

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

November 20, 2005

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Pastor: James Voth

Keyboard: Julia Washburn

Whitewater, Kansas

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Youth Pastor: Brett Klingenberg

Chorister: Suzy Burch

Offering Local Church Missions

Offertory *Give Thanks / Now Thank We All Our God*

Camille, Samantha & Debbie Claassen

Sharing and Prayer

Congregational Prayer – Ephesians 1:15-23 Pew Bible Page 1156

The Apostle Paul's Prayer for the Gathered People

Prayer Response Hymn No. 349 *Spirit Of The Living God*

Special Music *Thank You For Today*

Celebration Singers

Children to age 5 may be dismissed to the nursery in the library

Scripture Reading Ezekiel 34:11-24

Reader: Edgar Harder

Sermon *Problem Shepherds and Problem Sheep*

* **Hymn No. 589** *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

* **Benediction**

* **Choral Benediction Hymn** *Go Now In Peace* Celebration Singers

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 Spiritual Reflection: "The perfect surrender and humiliation were undergone by Christ: perfect because He was God, surrender and humiliation because He was man." C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

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.

Choral Call to Worship *He Is Exalted* Celebration Singers

* **Litany of Thanksgiving** Psalms 95:1-7 Pastor Brett

Leader: Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

People: Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song. For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods.

Leader: In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

People: Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker; for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.

* **Gathering Prayer** Pastor Brett

* **Gathering Hymn No. 156** *All Things Bright And Beautiful*

For Sharing and Prayer

An open house for Doreen Harms' 80th birthday will be held at church this afternoon from 2 to 4 p.m. All are welcome to help her celebrate this occasion. Hostesses for this are some members of the Challengers and Mariners Sunday School Classes.

Next Sunday, the **First Sunday of Advent**, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper during worship. Scriptures for reflection in preparation for next Sunday's worship: Isaiah 64:1-9, Psalm 80:1-7; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9, Mark 13:24-37.

The Administrative Council is still trying to fill two positions – the Junior Sunday School Superintendent and a position on Worship Council. Please consider serving in this way. If there are any questions about the duties of either position or if you are interested in serving please talk to James Regier, Deb Regier or Valerie Klaassen.

Western District Conference: Pray for the Vision 2012 Steering Committee as it shapes congregation and individual funding for WDC mission in camping, ministerial leadership, and resourcing congregations.

Mennonite Mission Network: Pray that God will give insight to missional church development staff members of MMN as they assess needs of the urban context and connect these to the wider Mennonite Church USA.

Announcements

MITTENS/GLOVES: It's time to purchase mittens and gloves for the Salvation Army in Newton. Please put them on the Christmas tree in Fellowship Hall beginning Sunday, November 27. - Hands of Friendship Committee

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: Bonita Schroeder and Emily Burch

Nursery Next Sunday: Marge Harms and Deb Hiebert

Special Music Next Sunday: Praise Team

Keyboard Next Sunday: Linda Harms

Ushers Next Sunday: Rob Schunn and Becky Voth

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

Student Pastor: Daniel Schroeder

E-mail: dlschroeder@dtnspeed.net

Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen 1-888-516-8474

Secretary's E-mail: kimdebc@wheatstate.com

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

Church Events

Monday Attention Quilters: Every Monday afternoon you are invited to come to the church and quilt on the MCC quilt.

Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Whitewater Community Thanksgiving Service at Wheat State Manor Dining Room. We welcome the community to join us in offering thanks for the many blessings in our lives.

Wednesday 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. There is a box and offering basket at the back of the foyer. This year's Harvest of Love goal is 40,000 pounds of food and \$30,000 in cash. Light refreshments will be served following the service.

Monday, November 28 4:00 – 10:00 p.m. Come-and-go "Hobby Night" in the fellowship hall. This time is reserved for you to work on your hobbies or crafts in the fellowship of others. If you wish, bring a snack to share. Drinks will be available.

Sunday, December 4 at 2:15 p.m. Spiritual Council Christmas Caroling with the high school and junior youth groups.

Wednesday evenings - Christmas Program Practice for grades one through high school on December 7, 14 and 21. Kid's meal on December 7 – no meal on December 21. Regular Wednesday evening programming on November 30.

Sunday, December 11 at noon – 2:30 p.m. Mentors and Mentees Christmas dinner and activities at church.

December 24 Christmas Eve Program

High School Youth Group

Our next regular Wednesday night will be January 4, 2006.

December 2 – 5th Quarter at Doug Claassen's

December 4 – Caroling with the Spiritual Council

December 11 – Angel Tree Shopping Spree

January 6 – Lock-in at the church with Zion.

March 17-19 – Snow Camp dates for the high school (this is a change)

Et Cetera

Bethel College's Students for Social Change club will hold a remembering victims of the School of the Americas/WHISK today, November 20, in Krehbiel Auditorium from 4:30-5:45 p.m. A short informational film will be shown and a vigil held to support students and community members who are at the SOA protest this weekend at Ft. Benning in Georgia.

