

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

April 5, 2009

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Interim Pastor: Marvin Zehr

Keyboard: Sara Unruh

Whitewater, Kansas

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Youth Pastor: Katherine Goerzen

Worship Leader: Deb Regier

Palm Sunday

Prelude

Welcoming Guests and Announcements

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 and Praising

- * **Gathering Hymn No. 238** *Hosanna, loud hosanna* (repeat verse 1 if necessary)
Children and Youth will enter waving palm branches

- * **Call to Worship**

Leader: Look, people of God, see what is coming!

All: *What a surprise... our King on a donkey!*

Left: **Our teacher shows us what humility looks like**

Right: **and how deceptive appearances can be.**

Leader: We praise you, God, for giving us yet another glimpse of your upside-down Kingdom.

Right: **You are both ever-new and lovingly steadfast,**

Left: **on the move and reliably faithful.**

All: *You are our God and we will thank you. Amen.*

- * **Prayer of Invocation**

- * **Hymn No. 239** *Ride on, ride on in majesty* verses 1, 2 & 4

Hearing

Scripture Reading Philippians 2:5-11

Nancy Harms

Reader's Theater

Russell Janzen, Marianne Eichelberger, Peter Goerzen

- * **Hymn No. 236** *O love, how deep, how broad* led by Pastor Katherine

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

Scripture Reading Mark 11:1-11

Nancy Harms

Meditation

Pastor Katherine

Responding

- * **Hymn of Response No. 184** *Hark! The glad sound!*

Offering our first fruits Mennonite Church USA

Congregational Sharing and Prayer

Pastor Marv

Sending

- * **Sending Hymn No. 106** *All hail the power of Jesus' name*

- * **Benediction**

Pastor Marv

Leader: Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus:
In humble obedience, even to death, empty yourselves.
For all who kneel before Jesus and proclaim him Lord
share both in his suffering and in his glory.

All: *Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!*

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

Western District Conference: Pray for the humility of Jesus in our congregations in spite of the crowds around us yelling for a different kind of ruler in our culture.

Mennonite Mission Network: On Palm Sunday and Easter, churches in many parts of Africa incarnate visible testimonies to the whole community, including woven palm branches and resurrection parades. Pray that the church worldwide would expand its witness during this season of joyous celebration.

Announcements

Due to a change in events, Roberta and Galen Harms have requested to not attend Columbus 09 as delegates for Grace Hill. This leaves one voting position open. Pastor Jim was initially counted as one vote. Pastor Marv is willing to represent Grace Hill, as he is already planning on attending the conference. If you are interested in representing the final vote for Grace Hill, please let Diana Schunn know by April 15, otherwise Pastor Marv will fill the final slot. Our other two votes will be represented by Ed and Marge Harms.

Harvey County Food Pantry suggested items to donate this month: paper goods. A basket for goods is located in the foyer by the front entrance.

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

Joint Holy Week Services with Zion Mennonite Church

This evening at 7:00 p.m. a joint service will be held at Zion Mennonite Church with Laurie Oswald Robinson as guest speaker. Laurie is a writer and former editor of Timbrel, the magazine of Mennonite Women USA. She is a frequent contributor of devotionals for the daily devotional booklet, "Rejoice", published by Faith and Life Resources. She lives in Newton and attends First Mennonite Church.

Thursday, April 9 Maundy Thursday service will be held at Grace Hill at 7:00 p.m. The evening will be a Service of Tennebrae, extinguishing the lights, and will include the reading of Scriptures describing both the call and the fall of the disciples, the crucifixion of Christ and serving of communion. Let us be in preparation for this service of worship together. A mixed quartet will provide a prelude that will begin at 6:50 p.m., please come at this time if possible.

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. The Adult choir **will** practice Wednesday, April 8 at 7:00 p.m. **There will be no other Wednesday night programming this week due to Holy Week.**

Next Sunday at 6:45 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service planned by the youth. Spiritual Council will be serving breakfast following the service. All are welcome to come!

Monday, April 13 at 7:00 p.m. Hands of Friendship meet at church. Evening activities: Let's get to know more about each other. Come prepared to tell or show us something about your hobbies, samples of your collections, written poetry or stories of anything you enjoy doing. We will also be knotting a comfort quilt to be given to MCC. Devotions: Alma Schmidt; Hostess: Marge Harms; Financial Project: Hands of Friendship Treasury.

