

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

September 3, 2006

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: James Voth

Youth Pastor: Brett Klingenberg

Keyboard: Linda Harms

Chorister: Gladys Reimer

Sunday School Promotion 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.

* **Call to Worship** Hymn No. 302 *Come, divine Interpreter*

* **Invocation** Psalm 119:33-40

* **Hymn No. 301** *Joys are flowing like a river*

Offering Mennonite Church USA

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

Hymn No. 577 *O Love that will not let me go*

Scripture Reading 2 Timothy 3:14-16
Reader: Rob Schunn

Special Music *I Love You, Lord*
Brittany, Courtney, Camille and Samantha Claassen

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

Sermon *The Scriptures – Life-long learning and Usefulness*

The Holy Scriptures

- For life-long learning
- Give us understanding of God's salvation
- Unique – inspired by God
- Useful

2 Timothy 3:16 (MSG) ¹⁶ Every part of Scripture is God-breathed and useful one way or another—**showing us truth, exposing our rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God's way.**

Junior Sunday School Promotion Service – Grades 1 - 6

Distribution of Gather Round *Talkabout's*

Introduction of Teachers and Students Katherine Claassen

Children please come forward as your name is called
and stand with your teachers

Presentation of Bible to First Graders Pastor Jim

Jacob Hilgenfeld Braden Olds Sarai Stamps

Prayer of Dedication

The congregation will encircle the sanctuary for the prayer of dedication found in the bulletin and the benediction hymn, which we will sing as a round. Please have your bulletins with you for the responsive prayer of dedication and the benediction hymn.

* **Benediction Hymn**

¹ Go now in peace, go now in peace,

² May the love of God surround you

³ Everywhere, everywhere

⁴ you may go.

Go now in peace, go now in peace

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

A big thank you to the many of you who have supported me in my recent surgery with prayers, visits, yummy food, cards, transportation, telephone calls, love and caring. You are special.

Doreen Harms

Pastor Brett is on vacation today through Tuesday, September 5, and September 8-11.

Western District Conference: Pray for both teachers and learners as they begin a new Sunday School year that they may be nurtured in their faith and enriched by learning Bible stories.

Mennonite Mission Network: In Argentina, MMN worker Willis Horst has planned a Bible Circle with an indigenous Pilaga church community September 8-10 in an area called Rural Lot 21. Pray for spiritual renewal among the youth.

Church Events

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. High School Youth Group meets at church.

Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Worship Council meets at church.

Friday – Sunday Women and Girls' Retreat at Camp Mennoscah. A schedule and registration forms are available in the foyer.

Next Sunday at 4:00 p.m. Wheat State Manor Vesper Service – Seekers S.S. Class is in charge.

Monday, September 11 *School Kits and Banana Splits* All ladies and Junior Youth are invited to sew and fill school kits for Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) at the regular meeting of Hands of Friendship on Monday, September 11, between 5:00 - 9:00 p.m. Bring sewing machines, sergers, cutting mats, rotary cutters and rulers. Fabric is still needed. Devotions: Carol Claassen; Financial Projects: Western Distinct Women in Missions, Camp Mennoscah and MCC School Kits. Supplies for the school kits are being collected in the foyer. Lists of needed supplies are on the table or at www.mcc.org/kits/school. The evening will conclude with banana splits provided by the junior youth.

Sunday, September 24 at 7:00 p.m. Semi-annual Business Meeting at church.

Wednesday, September 27 marks the beginning of our Wednesday evening church activities with a wiener roast at 6:30 p.m. More details to follow.

October 21-22 Church Retreat at Camp Mennoscah.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

September 16-17 Milford Lake Camping and Boating Trip

September 23 Whitewater Youth Rally

Announcements

Needed: Persons interested in driving the parking shuttle during the Kansas State Fair. The State Fair pays the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale \$2,500 for this service, which helps lower our building rental costs for the next sale. **Grace Hill needs drivers for Tuesday, September 12 from 4:00-7:00 p.m.** Contact Kim Claassen or Brad Burch if you are willing to drive.

College Students: If you are interested in receiving *The Mennonite* during the 2006-07 school year, please contact Debbie Claassen.

