

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

November 14, 2004
Kansas

Whitewater,

Worship 9:30 a.m.
a.m.

Sunday School 10:45

Pastor: James Voth

Youth Pastor: Brett Klingenberg

Keyboard: Chelsea Vaught

Chorister: Suzy Burch

Harvest Thanks Mission Festival Sunday

God's intent was that now, through the church,
the manifold wisdom of God should be made known . . .

Prelude	<i>Prelude and Fugue in G Major</i>	Bach
	<i>For the Beauty of the Earth</i>	Ferguson
	<i>We Gather Together</i>	Ferguson
	<i>Now Thank We All Our God</i>	Cherwien

Welcome and Announcements

Special welcome to our guests on this Harvest Thanks Sunday. Each year we as a congregation set aside a Sunday in the fall to give thanks to God for the blessings of harvest and all the blessings of life God has poured out on us. We're glad you have come to worship with us. During this time in the service we spend a few moments introducing guests. May the joy of the Lord be our strength as we worship together in the name of the Father, the Son Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit in and among us.

* **Choral Call to Worship** *Bless The Lord O My Soul* Adult Choir

* **Preparing Our Hearts to Give Thanks and Praise** Pastor Brett

One: Give thanks to God,

All: For God's creation is amazing.

One: The sun warms our day,

All: The moon lights our nighttime way.

One: The earth is filled with bounty,

All: A cornucopia of plenty.

One: Give thanks to God,

All: For God's salvation is perfect;

One: Restoring us to new creations,

All: Through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

One: God is my hope and my salvation,

All: So my heart is filled with joy.

One: Give thanks to God,

All: For God's love is everlasting;

One: A constant source of comfort,

All: A companion in hard times.

One: God is my strength and song,

All: So my heart is filled with praise.

* **Prayer of Gathering** Pastor Brett

* **Hymn No. 86** *Now Thank We All Our God*
verse 1 – parts verse 2 – a cappella verse 3 - unison

Children's Moments Pastor Brett

Sharing Our Praises and Our Prayers Pastor Jim
Congregational Prayer No. 721

* **A Hymn of Thanksgiving No. 53** *God Of The Earth, The Sky, The Sea*

Worship in Giving Harvest Thanks Offering Pastor Jim
Offertory *Now Thank We All Our God* Hobby

The Harvest Thanks envelope is for giving a special Harvest Thanks offering through the church. Envelopes are available from an usher.

Choral Anthem *For Simple Things* Adult Choir

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

Scripture Reading Matthew 13:31, 32 John 12:24, 25
Reader: Debbie Claassen

Message *Planting the Kingdom of God* Pastor Juan Sieber

* **Hymn No. 638** *God Is Working His Purpose Out*

* **Benediction**

from Ephesians 6:23-24

All: Peace to you, brother and sister – *greet those around you*

Pastor Brett: And love with faith from God the Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Grace to all who love our Lord Jesus Christ
with an undying love.

* **Benediction Hymn No. 118** *Praise God From Whom*

Postlude *Now Thank We All Our God*

Karg-Elert

* 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.

A Special welcome to our guests, Juan and Amaris Sieber and their sons, Jonathan, David and Floyd. Juan, the son of the late Mennonite missionaries Floyd and Alice Sieber, has lived in Argentina most of his life, although he was born in Indiana. For more than 25 years he has been part of a pastoral team at the Choele Choel Mennonite Church in the southern region of Argentina, known as Patagonia. He coordinated the Patagonia Missionary Program, planting churches in southern Argentina in partnership with the Argentina Mennonite Church, Mennonite Mission Network, and Arm in Arm (a cluster of Mennonite people and congregations in Illinois). Arm in Arm is hosting Sieber, his wife Amaris, and their three sons in Hopedale, Ill., for a year.

Harvest Thanks Day Events

Today all adult classes will meet together in the sanctuary for a Combined Adult Sunday school class with the Siebers. Theme: The Church in Argentina.

Following Sunday school all are invited to the **Harvest Thanks Dinner** in the fellowship hall. Special thanks to the Social Committee for organizing the meal, to the Youth Group for serving and to all who contributed food. **ALL are invited!** We'll join together in the sanctuary for prayer before making our way to the fellowship hall.

This evening the youth will meet with Juan and Amaris at 5:30 p.m. At 6:00 p.m. A Pizza Party with the Siebers. Theme: "Family and Church Life in Argentina". Bring the family and join us for an informal evening around the table. Please let Pastor Jim or Sandie Lanzrath know if you plan to attend so that we may know how much pizza to order. Thank you.