April 17-18 Mennonite Relief Sale in Hutchinson

- DuMont Schmidt and Chris Wiebe are planning to run in the Relief Run and are looking for sponsors. Please contact them and support MCC!
- Volunteers are needed! Please see the sign-up sheets in the foyer and share your time and energy with MCC!

April 22 6:30-8:30 p.m. All church skating party at the Starlight Skate Center in Newton.

April 29 at 7:00 p.m. Canadian Mennonite University Singers: The CMU Singers will be at Grace Hill on April 29 for an evening concert. There are approximately 45 students in the choir and all need a place to stay for the night. There need to be at least 2 students per household. (If you have a gender preference, please indicate so on the sign up sheet.) Hosts should take the students home after the Wednesday evening concert and should have the students back to the church by 7:15 a.m. with a sack lunch. If you are interested in hosting, please talk to Pastor Katherine or sign up on the sheet in the foyer. **Please sign up to host the students by April 12 (Easter) so that we can make the hosting assignments. Thanks!**

High School Youth Group

April 15 "The Outrage" at Hesston Mennonite Church. We will meet at the church at 6:00 p.m. for supper and leave at 6:25 p.m. for Hesston.

April 18 MCC Sale We will meet at the church at 7:45 a.m. to get to Hutchinson for our 9-11 a.m. New Years Cookies shift. Following that, we will have our Video Scavenger Hunt. Those of you with video cameras, please be sure to bring them. Thanks!

Et Cetera

What's going on at this year's Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale on April 17 & 18? Go to www.kansas.mccsale.org and learn more about the activities and auction items at this year's sale.

The Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus will present their annual spring concerts on Sunday evening, April 19 at 7:00 p.m. in Presser Hall on the campus of Bethany College in Lindsborg and April 26 at 7:00 p.m. in Memorial Hall on the Bethel College campus in North Newton. Offerings to support the ministry of Mennonite Central Committee will be received at both concerts. Persons in our congregation are encouraged to attend one or both of these concerts. Several men from our church are singing in the chorus.

The Annual Corporation Meeting of the Community Playschool is Monday, April 20, 2009, in Room 14 of the Bethel College Mennonite Church at 7.30 p.m. Our church is a sponsor and supporter of the Playschool and its mission to the Newton area community.

Reasons why you should attend the Men & Boys Retreat at Camp Mennoscah, April 24-26: - Play carpet ball all night long! -Eat supper cooked over a camp fire. - Worship and sing with friends from other communities. Contact Brent Voran with questions: 316-284-2657 or bcvoran@cox.net.

Rest, relax, and retire at Camp Mennoscah! The Retiree's Relaxation Retreat is April 27-29. We know that all of you retirees and pseudo-retirees are busy with all of your volunteer work, hobbies, and various projects. But we invite you to take a break from your busily retired lives and join us for three days of fun. Our theme is Great God! Great Gardens! Contact Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290 or campmno@mennowdc.org for more information. The Retirees' Retreat brochure can be found at www.mennowdc.org in the Coming Events section.

Camp Mennoscah is looking for a camp nurse for the week of May 31-June 6. We take our fun and our band aids seriously, and that's why we need a nurse with a sense of humor. Nurses are a paid position or can choose instead to receive a parent discount (up to full camp fees) for a camper. Want to join our exciting summer? Contact Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290 or campmno@mennowdc.org

It's TWO much! Camp Mennoscah has two Mennonite Voluntary Service workers arriving at the end of May, and we are jumping up and down with joy. But our volunteer apartment was prepared for a couple instead of TWO individuals, so we're looking for two twin beds and two dressers in good condition. We'd love to hear from you if you have a spare. Contact Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290 or campmno@mennowdc.org.

Nursery This Sunday: Marge Harms and Rita Patterson
Nursery Next Sunday: Tammy Regehr and Amanda Regehr
Ushers Next Sunday: Doug Hiebert and Terry Klassen

Preaching Next Sunday: Pastor Marv
Special Music Next Sunday: Adult Choir
Keyboard Next Sunday: Linda Harms

Offering Next Sunday: Local Church

CHURCH OFFICES

Interim Pastor: Marvin Zehr
E-mail: pastor@gracehillmc.org

Youth Pastor: Katherine Goerzen
E-mail: youthpastor@gracehillmc.org

Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen
Secretary's E-mail: secretary@gracehillmc.org

Church Website: www.gracehillmc.org