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: Nancy Harms and Jana Harms

Nursery Next Sunday: Diana Schunn and Deb Hiebert

Keyboard Next Sunday: Teresa Martin

Ushers Next Sunday: Doug Hiebert and Orville Schmidt

Offering Last Sunday: Western District Conference \$1,530.00

Offering Next Sunday: Local Church Missions

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/>

Et Cetera

Cultivating Compassion: An Interactive Study Group based on Marshall Rosenberg's book *Nonviolent Communication (NVC), A Language of Life* will be held at Peace Connections, 612 N. Main, Newton, on alternate Wednesdays from 10-11:30 a.m. Intro session to be held on September 6 (come & check it out with no obligation to continue) and six more sessions September 20 - November 29. Co-facilitators: Molly Traffas and Myrna Krehbiel. Contact info.: 316-284-0000, info@peaceconnection.org Limit 12 participants. Call to reserve a space. Suggested donation: \$30-60 for 6 sessions.

Meet a traditional weaver from Laos at Ten Thousand Villages! On Monday, September 11, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., experience a different part of the world firsthand at Ten Thousand Villages, 625 N. Main, Newton. Kommaly Chanthavong, who works with Laotian artisans creating fairly traded exquisite silk textiles, will demonstrate traditional Laotian weaving techniques. She is making this incredible journey to share her talents and culture with customers like you. Visit our store to meet Kommaly and learn more about traditional Laotian weaving.

On September 11, 2006, Peace Connections encourages you to remember the 5th year anniversary of the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, as well as, celebrate the 100th year anniversary of collective nonviolent action. On Sept. 11, 1906, in South Africa, the Indian nonviolent movement was born through the work of Gandhi. To commemorate both of these significant events, Peace Connections invites you to attend the screening of the movie *Gandhi* at 612 N. Main, Newton, at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments provided. A short time for discussion will follow. Free & open to all. Call 284-0000 for more information.

Play golf for Bethel at a new location! Alumni and friends of Bethel College are invited to the Fall Thresher Golf Classic, Saturday, September 16, this year at Sand Creek Station in Newton. Activities begin at 7:15 a.m. Check the bulletin board for details, or contact the Bethel alumni office at 316-284-5251, alumni@bethelks.edu. Registration deadline is September 6.

The annual Mennonite Central Committee Flatlander Bicycle Ride will be held on Saturday, September 16, originating at the MCC offices in North Newton. While participating in this benefit ride, you will also experience Christian fellowship and good food. Enjoy the beautiful autumn harvest season in Kansas and get wholesome exercise while raising funds for MCC to provide water facilities in Bangladesh. Rides of 35, 45, and 65 miles will accommodate the novice as well as the experienced rider. Informational brochures are available in the foyer or on the MCC website at www.mcc.org/bike.

Need to get away and play... Come join us for the annual Work and Play Camp September 17-21 at Camp Mennoscah. For more information or to register, see the flyer in the foyer or contact Joyce at Camp Mennoscah 620-297-3290 or email: campmno@mennowdc.org.

Jumpstart! will be held at Alexanderwohl Church, Goessel, on Saturday, September 23. This day will provide quality resourcing for all who work with children, youth and families, with a special focus on teacher training in *Gather 'Round*. Workshops will provide insight on storytelling, learning styles, music and rhythm, imagining new resources for our denomination and connecting church and home. Leaders include teachers, writers, pastors, musicians and lots of creative folks. It's an energizing day! Registration forms were sent to all churches - deadline is September 14. For more info, call Marlene Bogard at Western District Conference, 316-283-6300.

Worship planners: plan to attend the Western District Conference Advent Planner at Shalom Mennonite, Newton, on Thursday, September 28 at 7:00 p.m. Receive resourcing on how to plan for the upcoming Advent, Christmas and Epiphany worship season straight from the writers and creators of the 2007 materials as found in the Fall Leader. No registration needed, bring your Fall 2007 Leader. For more info, contact Melanie Zuercher, 316-284-5247.

