** Western District Conference \$1,127.16

**Offering Next Sunday:** Local Church

## 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

**Gather with Camp Mennoscah** in community on Monday, April 3rd from 5:30 - 8:30 pm! We welcome all ages of camp folks to Mojo's Coffee Bar for an evening full of conversation and laughter, all while supporting local business. Let us know you are coming on Facebook or join us whenever you decide! We will be collecting name suggestions for the cabin throughout the evening and maybe singing some, too.

**We are putting in the dam! Come to Camp Mennoscah** on Sunday, April 9th around 2:30 pm to help us prepare the river for the summer. Both spectators and helpers are welcome! Meet at the sports shack for instructions. The dam will go in regardless of the weather, unless it is unsafe to do so. We'll see you there!

**The Annual Corporation Meeting of the Community Playschool** is Monday, April 10 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 14 of the Bethel College Mennonite Church, North Newton. Our church is a sponsor and supporter of the Playschool and its mission to the Newton area community.

**Remington High School Community Service Day** will be on April 26. High School students would like to work for you - no charge! It is an opportunity for the students to give back to their supportive community. Please contact Jodi Janzen by April 12 at 316-799-2123, [jajanzen@usd206.org](mailto:jajanzen@usd206.org) or see the form posted on the bulletin board.

**Congregational Ministry in the Face of Sexual Abuse and Domestic Violence** - On April 29, congregational leaders and pastors are invited to First Mennonite Church, Hutchinson, for a day-long workshop on how congregational leaders can respond when abuse takes place that affects the broader congregation. Sponsored by WDC, Kathryn Goering Reid, a credentialed minister and Executive Director of Family Abuse Center, Waco, TX, will be our seminar leader. Congregations can register your attendees together for the group rate of \$100. You may also register individually for \$30 per person. A registration form is available on the bulletin board or online registration is available at: [www.mennowdc.org/congregational-ministry-in-the-face-of-sexual-abuse-and-domestic-violence/](http://www.mennowdc.org/congregational-ministry-in-the-face-of-sexual-abuse-and-domestic-violence/).

**A Wheat State Manor Fund Raiser Dinner** will be held on April 29 at 6:00 p.m. (open at 5:00 p.m.) at Whitewater Community Church, 703 E. Central, Whitewater. Cost is \$15 per person. There will be music for entertainment. Mike Smith, Administrator of WSM will be giving a report. Also, Rev. John Schnelle, Chaplain of WSM, will be speaking. The fundraiser is being given to raise money for the replacement of the dining room tables and chairs. A free will offering will be taken during the program.

**Western District Women in Mission** is pleased to announce a significant event they are bringing to central Kansas. Sister Care: Level 2 "Going Deeper" week-end retreat (a program of Mennonite Women USA) led by Carolyn Heggen and Rhoda Keener will be offered May 5-7 at the Spiritual Life Center in Wichita. For more information and a registration form see the bulletin board or email Darlene at [dpowers11@cox.net](mailto:dpowers11@cox.net). Register soon as space is limited. The retreat will include new material while building on the core concepts from the original Sister Care seminar. (Prerequisite: Attend Sister Care Level 1 seminar or view Sister Care DVD and read manual.)

**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!

**AMBS volunteer coordinator sought**, beginning August 2017. Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana, is seeking a qualified individual or couple to coordinate the work of our short-term and local volunteers, connecting them with assignments from faculty and staff. If you like to work with people, have excellent communication and computer skills, and are well organized, please consider this volunteer assignment for a one-year, renewable term. The position opens August 1; the start date is negotiable. For more information, contact Jewel Gingerich Longenecker: [jglongenecker@ambs.edu](mailto:jglongenecker@ambs.edu) or 574-296-6222.