Is your family, Sunday School class, or small group looking for a Thanksgiving or Christmas project? We at Camp are thankful for all who have donated time and resources to Camp Mennoscah! But, we have continuing needs to help us run camp smoothly. A Camp Mennoscah Wish List is posted on the bulletin board. Your prayers and donations are essential to the ongoing success of camp. Please contact camp for further information at phone (620) 297-3290 or e-mail campmno@mennowdc.org

As churches prepare to celebrate Christ's birth, Goshen College again offers an online spiritual resource to help believers make time and space in their hearts and minds to welcome Advent. Beginning November 21 and culminating on December 23, Goshen College students, faculty and staff will provide weekday reflections based on lectionary Scripture passages and the theme "God's Unstoppable Purpose," available online or by daily e-mail. To access the devotions or sign-up to receive them in your inbox, go to: www.goshen.edu/devotions.

Peace Connections' Silent Auction began on November 10 and runs through December 10. This is a great opportunity to find some one-of-a-kind Christmas gift items, as well as, benefit the work of Peace Connections. We have a number of beautiful handcrafted items that have been knit or crocheted and made of wood, as well as, an old-time Bethel College bank, and more! Stop by to see us and place your bid. Also we would still welcome more items, so if you are interested in donating an item please contact us.

The Relief Sale Fellowship Meals will be on Sunday, February 26, 2006 and Sunday, March 5, 2006. Please pick up a form (available in the foyer), fill it out, and return to Kim & Debbie Claassen or Brad & Suzy Burch by January 29, 2006, or you can mail them directly to Marvin &

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.

Take a new look at the Bible, peace, and theology with a winter class at Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary – Great Plains Extension. Classes are: *Communion* (Don Steelberg), Jan. 7-21, Tues., Thurs. nights, Sat., North Newton; *Reading the Bible* (Jerry Truex), beginning Feb. 2, Thurs. nights, Newton; *Job and Wisdom* (Perry Yoder), beginning Feb. 10, 4 weekends, North Newton; *Torah and Ethics* (Perry Yoder), beginning Feb. 3, 4 weekends, Wichita; *Historical Theology I* (Lois Barrett), beginning Jan. 29, Mon. nights, North Newton; *Christian Attitudes Toward War, Peace and Revolution* (Duane Friesen), beginning Jan. 30, Tues. nights, North Newton. New lower audit rate of \$65 per credit hour. Deadline: December 14, 2005 for interterm and January 11, 2006 for spring semester. For more information, contact Lois Barrett, director, AMBS-Great Plains, 316-283-6300 or lbarrett@ambs.edu. Or see our web site: www.ambs.edu/GreatPlains.

End-of-life issues: A new booklet from MMA, *Making Your Wishes Known*, helps you prepare for death by providing information on living wills, advance medical directives, and other planning tools. This booklet guides you through the issues involved in creating an estate plan that reflects your values and life experiences. See your Mennonite Mutual Aid advocate, Edgar Harder, for more information.

Western District Ski Retreat for Adults and Families will be January 27-31, 2006 at Winter Park, Colorado. This trip leaves from North Newton, and the cost includes chartered sleeper bus, two nights lodging, ski rental, and lift tickets for three days of skiing. (Adults \$345, 18-14 yr olds \$335, and children 13 and under \$275). A limited number of drive-in lodging spaces are available. Register early! For registration forms and/or additional information call the WDC office at (316) 283-6300.

2005 Harvest Thanks Offering

Mennonite Church USA	
Total Mission of Mennonite Church USA	\$4,880.00
Mennonite Mission Network (Missions)	4,085.00
Education Agency (MEA)	100.00

Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary	1,400.00
Bethel College	610.00
Hesston College	50.00
Mennonite Publishing Network	50.00
Mennonite World Conference	50.00

Western District Conference

Total Mission of the WDC	2,870.00
Camp Mennoscah personnel	560.00
Camp Mennoscah facilities	1,435.00
Education Committee (WDC)	120.00
Home Missions (WDC church plants)	250.00
Peace & Social Concerns	265.00
Youth Ministry (WDC programs)	135.00

Other Institutions

Bethel Health Care Centre	230.00
Hopi Mission School	200.00
Mennonite Central Committee	2,135.00
Mennonite Disaster Service	120.00
Offender-Victim Ministries	1,035.00
Wheat State Manor	80.00

Local Church Support

Care Fund	600.00
Cemetery Upkeep	50.00
Landscape Fund	500.00
Local Church Missions (undesignated)	21,603.20
Mid-Kansas MCC Relief Sale	355.00
Relief Canning	515.00
Jill & Jason Schmidt	200.00
Ronda Schmidt	100.00
Scholarship Fund	555.00
Youth Ministry	150.00
Youth Pastor Fund	<u>3,050.00</u>

Grand Total **\$48,338.20**

2004 Harvest Thanks Offering	\$38,414.13
2003 Harvest Thanks Offering	39,685.85
2002 Harvest Thanks Offering	38,021.52
2001 Harvest Thanks Offering	44,320.00