

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

May 15, 2005

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Pastor: James Voth

Keyboard: Linda Harms

Whitewater, Kansas

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Youth Pastor: Brett Klingenberg

Chorister: Suzy Burch

Baptism and the Lord's Supper Pentecost Sunday

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.

Let us now prepare to worship our Creator and Lord
by leaving the troubles of the world behind and entering
into God's presence in a spirit of humility and praise.

* **Centering Our Hearts to Worship our Savior and Lord**

One: Come to the fountain of life.

All: Come to the streams of mercy.

One: Come, dip in the reservoir of forgiveness,

All: Immerse yourself in the waters of healing.

One: Come, be renewed by the eternal springs,

All: Be filled with overflowing blessing.

One: Come, walk beside still waters,

All: Be empowered by the rivers of justice.

One: Come, all you yearning for meaning, hoping for truth,
thirsting for God.

All: Here, find your thirst quenched and your joy expanded.

* **Prayer of Gathering**

* **A Hymn of Praise No. 6** *Here In This Place*
Chosen by Matt Regier

Offering Bible School and Education

Sharing and Prayer

A Hymn of Faith No. 327 *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*
Chosen by Caleb Regehr

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

Reading from the Word of God Romans 6:1-8 Pew Bible Page
1116

Reader: Valerie Klaassen

Meditation *What's in a name?*

Daniel: God's prophet of visions and prayer

Caleb: "We can certainly do it!" Numbers 13:30

Justin: Martyr (100-165 AD) Christianity, the embodiment of the
noblest concepts and the Truth *par excellence*

Matthew: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God ..." Matthew 6:33

Special Music Klingenberg Brothers

The Service of Baptism

Baptismal questions of confession and commitment to Christ

Statements of Faith from the baptismal candidates

Baptism

The Right Hand of Fellowship

Words of blessing from Pastors Jim and Brett

Prayer of Blessing – The parents of those baptized are invited to
come forward and lay hands on their son as the congregation
stands and prays together:

People: All-powerful God,
Grant Matthew, Caleb, Justin and Daniel
the fullness of the Holy Spirit;

A clean heart,

A right spirit,

The joy of salvation.

Make them one in whom Christ is seen to live again.

Release their spiritual gifts to serve others

And glorify your name in all the earth.

Marie: May the God of peace sanctify you through and through.

May your spirit and soul and body be kept blameless
until the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: The One who calls you is faithful and will do it. Amen.

- * **Hymn No. 76** *Praise, I Will Praise You, Lord*
Chosen by Justin Klassen

The Celebration of the Lord's Supper

- * **Hymn No. 580** *My Life Flows On*
Chosen by Daniel Klaassen

* **Benediction**

- * **Sending Hymn** *Benediction* Patricia J. Shelly
The Lord lift you up, the Lord take your hand,
The Lord lead you forth, and cause you to stand,
Secure in God's Word, seeking God's face,
Abounding in love, abiding in grace.

Let us form a circle of fellowship around the sanctuary,
join hands together and sing the *Benediction* song twice.

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.

Hymns for this service were chosen by the baptismal candidates.

Following the worship service the congregation is invited to greet those
who have been baptized in the foyer.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES BEGIN AT 10:45 A.M.
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

Special thanks to Pastor Brett and Marie Wiebe for the part they have
played in preparing these young people. Marie, Pastor Brett and Pastor
Jim have been team teaching the catechism class.

Our Baptismal Candidates

Daniel Aaron Klaassen is the son of John and Valerie Klaassen. He has three sisters, Hannah, Sarah and Megan. He will be a junior at Remington High School. His interests include reading, basketball and working on his truck.

I believe in the one true living God who created everything. I believe in his son Jesus Christ who came to this Earth to save us from our sin. He is someone who is always listening and that fact puts me at ease.

Romans 8:38-39 says, "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." These words hold a powerful meaning for me. They say that nothing can keep the love of Jesus from us and that is awesome.

I am firm in these beliefs because of my sisters, parents, friends and church family. The caring that the people in this family show me makes me want to be a part of this church.

Justin Lee Klassen is the son of Terry and Cheryl Klassen. He has one sister, Emily. He will be a junior at Remington. His interests include fishing, hunting, bees and golf.

To me my faith is probably the most important thing in my life. Through my faith in God I can share my faith with others even though I don't know exactly where His plans will lead me.

I know that I have not always obeyed God's plan for me, but I know that he will forgive me for my mistakes. Throughout my life I have been encouraged by my family and friends to follow God's ways and teachings.

A place which had a lot of influence on me about God was Camp Mennoscah. Through the singing, the different projects we did, and through the Bible study time it helped me to strengthen my faith. By enjoying the outdoors as I do, I am able to see God's work in nature.