Let us celebrate together with thanksgiving!

For Sharing and Prayer

In the Hospital

Helena Friesen, St. Francis Hospital, Wichita

The wonderful support we felt from our church family during Bob's bout with leukemia was just awesome and we want to thank each one of you! We thank the kids for the cards they sent and to all of the rest of you for your cards, visits, love and prayers. "The Lord says, When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you." Isaiah 43:2. As we approached the end of each day, we would remind each other of the words from the recent kids' musical, "**OUR GOD IS A GREAT GOD.**" May He be praised.

Bob and Judy Janzen

Thank you to Pastor Jim and to all my church family for your prayers, visits, calls and cards, Mariners' flowers, and other kindness before and after my unexpected surgery. Most of all I'm grateful for your prayers.

Rita Patterson

Grace Hill has again been asked to provide a supervised ministry experience for a Hesston College Pastoral Ministries student. The Administrative Council has approved this request. The student's name is Daniel Schroeder. Daniel, 29, is a member of the Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church, Goessel and lives in Hillsboro. The college has restructured the program since our last student. Daniel will be a part of the congregation for two college semesters, January through mid-May 2005 and September through December 2005. He will participate in the life of the church on a regular basis and will spend 4 hours/week in a ministry experience. Let us again give thanks for this opportunity we have been given to help nurture a person in the ministry of the church.

Western District Conference: Pray for the members and friends of Central Heights Mennonite Church, Durham, Kansas as they auction the building and complete the sale of church items marking the closing of this congregation founded in 1899, giving thanks for its witness and service.

Mennonite Mission Network: MMN workers Neal and Janie Blough ask prayer for gift discernment and the restructuring of leadership and activities of the Chatenay Mennonite congregation in a suburb of Paris. Pray for the annual congregational meeting held next Sunday, November 21, and for Janie and Neal who are involved with the life of the congregation.

Church Events

Monday afternoon Quilters are invited to the church every Monday afternoon to quilt on the MCC quilt.

Wednesday at 6:10 p.m. All Church Meal*

7:00 – 8:10 p.m. Children's and Youth Programming

7:00 – 7:40 p.m. Adult Bible Study

7:40 p.m. Adult Choir

*To make or cancel reservations for the meal please contact Tammy Regehr (799-2911) or Barb Voth (283-2644).

Cost of the meal: Adults \$3.00 Children \$2.50

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Business Council will meet at church.

Next Sunday at 7:00 p.m. A concert to benefit Mennonite Central Committee's "Generations at Risk" project will be held at Grace Hill. A prelude of clarinet and piano music will begin at 6:40 p.m. The program will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will include a Bluegrass quartet, a solo pianist and Open Road, a men's a capella group. "Generations at Risk" is MCC's \$10 million 10-year above-budget response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic that affects 42 million people worldwide and has left 15 million children orphaned. There will be a time of fellowship after the concert. Everyone is welcome.

Wednesday, November 24, at 7:00 p.m. Grace Hill Thanksgiving Service. The service will include sharing by the children. An offering will be received for Harvest of Love. Bring a canned or boxed item or make checks out to Harvest of Love. Light refreshments will be served following the service.

Wednesday, November 24 The Adult Choir will practice following the Thanksgiving Service and refreshments.

Sunday, December 5 Grace Hill's 130th Anniversary. A traditional German meal will be served by the Social Council at noon.

The Jr. Youth will be holding a bake sale on Sunday, November 21 immediately after Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall.

The Mennonite subscription list is being updated. The church has a group-rate policy and each subscription costs the church \$29.00. If you are not receiving *The Mennonite* and would like to, or if you are currently receiving it and would like to discontinue your subscription, please contact Debbie Claassen by November 21.

You're invited to join "Prayers of the Church" each Sunday morning from 9:00 – 9:10 a.m. in the library. Please feel free to place prayer requests in the prayer box in the foyer.

You can HEAR the worship service even better using the church's FM radio transmitter. All that is needed is a small AM/FM radio with headphones. Tune to FM 104.9 and you may receive the worship service seated anywhere in the sanctuary. Several radios are available at church or bring your own. If you have any questions our sound technicians will be glad to assist you.

