

RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH

September 21, 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 **Dave and Hannah Schrag**; our greeters are **Janelle and Larissa Schrag**. 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. Today's nursery workers are **Jeff and Emma Janzen and Will Moore**.

Closing Trustee: **John Mueller**

Please be in prayer for...

- **Clyde Coriell** as he recovers from a recent hospitalization and receives ongoing medical care.
- The **family of Marjorie Jantz**, including Keith and Rebecca Jantz of this congregation. Marjorie Jantz's memorial service was held Friday September 19. Memorial contributions can be given to Rainbow Mennonite Church.
- **Kathy Darcy** as she continues to receive medical care and transitions to a more permanent place of residence in MI
- **Pastor Ruth** as she joins two other Western District Conference leaders Joanna Harder and Sarah Klaassen for a special session with Mennonite Church Executive Board on Friday evening September 26. Ruth, Joanna and Sarah have drafted an "opening statement of vision," which they plan to share with the board. They also hope to provide some information to the board about various LGBTQ inclusive movements including Pink Menno, Inclusive Pastors, and Brethren Mennonite Council. These statements shared with the board will be available during the Sunday school hour next Sunday.

Today's worship service, catered lunch and wrap up conversation to follow will conclude our 2014 church retreat. We are grateful to our retreat presenters Paul Rudy and Lana Maree who skillfully engaged our hearts, ears, and voices. You can learn more about Paul and Lana at their respective websites (www.paulrudy.com and www.lanamaree.com). This year's retreat was made possible by a grant awarded as part of the Vital Worship Grant program from the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, Grand Rapids, Mich., with funds provided by Lilly Endowment Inc.

TODAY September 21 has been designated as Peace Sunday by Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite World Conference. (Peace Sunday is the Sunday closest to the United Nations' International Day of Peace.) The focus of Peace Sunday this year is "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem." Today and in the week ahead, we invite you to say the following prayer provided by the Peace and Justice Support Network of MCUSA and written by Tom Harder: *Oh, God, we celebrate the vision of those who understood the wondrous beauty of your reign, in which all of your children dwell together in unity. We humbly and sadly acknowledge that the full beauty of your reign is not yet a reality. Especially in that most ancient and holy city that sits upon the mountains of Zion, Jerusalem. Come, be with us; speak to us, that we may recognize on this day the things that make for peace.*

Did you know? **Pastor Ruth** will be traveling to Israel/Palestine October 31-November 12. This will be a learning tour sponsored by Mennonite Central Committee. The following Sunday November 16, she will share trip reflections and we will continue our prayers for the peace of Jerusalem (see announcement above).

Worship next **Sunday September 28** will include a service of baptism for Emma Campbell. During the Sunday school hour next Sunday all are invited to join in a conversation with Mennonite Church USA guests who will be worshipping with us (MCUSA moderator Elizabeth Soto Albrecht and Executive Board member Isaac Villegas).

Our next **quarterly congregational** meeting will be Sunday, October 19.

The **Kansas Coalition Against the Death Penalty** will be holding the Kansas City Regional Conference at Rainbow on October 9 from 5:30-8:30 pm. The event is free and open to the public.

Thanks to everyone who attended **Hot Dogs in the Park** last Saturday. We had a wonderful spread of food thanks to the many Rainbow people that attended. Although a chilly evening, approximately 60 people attended and many good conversations happened with community people. On Monday, one person from the community specifically thanked me for this event and expressed their appreciation for it. A special thanks to those who helped with set-up and clean-up. Thank you for your support of this event!

Youth News

The **Senior High** youth group are all invited to a bonfire at Danny Kaufman's house on Saturday, October 4th from 6-9pm. Hot dogs and s'mores supplies will be provided. Feel free to bring glow-in-the-dark frisbees and other outdoor games. Let's spend some time outside together during the wonderful fall weather.

Mark your calendar! The mentor and mentee **potato lunch** has been moved to Sunday October 5th following Sunday School. Mentors and their mentees are invited to bring a favorite potato topping and game to play.

Staff Updates

Youth Program Director **Renee Reimer** will be out of the office Monday September 22-Monday September 29.

Regional/National News

Everence video contest: Money talks – sometimes so loudly you can barely hear anything else. But you have a voice too. Get creative, share a story and express your voice through video. The Money Talks video contest is open to anyone ages 15 to 25. You can win up to \$2,000, split between you and your favorite charity. Just create a video that expresses how you feel about money and enter it between Oct. 1 and Nov. 15. Visit everence.com/moneytalks for details and deadlines.

Fabulous, Fierce, and Sacred, a conference for the Anabaptist LGBTQ community, will take place November 21-23 at Cenacle Retreat and Conference Center in Chicago. It promises to be a vibrant weekend of fun, fellowship, and reflection on the combined forces that make up “the inclusive movement in Mennonite Church USA.” This gathering will offer opportunities for retreat and renewal, planning and politics, and/or simply being held in the encompassing space of welcoming and inclusive community. Come worship, workshop, sing, share stories, dance and dream with us in Chicago! Questions? Suggestions? Email fabulousfiercesacred@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page.

This Week

Sunday	September 21	Trustees Meeting	9:00 am
Thursday	September 25	Church Council Meeting	7:00 pm

Next Week

Sunday	September 28	Park Committee Meeting	12:00 pm
Tuesday	September 30	Worship Committee Meeting	7:00 pm
Wednesday	October 1	Taizé Service	5:45 pm
Saturday	October 4	Sr High Youth Bonfire	6:00 pm