

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

December 31, 2006

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Pastor: James Voth

Keyboard: Teresa Martin

Whitewater, Kansas

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Youth Pastor: Brett Klingenberg

Chorister: Suzy Burch

First Sunday of Christmas *Love Produces Growth*

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.

Scripture Reading Philippians 2:5-11

* **Call to Worship Hymn No. 213** *Let all together praise our God*

* Opening Words

1: We have found new life in Jesus.

2: We have found love.

All: We have found God.

1: When did we find new life in Jesus?

2: When did we find love?

All: When did we find God?

1: As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,
We clothed ourselves with love.

2: As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,
We let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

**All: As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,
We did everything in the name of the Lord Jesus.**

1: Now look to new life in Jesus.

2: Now look to love.

All: Now look to God.

* Invocation

* **Hymn No. 197** *Angels we have heard on high*

Scripture Reading Luke 2:8-14

* **Carol of Response No. 212** *O come, all ye faithful*

Unison Scripture Reading Luke 2:15-20

Children's Moments

Jon Jantz

Worship in Giving Grace Hill Mission Workers

Special Music *Mansion Over the Hilltop*

Jeff Toews

Gospel Reading Luke 2:41-52

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

Meditation *To be fully alive is to be growing!*

Hymn of Response No. 211 *Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming*

Dramatic Reading and Lighting of Fourth Advent Candle

Carl, Kris and Lucas Goossen

Advent Candle Lighter: Sara Harms

* **Hymn No. 201** *Hark! the herald angels sing*

Sharing Joys, Thanksgivings and Prayers

Scripture Reading of Praise John 1:1-4, 14-16

* **Hymn No. 198** *Let our gladness have no end*

* **Benediction**

* **Sending Hymn No. 193** *Silent night, holy night*
Verse 1 – German Verses 2, 3 & 4 - English

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

Next Sunday we celebrate the Lord's Supper together. Along with the Spiritual Council, college students will be helping to serve communion.

Western District Conference: As the year ends, remember God's gracious care for your congregation.

Mennonite Mission Network: Pray that qualified English teachers will respond to opportunities to relate to Chinese university students through China Educational Exchange and MMN. As they build relationships, the teachers have opportunities to share their Christian faith.

Church Events

Tuesday Quilting on Tuesday afternoon, January 2, for this week only. Quilting will then resume back to Monday afternoons.

Wednesday 6:10 p.m. Kid's Meal at the church*
7:00 – 8:15 p.m. Children's and Youth Programming
7:45 – 8:30 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 & High School \$3.00 Children \$2.50

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

Monday, January 8 at 1:30 p.m. Hands of Friendship meet at church. Program: Work project – tie comforts and cut quilt blocks; Devotions: Marie Wiebe; Hostess: Ruby Harms; Financial Project: Hands of Friendship Treasury.

January 19 High School Youth Lock-in

January 20-21 JUNIOR YOUTH - Know Jesus! 2007 at Hesston College. A weekend with speaker Marty Troyer, Live Band, Anabaptist game, worship, discipleship, and a whole lot of fun. We are making plans to go and are asking each youth to pay half or \$25 per person. Youth stay with responsible Hesston College students, and it's a great experience!

January 21 Baptism during morning worship.

Sunday, January 28, 2007 at 12:45 p.m. Church Annual Business meeting

Announcements

Reports for the church yearbook – If you are responsible for a report, please get it to Debbie Claassen by January 15. E-mailed reports are preferred, if possible. Thanks!

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: Debbie Claassen and Camille Claassen

Nursery Next Sunday: Katherine Claassen and Lisa Harms

Keyboard Next Sunday: Chelsea Vaught

Ushers Next Sunday: Lon Hiebert and Dean Patterson

Offering Last Sunday: Western District Conference \$1,457.00

Offering on Christmas Eve: Health Ministries of Harvey Co. \$866.90
Community Playschool \$866.90

Offering Next Sunday: Mennonite Church USA

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

Come enjoy an afternoon with Arthur Marks on Sunday, January 7, 2007 at 3:00 p.m. at the Mary Jane Teall Theater, Century II, Wichita. This is presented as a gift to the community from Lorraine Avenue Mennonite Church in celebrating their 75th anniversary. They are planning a series of concerts and lectures for 2007 as part of their 75th anniversary celebration. There is no admission charge. For more information, call 316-682-4555.

Western District Ski Retreat for Adults and Families will be January 26-30, 2007 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 \$375, 18-14 yr olds \$365, and children 13 and under \$300). 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.

Damascus Road Anti-Racism Analysis Training will be held February 8 (6-9 p.m.) through February 10, (6 p.m.), 2007 at Bethel College Mennonite Church, North Newton. Early registration of \$200 is due January 5; after that date is \$250 and deadline is January 15. Brochures are on the bulletin board and on Western District Conference web site (www.mennowdc.org). Space is limited yet we encourage teams (or at least two people) from a congregation attend.

Western District Conference is growing in vision, church planting, camping, and resourcing congregations. Thank you for your continued prayer support and financial contributions. The annual 2006 budget closes January 31, 2007 and we invite individuals and congregations to complete their commitments - or make a new one! The annual budget is the foundation for our ministry in WDC. We are also happy to announce that the above-budget Vision 2012 funding campaign has \$450,000 (of \$1.5 million) already committed over the next three years. Praise God!

Shalom Mennonite Church, Newton, is looking for an Administrative Assistant to work in the church office 20 hours per week. The position will be open mid-January 2007. If interested see details posted on bulletin board or call Jeannie Zehr at 316-283-8308.

Do you see an MMA counselor? Spot someone in your congregation who could make a great Mennonite Mutual Aid counselor and your church could earn \$1,000! We're looking for motivated men and women who are sales professionals and who want to integrate their faith and values into their careers. Contact Edgar Harder, our MMA advocate, for more information.