

RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH

January 4, 2015

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 **Kent and Will Moore**; our greeters are **Jana Graham and Andrew Moore**. 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 **Phyllis Carlson, Tanya Ortman, and Will Moore**.

Closing Trustee: **Laura Schmidt**

We invite **prayers** for:

- Richard and Janice Lee Crabb as Janice recovers from surgery this week.
- Scott Weast as he continues rehab following a mild stroke

Thank you for the many expressions of love, kindness, and support received during these past few months. The cards, the meals, the phone calls and hugs have been much appreciated, and it would be impossible to calculate how important they have been to us. --The Verlin Bartel Family

The **Visual Arts Committee** needs your help in putting Christmas and Advent decor away. Join us Saturday morning, January 10, at 9 am. With lots of extra hands, the "put away" happens a lot faster than the "put up."

Save the Date: There will be an annual business congregational meeting on Sunday January 25 following the noon potluck. Committee chairs, please get your report to the church office (office@rainbowmennonite.org) by tomorrow morning.

On **January 11**, Dr. Molly Marshall, president of Central Baptist Theological Seminary, will be our guest preacher. Following the education hour, there will be a lunch conversation hosted by Alyssa Bennett Smith. In October, Alyssa Bennett Smith attended the Fabulous, Fierce and Sacred gathering of LGBTQIA+ Anabaptists in Chicago, IL. Bring your own lunch for a presentation of her experience and a discussion about what we can do to welcome this community to Kansas City during the Mennonite Church USA Convention next July.

WOMEN: SAVE THE DATE!

Several women have been interested in starting a lunch restaurant group. We are proposing a lunch meeting on Thursday, January 15, 11:00 a.m. at First Watch, 11112 Shawnee Mission Parkway. (North side, between Quivera and Nieman Rd.) Under discussion would be place, day of week, expectations, frequency of meeting and other details. In order to reserve a place, please RSVP by January 8 to Bonnie Beachey (jnbbeachey@kc.rr.com) or Phyllis Carlson (carlgrpts@everestkc.net). We welcome your feedback.

Endowment Fund. If you have questions or would like written information regarding donating to the Rainbow Mennonite Church Endowment Fund or setting up your own Donor Advised Fund, you may contact Keith Jantz for further information. If you want to make a donation, simply send a check payable to the RMC Endowment Fund and send it to the church office.

The **Pulpit Fund** is now more than 70% of the way to the funding requirement. As of 12/28, the fund is at \$16,190, with \$7,700 in pledges and \$8,490 in non-pledge contributions.

Stewardship Update - as of 12/28, we received enough financial gifts in December to reach the goal of \$104,000, our estimate of what was needed during the month to meet our 2014 budget. The books still need to be finalized in early January but we are optimistic that RMC has made its budget. Thank you.

Staff updates

Renee Reimer will be out of the office next week taking a seminary class through AMBS.

Ashton Wells will be out of the office M-W. Volunteers will be in the office from 9-12.

A year in review! Pastor Ruth has prepared a 2014 slideshow featuring highlights of 2014. Check it out at www.overandaroundtherainbow.com

KC 2015! Mennonite Church USA convention and delegate assembly will take place June 30-July 5, 2015 in Kansas City. **Registration opens January 5.** For more information, see www.MennoniteUSA.org/convention.

Youth Updates

Attention Jr. High: We will be having a Junior High Ice Skating evening at Crown Center Ice Skating Terrace on Sunday, January 11th from 6-8pm. Please plan to drop-off and pick-up your child at the Ice Skating terrace. If you have ice skates feel free to bring them! Look for Natasha and Renee by the front of the Ice Skating Terrace. If you have trouble finding us Renee's cell is [605-212-0081](tel:605-212-0081).

Senior High lunch will be held on January 11th after Sunday School. Bring your ideas for upcoming youth group activities. Lunch will be provided!

This Week

| | | | |
|-----------|------------|----------------------------------|---------|
| Tuesday | January 6 | Worship Committee Meeting | 7:00 pm |
| Wednesday | January 7 | Taizé Service | 5:45 pm |
| | | Choir Rehearsal (dinner at 6:15) | 6:45 pm |
| Thursday | January 8 | Deacons Meeting | 4:00 pm |
| Saturday | January 10 | Advent Cleanup | 9:00 am |

Next Week

| | | | |
|-----------|------------|----------------------------------|----------|
| Sunday | January 11 | Sack lunch with Alyssa | 12:00 pm |
| | | Youth Group | 12:00 pm |
| | | Jr High Ice Skating | 6:00 pm |
| Wednesday | January 14 | Choir Rehearsal (dinner at 6:15) | 6:45 pm |
| Thursday | January 15 | Women's Lunch Group | 11:00 am |

Winter Education Classes

***The Book of Forgiving*.....Library**

A discussion of *The Book of Forgiving: The Fourfold Path for Healing Ourselves and Our World* is written by Desmond Tutu and Mpho Tutu, offering a manual on the art of forgiveness—helping us to realize that we are all capable of healing and transformation.

***Why I Am an Atheist Who Believes in God*..... Room 110**

This class will discuss *Why I am an Atheist Who Believes in God: How to Give Love, Create Beauty, and Find Peace* by Frank Schaeffer. Schaeffer once stood near the top of conservative Christian evangelicalism but is now one of its strongest critics. He is an “atheist” who still talks to Jesus—in spite of everything.

***Worship Response Group*.....Pastor’s Office**

This will be an opportunity to discuss the purpose and experience of worship at Rainbow. We will consider questions such as “What helped us worship today? What interfered with our worship? What inspiration, challenge, question will you take with you this week?”

***The Wired Word*.....Sunflower Room**

This modern Bible study uses headlines to illustrate each week's adult lesson.