The reason that I want to be baptized is so that I can be cleansed free of all my past sins. I want to continue to learn more about God and Jesus Christ who is my closet friend through the Bible. When I am baptized it will be like starting a whole new life with Jesus.

Caleb Lee Regehr is the son of Curtiss and Tammy Regehr. He has four sisters, Amanda, Melinda, Katrina and Bethany. He will be a junior at Remington High School. His interests include basketball and hunting.

I asked Jesus into my heart when I was 14 years old. Since then there have been bumps in my path, but also very smooth spots. I have come to realize God loves us no matter what we do, and he will always be there for us.

I feel that I am ready to be baptized and it is the next step in my faith journey. In Romans 10:9 it says "That if you confess with your mouth and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead you will be saved." I am here today to tell you that I do believe this and that Jesus is my Lord and Savior.

I want to thank all of you for helping me to grow spiritually to this point, and I ask that you would continue to pray for me as I continue on this great journey.

Matthew James Regier is the son of James and Debra Regier. He has one sister, Katie and a brother, Kyle. He will be a junior at Remington High School. His interests include sports and music, both trumpet and vocal.

First of all, I would like to thank Jesus for being my Savior and Redeemer. I would also like to thank all of the family, friends and the congregation that have supported me in my faith journey thus far. These people have helped teach me and have helped to form my beliefs. When I was younger I thought that all it took to be a Christian was to go to church on Sunday and say my prayers each night before I went to bed. I have found out that Christianity is much more than that. I have learned the values of prayer, thoughtfulness, discussion and scripture and will try to follow them to the best of my ability. I have learned to use music as a way to praise the Lord and have found it to be as rewarding as it is enjoyable. I have had the opportunities to go to camps and service projects where I have felt closer to God than ever before, and have learned about how to become a better Christian. I have formed a relationship with God that guides and comforts me.

Today seems like the culmination of all those years of Sunday school and Wednesday night programming, but as Paul reminds us in Philippians 23:12-13, "It is not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead." This verse is very important to me because it speaks of straining forward in faith. It tells me that this is not the end of the journey, but the beginning. It tells me to forget the sins of my past and strain on toward the heavenly goal set forth for me by Jesus, who came to earth as a man, died on the cross for our sins, and rose again as Lord. That is what I believe, and I will do my very best to show it every day of my life.

For Sharing and Prayer

On Sunday, May 22 we will have a service of child dedication to the Lord. For those who would like to dedicate their child to the Lord please contact Pastor Jim.

Please note the (pink) letter and new address from David and Martha Book on the bulletin board. David was our first Hesston College Pastoral Ministries student summer intern in the early 90's. Their new address: David and Martha Book, 6039 Elkhorn Rd., Knifley, KY 42753 (pronounced Nifflee) Telephone: 270-469-9556 E-mail: mmbook@alltel.net

Western District Conference: Pray for the graduates from high school, college, and seminary that God's leading will be clear for their lives.

Mennonite Mission Network: On this Pentecost Sunday, pray that God's Holy Spirit will empower and guide all of the ministries of MMN: workers, staff and programs, as well as those to whom they minister.

*Members and Friends of Grace Hill who are
Graduating this spring:*

Rachel Balzer University of Kansas on May 22

Cassandra Friesen University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE on May 7

Michael Kauffman Hesston High School on May 22 at 3:00 p.m.

Sarah Kauffman Hesston College on May 8

Ashley Newingham Santa Fe Middle School on May 22 at 5:00 p.m.

Amanda Regehr Remington Middle School on May 23 at 7:00 p.m.

Jill Schmidt Bethel College on May 22 at 2:30 p.m.

Church Events

Next Sunday Kids in Praise and Celebration Singers choir members are invited to a choir appreciation dinner at Valerie and John's home next Sunday, May 22. Please bring casual clothing and tell your parents to pick you up around 2:00 p.m. This is our way of saying thank you for a great year in choir starting with extra rehearsals for The Rockslinger's Greatest Hit and including regular attendance at practices and singing on Sundays. THANK YOU! Let us know if you can not come.

Valerie and Bonita

May 30 – June 3 Bible School with Zion at Grace Hill. *Kingdom of the Son – a Prayer Safari* will be the theme for children ages 4 through 6th grade. For more information, contact Penny Hiebert or Sharon Schmidt.

June 12 THIS IS YOUR GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY! Sing, play, act, juggle, mime ... share your talent LIVE on the Grace Hill stage! Turn in your request for stage time to the talent box in the foyer.

July 17 Worship service at Harvey County East Lake.

August 7 Mike and Teresa Sherrill, our mission partners, will be with us for our worship service.