“Church in my Dreams: A new Generation speaks out!” October 27-29 Hesston College offers another in the Anabaptist Vision and Discipleship Series. The speaker is nationally known youth and young adult speaker Tony Jones. It's for pastors, youth pastors and youth sponsors. But it's also for YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS! Grace Hill is offering a generous scholarship for those from our congregation who would like to attend. Our goal is eight or more! Pastor Brett and Pastor Jim have more information, brochures, registration information and a list of the workshops being planned. It's about being together, worshipping, playing and dreaming!

2006 – 2007 SUNDAY SCHOOL YEAR

Early Childhood: Pre-kindergarten, Location: Room 6

Teachers: Jon & Sue Ann Jantz, Katherine Claassen

Students: Brandy Berg, Elizabeth “Lizzie” Berg,
Quinn Dove, Elise Jantz,

Primary: Grades Kindergarten – 2nd grade, Location: Room 5

Teachers: Sara Burch, Bonita Schroeder

Students: Aliah Berg, Carson Dove, Renata Goossen, Jacob Hilgenfeld,
Brayden Olds, Bethany Regehr, Sarai Stamps, Shelby Ulbrich

Middler: Grades 3rd & 4th, Location: Room 4

Teachers: Penny Hiebert, Curt Regehr

Students: Carine Claassen, Paul Goossen, Grant Litton-Ulbrich,
Kadie Martin, Meghan Nipper, Noah Schmidt,

Junior Youth I: Grades 5th & 6th, Location: Room 7

Teachers: Carl & Kris Goossen, K. John Klaassen

Students: Cole Claassen, Grant Claassen, Rachelle Claassen,
Lucas Goossen, Sara Harms, Steven Harms, Emma Hilgenfeld,
Hunter Hill, David Jantz, Paul Janzen, Katrina Regehr,
Kyle Regier, Eli Schmidt, Kylee Schunn

Junior Youth II: Grades 7th & 8th, Location: Room 3

Teachers: Russ & Kris Janzen, James & Deb Regier

Students: Samantha Claassen, Ashley Guhr, Brett Harms,
Matthew Hiebert, Mikayla Hiebert, Maria Jantz,
David Janzen, Elizabeth Martin, Melinda Regehr

High School Location: Youth Room

Teachers: Doug Claassen, Lisa Harms,

Diana Schunn, Pastor Brett Klingenberg

Students: Emily Burch, Brittany Claassen, Camille Claassen,
Cody Claassen, Courtney Claassen, Adam Freking, Kirstie Gronau,
Jana Harms, Laura Harms, Philip Harms, Tara Harms-Becker,
Cory Hiebert, Grant Hill, Daniel Klaassen, Emily, Klassen,
Justin Klassen, Ashley Newingham, Amanda Regehr,
Caleb Regehr, Katie Regier, Matt Regier, Casey Schunn,
Curtis Toews, Emily Toews, Kristin Toews

A prayer for Gather 'Round

Leader: Nurturing God, through caring homes, loving teachers and church friends, and resources that guide us to interpret your word, we are inspired to know you.

Congregation: Thank you, God, for the joy of knowing you, belonging to your gathered community, and growing in faith.

Leader: The Bible tells us of your love for us. It commands us to love you with heart, soul, and mind, and to talk to one another about our deep love for you—when we are at home and when we are away, when we lie down and when we rise.

Congregation: Thank you, God, for loving us—and calling us to love you.

Leader: The Bible tells us about the good news of God's salvation through Jesus, and what it means to follow Jesus into the world.

Congregation: Thank you, God, for calling us to follow Jesus—and to share this good news by loving our neighbors as ourselves.

Leader: Creating God, today we celebrate the gift of a new Sunday school curriculum. We pray that it will guide us to be faithful to you in our homes, our congregation, and the world.

Congregation: God, we ask your blessing as we study and use *Gather 'Round: Hearing and Sharing God's Good News*.

Leader: Today we celebrate all who have supported *Gather 'Round* with their talents, eager interest, prayers, and donations of money and time.

Congregation: We especially thank you, God, for the writers and editors who prepared *Gather 'Round*, and for the teachers, children, and parents who will give it life.

Leader: Loving God, we pray that *Gather 'Round* will fulfill its mission to nurture children, youth, and adults in becoming followers of Jesus.

Congregation: God, we pray that *Gather 'Round* will guide us to know and love you, interpret your word, belong to your gathered community, and share your good news. Amen.