

RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH

September 13, 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 **Andrew Moore and Jana Graham**. 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. Today's nursery workers are **Janelle Schrag, Karla Leuenberg, and Hannah Schrag**.

Closing Trustee: **Annie Jones**

We welcome to our service today **Dr. Eugene Lowry**. His brief bio is available on the back of the insert.

Please keep Clyde and Peggy Coriell, Laura Schmidt and their extended family in your **prayers** as they mourn the passing of their brother-in-law and uncle, Larry Craig.

There will be a **Safe Sanctuary** training today during the Sunday School hour in Room 110.

Please join us after church for the annual **Mennonite Voluntary Service (MVS)** open house. Walk down the block to 2303 S Early St following Sunday School for hot dogs and veggie burgers.

The Worship Committee invites you to fill out a **worship feedback form**, with the goal of learning about the congregation's worship experience. Paper copies are available and the survey can be found on the church website under the members/friends section. Use the password "worshipsurvey".

Please save Saturday, September 19th at 10:00 am for a **baby shower brunch** for Grant and Erin Zehner at the home of Dale and Linda Graham. The couple chose to not know the sex of the baby early, so the nursery will have an outdoor theme. Grant and Erin are registered at Buy Buy Baby and Target. Please RSVP to Linda Graham.

Hot Dogs in the Park will be on Saturday, Sept. 19 from 6:00-7:30pm. The Outreach Committee invites you to gather with residents from the Rosedale neighborhood for a barbeque and potluck in Whitmore Park. This is a great opportunity to meet some of our neighbors! Bring a lawn chair and a side dish to share. We're looking for volunteers to help with the set up (starting at 5:00 pm) and clean up (7:30-8:30 pm). To sign-up, contact Terry Rouse.

The **annual assembly** of the Western District Conference will be held October 30-31 at Bethel College in North Newton, KS. Please email the church office if you plan to attend the conference so that we can coordinate transportation and lodging. The church council is currently appointing seven delegates from Rainbow, but you don't have to be a delegate to attend. More details, including information about the Rainbow Resolution, can be found here: <http://mennowdc.org/annual-assembly/>

Save the Date: the next congregational meeting and potluck will be after Sunday School on October 18.

Staff Updates

Community Services Coordinator Rachel Hostetler will be on vacation starting September 14 through October 2.

Youth Updates

Start of the new school year means start of the new youth group year! All youth and families in 6th-12th grade are invited to attend a Youth Program Kick-off lunch on **Sunday, September 20th** following Sunday School. Lunch will be provided and we will talk about upcoming events and trips for this coming year. Hope to see you there!

Regional/National News

Leave or stay? Many Syrian families face that question as international humanitarian assistance dwindles and the patchwork of resources they used to rely on wears thin. Your gift of money helps **Mennonite Central Committee** continue to provide food, water, rent assistance and winter supplies so families that decide to stay in the region can survive the cold weather ahead. Please give online at mcc.org/syria-iraq; by phone at 1-888-563-4676; or by check, sent to MCC U.S., P.O. Box 500, Akron, PA 17501. Thank you!

What you should know about Medicare options

Wouldn't you like to make sense of your Medicare options? Everence can help with our "Retiring soon?" webinar, scheduled for 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. (EDT) Thursday, Sept. 24. Find out about enrollment deadlines, your options if you continue working and other important factors as you approach retirement. For more information or to register, contact Melissa Short at (800) 222-5054 ext. 3392 or melissa.short@everence.com. You also may visit everence.com/direct to register.

This Week

Sunday	September 13	MVS Open House	12:00 pm
Tuesday	September 15	Deacons Meeting	1:00 pm
Wednesday	September 16	Choir Rehearsal (dinner at 6:15)	6:45 pm
Wednesday	September 16	Park Committee Meeting	7:00 pm
Saturday	September 19	Shower for Grant and Erin Zehner	10:00 am
		Hot Dogs in the Park	6:00 pm

Next Week

Sunday	September 20	Youth Program Kickoff	12:00 pm
Monday	September 21	Head Start Parent Meeting	4:30 pm
Wednesday	September 23	Women's Luncheon	11:00 am
		Choir Rehearsal (dinner at 6:15)	6:45 pm
Thursday	September 24	Church Council Meeting	7:00 pm
Friday	September 25	SCR Meeting	8:00 am

Fall Education Classes

***Lila: A Novel*.....Library**

This class will discuss the book *Lila* by Marilynne Robinson. The novel is a story of a girlhood lived on the fringes of society in fear, awe, and wonder. Lila was rescued as a toddler by Doll, a young drifter, and together they lived life on the run, living hand to mouth. After years of roaming the countryside, Lila steps inside a small-town Iowa church and ignites a romance with the minister and becomes the minister's wife. However, she struggles to reconcile the life of her makeshift family and their days of hardship with the gentle Christian worldview of her husband who paradoxically judges those she loves.

Three Shorts Books Everyone Should Read..... Room 111

This class will discuss three books, starting with *Slaughterhouse-Five* in September. Kurt Vonnegut's novel is about the fire-bombing of Dresden, examining the futility of war. The other two books will be *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denosovich* in October and *Ceremony* in November. Feel free to attend any or all of the discussions.

***Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus Christ*.....Sunflower Room**

This class will discuss the book *Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus Christ* by Reza Aslan which offers a fresh look at the Nazarene, focusing on how Jesus the man evolved into Jesus the Christ. Approaching the subject from a purely academic perspective, the author parts an important curtain that has long hidden from view the man Jesus, who is every bit as compelling, charismatic, and praiseworthy as Jesus the Christ.

Polity, Bible, & LGBTQ Controversies in MCUSA.....Wesley Room

This class is primarily focused on the study of Stephanie Krehbiel's PHD dissertation titled, "*PACIFIST BATTLEGROUND: Violence, Community, and the Struggle for LGBTQ Justice in the Mennonite Church USA.*" Additional material that will be studied includes a study of Mennonite Church polity titled, "*Grace at the Table: A Resource for Institutional Peacemaking,*" by our own Alyssa Bennett Smith. Other material covered will include commentary on Biblical references to same sex issues.