Nursery This Sunday: Debbie Claassen and Camille Claassen
Nursery Next Sunday: Marge Harms and Joyce Wedel

Keyboard Next Sunday: Chelsea Vaught
Special Music Next Sunday: Children's Choir (grades 1-4)

Ushers Next Sunday: Kendall Claassen and Terry Klassen

Offering Last Sunday: Mennonite Church USA \$1,287.71
Offering Next Sunday: Local Church

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

Announcements

The second annual "87 Minutes for Peace" will be held at Shalom Mennonite Church this evening at 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Join us for an evening of music, poetry, and art... to express our desire for peace and our choice to be peacemakers in this time of conflict and aggression. An offering will be taken to benefit the ministries of Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT) and Offender Victim Ministries (OVM). If anyone would like to contribute their gifts in music or other arts, please contact Joan Schrock-Woodward at 284-0175.

Mennonite Central Committee Central States invites the public to a meeting at which Rolando Santiago, newly appointed Executive Director of MCC U.S., will share about MCC U.S. vision and programs, and Niladri Sinha from India will talk about MCC's Global Family Program. This meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 16, 7:30 p.m. at the MCC Center in North Newton. This will also be an opportunity to meet two new Central States staff: Irma Gonzalez, Workroom Supervisor, and Leia Lawrence, Human Resources Coordinator and Service Program Co-Administrator.

Sandra Birdsell, a well-known Canadian fiction writer and the author of a critically acclaimed novel about Mennonite experience in Russia, *The Russlanders* (2001; published this year in the U.S. as *Katya*), will speak twice at Bethel College on Friday, November 19 at 11:00 a.m. in Krehbiel Auditorium and at 7:30 p.m. in the Administration Building chapel. Both events are free and open to the public.

The Newton Community Children's Choir is conducting a benefit concert on Saturday, November 20 at 7:00 p.m. in Memorial Hall on the Bethel College campus. Admission is free. A free-will offering will be taken to benefit the Norma Preheim Endowment Fund.

Faith Mennonite Church Dedication Celebration of the Building Addition will be November 21 beginning with the worship service at 9:30 a.m. A complimentary luncheon will be served at 11:45 a.m. (RSVP – 316-283-6370) The Dedication Celebration will be at 2:00 p.m. followed by an open house and reception at 3:00 p.m. Faith Church is located at 2100 Anderson in Newton.

Benefit concert/supper. The Community Mediation Center, a program of the Kansas Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (KIPCOR) of Bethel College, will hold its second annual benefit concert and supper

Sunday, November 21, at 4:30 p.m. in Memorial Hall on the Bethel campus. Senator Christine Downey will emcee, with featured musician Ann Zimmerman. New this year: a silent auction of pieces by local artists, including John Gaeddert, Ann Zerger, Clarence Niles and Ellen Groves. Tickets are \$15 each or \$105 for a table of eight, available through Thursday, November 18, from the KIPCOR office, 2515 College Ave. (P.O. Box A), North Newton 67117; phone (316) 284-5217.

Wheat State Manor will hold their Community Thanksgiving Service on Tuesday, November 23 at 7:00 p.m. The service will be a celebration of thanksgiving and praise, led by local pastors and musical talent from area churches. An offering will be taken that will go towards building renovations to benefit residents.

The Newton Et Cetera Shop is accepting applications for the position of Clothing Assistant Manager. This 20 to 40-hour per week paid position requires a basic knowledge of brand names and time periods of clothing and shoes. Job duties include keeping clothing and shoes organized in and out of season and managing volunteers. Applicants must be reliable, friendly, have strong communication skills, and work well with others. Previous retail experience a plus. Hiring immediately. For more information contact Jessica Maroz, General Manager, at 316-283-9461.

The Relief Sale Fellowship Meals will be on Sunday, February 27, 2005 and Sunday, March 6, 2005. Please pick up a form, fill it out, and return to Debbie Claassen by January 30. You may also mail it in directly to Marvin and Marjorie Stucky – address is on the brochure. The adult meals are \$15 each and children (6-12) are \$6. Children under 6 are free. Checks should be made payable to Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale and handed in or sent in with the form. Gift certificates are available. Brochures with all of the information are available in the foyer.

This holiday season you can shop with a purpose! Ten Thousand Villages will donate a portion of sales to a local non-profit organization. Your shopping will not only help artisans around the world, but also make a difference right here at home! This year each group will have an entire week to raise money for their organizations. Nov. 15-20: Offender/Victim Ministries; Nov. 22-27: New Jerusalem Missions; Nov. 29 – Dec. 4: Newton Community Children's Choir; Dec. 6-11: Hesston Resource Center; Dec. 14-18: Community Playschool; Dec. 20-24: Peace Connections. Questions? Call 316-283-0061.