August 7 6:00-8:00 p.m. All church swimming party at the Newton pool.

Nursery This Sunday: Debbie Claassen and Camille Claassen

Nursery Next Sunday: Bonita Schroeder and Emily Burch

Keyboard Next Sunday: Teresa Martin

Ushers Next Sunday: Rob Schunn and Becky Voth

Offering Last Sunday: Local Church \$5,267.50

Offering Next Sunday: Western District Conference

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: <http://gracehill.ks.us.mennonite.net/>

Announcements

Worship Council has received several requests to have people share their experiences with the congregation. To fulfill this need we will be starting Sunday Supper and Sharing Sessions. These sessions will be informal informational meetings that will take place in the fellowship hall at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday evenings whenever there is need for them. The meetings will begin with supper which each person will provide for him or herself (brown bag it!). Following supper we will hear from the speaker for 30 to 45 minutes. If you would like to volunteer to speak or suggest a speaker, see a worship council member. Our first session will be May 29. Hannah Klaassen will share pictures and information about her trip to the Middle East. On July 24 Jennie and Weldon Martens will share about their trip to Greece.

Journey with Joshua and the Grace Hill kids this summer in Sunday School. Let's give our dedicated Sunday School teachers a much-deserved break! There is plenty of opportunity for helping with this vital ministry of our church. You can be a music leader, story teller, activity coordinator, helper, or early childhood teacher. Refer to the Journey with Joshua flyer for details. Sign up in the foyer during the month of May. This is one summer activity you won't want to miss!

Bible School supplies needed! Do you have any of the following supplies that you could donate to Bible School crafts? We are needing: various colors of yarn, craft foam in various colors, small jigsaw puzzle pieces, one-half gallon cardboard milk cartons, baby food jars, plastic frosting cans, tongue depressors, ice cream sticks, medium-sized disposable round canister with plastic lid (small coffee can, roasted nuts container, powdered drink). Please put items in the box in the library. Questions? Talk to Katherine Claassen.

The Spiritual Council will again be sponsoring first time campers to Camp Mennoscah. To off-set the cost of the camp we will be taking a special offering during Sunday School on May 22. This year we have 6-8 persons, who could be first time campers, the cost to send a camper to Camp Mennoscah varies between \$95.00 and \$115.00 a person depending upon the age of the camper. If you are unable to be present for the offering and would like to donate to this cause please see one of the Spiritual Council Representatives. We are also asking the parent of first time campers to contact Sandie Lanzrath as soon as possible.

Thank you, Spiritual Council

Et Cetera

Sunday-Afternoon-at-the-Museum, This afternoon 3:30-4:30 p.m., "Hope Amidst Devastation: Images of Postwar Germany." Robert Kreider, the first MCC volunteer stationed in Germany after World War II will present a slide-illustrated talk about his experiences (repeat of February program). The program accompanies the special exhibition "The Art of Sharing, the Sharing of Art: Responses to Mennonite Relief in Postwar Germany" which will be on display through May 29. Free and open to the public. Kauffman Museum is located at 27th and North Main in North Newton. Call 316-283-1612 for more information.

Become informed about Western District Conference Vision 2012 (strategic planning). This week you can attend a "Circling the Conference" meeting at Hope Mennonite Church, Wichita, on Monday, May 16 at 7:00 p.m. For more information, call the WDC office 316-283-6300 or email: wdc@mennowdc.org.

Urgently needed by June 1: young adults to serve with *deo* (a one year service-based discipleship program of the Mennonite Mission Network) working with homeless and elderly persons in Denver, CO, and Phoenix, AZ. Please pray that God will provide young adults to meet these needs. For more information or to apply, contact *deo* at deo@mennowdc.org, phone: 316-283-5100, or at www.d-e-o.org.

Alumni and friends of Bethel College are invited to the Spring Thresher Golf Classic, Saturday, June 4, at Eagle Bend Golf Course, 1250 E. 902 Rd. (below Clinton Lake Dam), Lawrence, Kansas. The tournament is a fund-raiser for Bethel College. Activities begin at 11:00 a.m. Cost is \$70 (includes lunch, greens fees, cart). To register contact the alumni office at 316-284-5251, alumni@bethelks.edu, or see the brochure on the bulletin board. Registration deadline is Wednesday, May 25. Come play golf for Bethel!

Salina Mennonite Church invites you to help them celebrate their 25th anniversary on Sunday, June 5. Join for worship at 10:00 a.m. and a noon fellowship meal. At 1:30 will be a program of history, sharing of reflections and a tree planting. If you can come to the meal, RSVP to Vera Zerger (vtzgerger@aol.com), 785-823-8356. If not able to attend, send memories and reflections to the church: 600 W State Street, Salina, KS 67401.