

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

July 16, 2006

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Pastor: James Voth

Keyboard: Jana Harms and Laura Harms

Whitewater, Kansas

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Youth Pastor: Brett Klingenberg

Chorister: Suzy Burch

Bread de Vida - Bread of Life

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.

Welcome to Western District Conference Sunday Pastor Jim

WDC Mission Statement

"Western District Conference empowers Anabaptist/Mennonite congregations to:

Witness and invite others to Jesus Christ,
Dwell in just and loving relationships,
Connect to God's mission in the world."

* **Call to Worship** Pastor Jim

L: Come! All who are hungry, come and feast upon the Word of God.

P: **We come because we long to be nourished in body and soul.**

L: Come! All who are thirsty, come and drink from the cup of salvation.

P: **We come because our spirits are thirsting for drink that quenches our thirst for life.**

L: Come Holy Spirit, Bread of Life, God of Manna! Come and nourish us. Come and quench our thirst.

P: **We come to receive and to give. We come to be renewed and to renew. We come because we have been invited to this holy place by Christ himself.**

L: May our praises and our prayers be lifted up in unison with our brothers and sisters in faith.

All: **Praise to the God of life in whose name we gather this day! Amen.**

* **Invocation** Pastor Jim

* **A Hymn of Praise No. 582** *Guide me, O though great Jehovah*

Scripture Reading John 6:1-35

Terra Harms-Becker Levi Goossen Pastor Jim Voth

* **Hymn No. 472** *I am the Bread of life*

Offering Mennonite Men of the Plains Pastor Brett

Children's Moments Pastor Brett

Sharing and Congregational Prayer Pastor Jim

Meditation *A Camp Mennoscah Story* Pastor Brett

* **Hymn No. 360** *Break thou the bread of life*

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

Meditation *Bread that fills us with new possibilities* Pastor Jim

Prayer for our congregation and Western District Conference

L: God of history and God of the future,
we give you thanks for calling your people
to form communities of faith.

P: **We give you thanks for our congregation-- its history, its mission, its leaders, its witness.**

L: God of history and God of the future,
we remember the ways our ancestors
took risks to serve Jesus Christ alone.

P: **We give you thanks for our heritage—
for spiritual mothers and fathers who lived
their faith no matter the cost or struggle.**

L: God of history and God of the future,
bless the present-day church.

P: **We give you thanks for binding us together
into an area conference in Texas, Oklahoma,
Kansas, and Nebraska. Unify us into the body of Christ.**

L: We pray for our neighbors north, south, east and west.
We pray for those who speak Spanish, English, Cheyenne,
and Low German. Bind us together as we share the Good News
of Jesus Christ.

P: **We give you thanks for the Western District Conference
and**

**its ministries in camping, resourcing, witnessing,
and forming Christian disciples.**

L: Bless our congregation and bless the Western District
Conference this day. May your Holy Spirit lead, guide, and
direct our ministry together.

**ALL: May the love of God,
the peace of Christ, and
the power of the Holy Spirit be with us all. Amen.**

* **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.

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!**

Today is Western District Conference Sunday, marking the conclusion
of the annual delegate session held Friday and yesterday at Bethel
College. Important decisions were made about the future vision and
growth of the area conference that serves our 4-state region. A new
constitution and organizational structure are being put into place.
Conference officials and staff are very grateful for the participation and
support of individuals and congregations.

Following Sunday school all are welcome to the Carry-in meal served in
the fellowship hall. We will first gather in the sanctuary for the blessing
on the meal.

For Sharing and Prayer

Western District Conference: Today is “WDC Sunday”. As people visit and worship in different congregations together, pray for a spirit of unity and shared faith.

Mennonite Mission Network: New and returning international workers serving with MMN and Mennonite Church Canada Witness are gathered together with mission staff July 15-21 at Syracuse, Ind., for the annual mission seminar. Pray that it may be a time of inspiration, renewed hope and rejuvenation for all who participate.

Pastor Brett will be gone this week to Camp Mennoscah as the program director for the junior high week.

Summer Sunday School

Joint Adult and Youth Summer Sunday School will meet in the sanctuary. *Who Are the Mennonites? Our Story* **Today's Topic:** *My Personal Pilgrimage*, Speaker: Robert Rhodes, Assistant Editor of *The Mennonite Weekly Review*. **Next Sunday:** *New Beginnings – Resettlement of World War II Refugees, Part I* (video - in the fellowship hall)

The Junior department (grades K-6) will be studying the *Walk with Jesus* series in the basement. Grades 7-8 may help with the junior department or attend the adult sessions. A separate class will be maintained for the Early Childhood group (ages 2-5 yrs.).

Today Carry-in meal after Sunday School. Welcome to our guests from the Western District Conference. Everyone is invited to stay.

Next Sunday Ronda Schmidt, daughter of Ray and Elfrieda Schmidt, and mission worker with New Tribes Mission, will share with us during worship.

August 13 6:00-8:00 p.m. Church swimming party at the Newton pool.

Monday, June 24, 7:00 -8:00 p.m. The second gathering of the *Introduction to Grace Hill* class at the church. This class is for anyone interested in learning more about Grace Hill and church membership. For further information please contact Pastor Jim. All are welcome!

Nursery This Sunday: Sharon Schmidt and Rita Patterson

Nursery Next Sunday: Debbie Claassen and Camille Claassen

Music Next Sunday: Harms-Becker family

And the Praise Team

Ushers Next Sunday: Rob Schunn and Becky Voth

Offering Last Sunday: Local Church \$6,769.50

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

Church Events

Praise Team Members! Just a reminder that we lead worship music next Sunday, July 23. Please be at the church by 8:40 a.m. to practice. Thanks.

There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board to help with the homeless shelter August 9-15. Sign up to bring food or stay the night, or both! Also, at your local Wal-Mart you can support the homeless shelter by buying raffle tickets for a playhouse. Each ticket is \$5 and all proceeds go to the shelter.

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.

Et Cetera

With summer on the wane, it is time to gear up for the Mennonite Central Committee annual school kit drive. Immediate requests are 40,000 kits for Jordan and Nicaragua. Fall shipments will also meet needs in Iraq and Afghanistan. Please help us get an early start on our Central States goal of 15,000 school kits by the end of the year. See www.mcc.org/kits/school or call 316-283-2720 for more information.

Look to the Mountains. Expand your mind. Enrich your faith. Strengthen your daily walk. Breathe deep and grow. Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp is offering two new weekend retreats for adults this year. On August 11-13, learn about the spiritual basis for environmental concern in Faith and the Earth with Luke Gascho and Lorna Habegger. On October 13-15, reflect on the challenges and rewards of Caring for Aging Parents with Bev Baumgartner and Donna Froese. For more information and registration, see the brochures in the foyer or log onto www.rmmcamp.org or call the camp at 719-687-9506.

Mennonite Mission Network seeks a Network Administrator to ensure the stable operation of the in-house wide area computer network. This position is in Newton, Kansas. For more information, see Staff Opportunities at www.MennoniteMission.net.