

RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH

April 17, 2016

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 Andrew Moore**. Our greeters are **Dick and Brenda Tatro**. 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 **Cynthia Kaufman, Michelle, Gabby, and Delaney Beachey**.

Closing Trustee: **Robert Kaufman**

Today we **recognize Rachel Hostetler** for her seven years as Rainbow's Community Services Coordinator. Rachel is pursuing new job opportunities this spring, ending her employment with the church and Freedom School on April 29. Please take the time to share your words of gratitude for Rachel on the sheets in the Fellowship Hall. In addition to the recognition planned during today's congregational meeting, all are invited to the come-and-go open house in Rachel's honor tonight from 5-7 pm. *It has been a great pleasure to work in the church where I grew up. Thank you for this opportunity. I am incredibly grateful to the congregation for the many ways you have supported me and the church's outreach in the Rosedale community. Regarding my future plans, I plan to take classes at Eastern Mennonite University's Summer Peacebuilding Institute in May and June and then return to Kansas City later this summer. I plan to look for employment in Kansas City and continue to be part of the Rainbow community.* -Rachel Hostetler

All are invited to the potluck and congregational meeting following the Sunday School hour. Agendas can be found in the Fellowship Hall.

The library is having a "purging" sale, today and 24th of April. You are welcome to add your own purging items to the sale with any money collected funded to the library! Your books and magazines can be added to the sale table in Fellowship Hall.

Please pray for...

- Noah and Fonda Briles, Jonathan Briles, and Mike Peters and Lois Briles as they grieve the sudden death of Lois' nephew Matthew Briles of Kansas City. A celebration of life service was held on Friday.
- M'Balía Thomas and Scott Cossel as they grieve the death of M'Balía's father.
- Jerry Jantz's daughter Kimber Martin as she continues to recover at home.
- Nancy Bosché as she recovers at home from hip replacement surgery.
- Diane Richardson Spaite as she recovers from outpatient surgery.

Today is the last day to **bring goodies** for Rainbow's college students. We have 8 students currently taking college courses; Will Moore, Danny Kaufman, Hannah Unruh, Jessica Custer, Kayla Bartel, Abby Banning, Katelyn, Huxman, and Grace Boehm. There is a laundry basket in the fellowship hall for care package goodies and a poster for each college student for anyone to sign.

There will be an MVS (Mennonite Voluntary Service) house **workday** on Saturday April 23 from 9-12.

The Small group committee is encouraging any **small group**, looking for a project to work on together are encouraged to consider adopting a section of Whitmore park to plant and maintain. For further information, contact Gary Long.

On Sunday, May 1, there will be a **card shower/reception** during fellowship time for Sharon Franz Parker and David Morford in celebration of their upcoming wedding on May 28.

Am I loved? Am I respected? Am I important? These are questions that saunter quietly through our mind each morning as we look in the mirror. Questions that focus in on our identity: who we say we are, who we think we are and who the world perceives us to be. Please join the youth in seeking the answer to the question of "Who Am I?" in the Upper Room hallway. The final question for this series is "**Who Does God Say I Am?**"

Do you have a graduate in the family? We'd love to include their name in our upcoming '**Rainbow Graduate List**'. Please provide their name and current school (and their degree, if applicable) to the church office at office@rainbowmennonite.org or 913.236.8820.

Youth Updates

Sr high youth are invited to attend a **brief Sr High Lunch Discussion** this Sunday, April 17th beginning at 11am. We will be finished with our discussion in time for the church potluck.

There will be a **Youth Service Day** on Sunday, April 24th from 12-4pm for all jr high and sr high youth. Lunch will be provided before youth and sponsors venture out around the Rainbow community for a couple of service activities. Please wear clothing that you don't mind getting dirty!

On Friday, May 6 from 6-8:30 pm, consultant Joy Skjegstad will facilitate an evening session open to all congregants. We will:

- Share our outreach-related commitments, interests, and concerns
- Learn more about the strategic plan of Sharing Community in Rosedale, Inc
- Identify outreach priorities and opportunities

Pizza will be available starting at 5:30 pm. Please RSVP if you plan to eat.

On Saturday, May 7 from 9 am-3 pm, selected representatives from RMC and SCR will meet for a facilitated day of discussion and planning. Our main agenda is to clarify the relationship between SCR and RMC including governance structure, use of the church facility, ownership of programs, staffing role and structure, fundraising, communication, and involvement of church members as volunteers with SCR.

This Week

Sunday	April 17	Jr High Breakfast	8:30 am
		Choir Rehearsal	8:45 am
		Sr High Lunch	11:00 am
		Potluck	12:00 pm
		Congregational Meeting	12:45 pm
		Open House for Rachel	5:00 pm
Friday	April 22	SCR Meeting	8:00 am
Saturday	April 23	MVS House Workday	9:00 am

Next Week

Sunday	April 24	Choir Rehearsal	8:45 am
		All Church Service Project	12:00 pm
Wednesday	April 27	Women's Luncheon	11:00 am
Thursday	April 28	Church Council Meeting	7:00 pm

Spring Adult Education Classes:

Jesus and His Jewish Influences Room 111

This class consists of lecture videos by Jodi Magness, Ph.D. University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. The lectures address questions such as:

- How was early Judaism markedly different from the Rabbinic Judaism practiced today?
- What kind of world did early Jewish sects envision, and how does Jesus's world view relate to theirs?
- How did events like the Babylonian exile and the reign of Herod the Great affect the development of Judaism up to Jesus's time?
- What did it mean to be a Jew in ancient Israel? What did it mean for Jesus?

The Wired WordLibrary

The Wired Word uses current headlines to illustrate each week's adult lesson. On Thursday of each week, a lesson will be emailed to the facilitators with the appropriate scriptural texts and questions for discussion. The facilitators can email the weekly lesson materials to members of the class. Participants can also join in the discussion without having read the lesson since it will be based on a current topic.

***We Are Called to Rise* by Laura McBride Wesley Room**

An immigrant boy whose family is struggling to assimilate. A middle-aged housewife coping with an imploding marriage and a troubled son. A social worker at home in the darker corners of Las Vegas. A wounded soldier recovering from an injury he can't remember getting. By the time we realize how these voices will connect, the impossible and perhaps the unbearable has already happened. *We Are Called to Rise* is a boomtown tale, in which the lives of people from different backgrounds and experiences collide in a stunning coincidence. When presented the opportunity to sink into despair, these characters rise. Emotionally powerful yet tender and intimate, *We Are Called to Rise* is a novel of redemption and unexpected love.

Why Christian.....Sunflower Room

The Why Christian class will be a time of further discussion around the question Why (why not) Christian? We will be utilizing material from the Why Christian conference that was held in Minneapolis, MN in September by Nadia Bolz-Weber and Rachel Held Evans. At the conference, several women shared their perspective on Why Christian, from young seminary graduates to ordained priests. We will be watching some of their speeches plus hearing from some of our own.