

RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH

May 11, 2014

Good Morning! Welcome to our service of worship and celebration. We invite you to sign our register and to worship with us whenever you can. We welcome everyone without regard to race, ethnic identity, gender, sexual orientation, age, and economic or other life circumstances. Information about our church and about the Mennonite faith is available on the brochure racks near the side entrances to the sanctuary.

Our ushers are **Jerry Jantz and Dan Duncan**; our greeters are **Laura Schmidt and George Melby**. Please ask any of them if you need assistance with seating, would like to use a large-print hymnal, or if have questions about the location of Sunday School rooms or the restrooms.

The nursery is located on the second floor of the education wing. It is provided during church and Sunday school for children three years of age and younger.

Closing Trustee: **Clif Hostetler**

There will be cake in the Fellowship Hall following service to **celebrate** our high school graduates.

Next Sunday, May 18, we will consider the lives of certain **Christian martyrs** through the centuries. The order of worship will change slightly with community building time at the beginning. Special thanks to Lonnie Buerge for his work in preparing this special service.

Larry and Becky Bartel invite you to **an open house Saturday, May 17**, from 2-5 pm, in honor of Kayla Bartel, graduating from Olathe North High School, and Doug Bartel, graduating from KU.

It takes **teachers to run a Sunday School** program, but thankfully you don't need experience or expertise to teach; enthusiasm, an open mind, and a willing heart will do just fine! A sign-up sheet will be posted in the next several weeks. Please consider teaching a Sunday School session or two in June. You could sign up individually or co-teach with a friend or family member! Curriculum and lesson ideas will be provided. Contact the Youth Education Committee with questions.
-Lee Ann Duncan, Emma Janzen, Kathryn Simmons, and David Schrag

The 2013-2014 Sunday School year will end on May 18. Summer Sunday School will be **offered** during the five Sundays in June. Parents, please complete a very short survey at this link to help with planning for those June sessions. <http://goo.gl/a18NVB>

Special announcement for the WorshipArts kids: Today and May 18, during our last Worship Arts sessions for this year, the children are invited to bring something with them to Worship Arts to share with the rest of the group. (We have scheduled 2 Sundays knowing that people may be traveling on one or the other.) This is simply a time for any child who wants to briefly share a creative pursuit in a show-and-tell manner, to do so. Examples: a music piece, a picture they've drawn, a creation built with Legos or playdough, a favorite book, a poem or story they've written, etc. Nothing fancy or lengthy – and participation is NOT required! Just a time to enjoy each other and learn a little bit more about each other in a no-pressure environment. As always, we are so appreciative of your support as we take a few minutes each week to nurture the inner worship gifts in our young congregants. They are a joy to teach – and to learn from! **May 18** will be our last session for this school year, but keep your eyes and ears open this summer as we begin to share more about the exciting new grant funding we've received to strengthen this program for the future!

Calling all delegates! It's time to decide who from Rainbow will be a delegate to the 2014 Western District Conference Assembly from July 4-6 in Waxahachie, TX. Remember that our goal is to have a full slate of delegates, which means we would like to have a minimum of nine people attend from Rainbow. You can learn more about the schedule and registration process here: <http://mennowdc.org/conference-life/annual-assembly/>. Registration is covered by the church, but lodging and meals are not. However, there are several low cost options. Please email Ashton no later than June 1 if you are interested in being a delegate or if you have questions about attending as a non-delegate.

Staff Updates

Office Manager Ashton Wells will be attending the Mennonite Youth Council Monday-Thursday of this week.

Freedom School Update

The Sharing Community in Rosedale is launching an Individual Giving Campaign to support Freedom School this summer. Your individual gift will help us meet budget and begin to replenish reserves. Persons are encouraged to make checks payable to Sharing Community in Rosedale, but they can also be made out to Rainbow Mennonite Church and designated for Freedom School. Feel free to talk with Rachel Hostetler or Alan Huxman with questions or for more information.

Freedom School Story:

Scholars who participate in Rainbow Freedom School are expected to either maintain or improve their reading levels. Parents have observed this and the research backs it up as well. In 2013, our site participated in the CDF national assessment of the Freedom Schools program. Forty-seven children from our site demonstrated a 11-month increase in instructional reading level. And most children (85.1%) maintained or gained in instructional reading level and did not experience summer learning loss.

May 4

Attendance.....	147
Visitors (included in attendance count)	9

This Week

Thursday	May 15	Deacons Meeting	7:00 pm
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Next Week

Thursday	May 22	Church Council Meeting	7:00pm
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Spring Adult Education Classes

David and Goliath.....Wesley Room

This class is a discussion of the book *David and Goliath: Underdogs, Misfits, and the Art of Battling Giants* by Malcolm Gladwell. With a “use what you got” attitude, Gladwell is able to move through history highlighting figures such as Lawrence of Arabia and Martin Luther King Jr, Gladwell shows the “underdogs” prevail.

The Nonviolent God.....Room 110

This class is a discussion of the book *The Nonviolent God* by Dr. J. Denny Weaver. *The Nonviolent God* explores the positive images that the narrative of Jesus has on Christian living, including nonviolent practices, forgiveness and restorative justice, issues of racism and sexism, and more.

State of Wonder.....Sunflower Room

This class is a discussion of the book *State of Wonder* by Ann Patchett, a novel that follows pharmaceutical researcher Dr. Marina Singh through her journey into the Amazon jungle. This novel is emotional, vivid, and a work of literature that will resonate with readers in the weeks and months to come.

The Wired Word.....Library

This modern Bible study uses headlines to illustrate each week's adult lesson. Each Thursday, lessons are emailed to the facilitators with the scriptural texts and questions for discussion. Lesson materials will be emailed each week.