

RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH

May 8, 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 **Brad and Abigail Grittmann**. Our greeters are **Bob and Phyllis Carlson**. 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, Marsha Rhoads, and Hannah Schrag**.

Closing Trustee: **Mitch Kaufman**

Please pray for Joe Duerksen as he recovers at Brookdale Rehab in Overland Park.

Dear Rainbow family, our **deepest thanks** for the wonderful dedication ceremony for Seoul last Sunday. It was such a special event, and we are so happy to make our son more a part of this church. Each and every one of you has been a blessing, and we appreciate the love you all have shared more than can be expressed. Thank you everyone, we love you! –Melissa Funk and Nick Schroeder

HEADS UP! The stonework restoration and sealing project on the outside of our church building will begin on Monday, May 9 (weather permitting), and will last approximately 3 to 4 months. The Contractor doing the work will make every effort to work safely and to clearly mark the work areas, so please respect any temporary fences or barriers around the outside of the church during this time. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Gary Kaufman or Mitch Kaufman, RMC Trustees.

Last week Rainbow was **awarded a \$15,000** Vital Worship Grant from the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship. Last time we received this grant we focused on enhancing the WorshipArts program. This year we will use grant funds to focus on inviting people of all ages and backgrounds into a deeper spirit of contemplation, aware of the beauty and wonder of God's creation, especially in outdoor spaces.

Next Sunday May 15, there will be a **reception** for this year's high school seniors in the fellowship hall following the church service. There will be cake and the opportunity to visit with this year's graduates – Anna McGuire and Carl Dean Yarwood.

Do you have a graduate in the family? We'd love to include their name in our upcoming '**Rainbow Graduate List**' on May 15. Please provide their name and current school (and their degree, if applicable) to the church office at office@rainbowmennonite.org or 913.236.8820.

A special congregational meeting has been called for **Sunday May 15**, immediately following Sunday school. Roger Neufeld Smith, a consultant from Western District Conference, will be here to introduce and discuss the three-year pastoral review for Ruth Harder scheduled to begin May 15 and continue through June 5. Please plan to attend this brief informational meeting! If you have questions please contact Deacon chair Laura Schmidt or Moderator Bob Campbell.

In response to comments that people were having difficulty understanding what was being said during the worship service we have been gradually making some changes to the sound system. The microphones used by the pastor and worship leader are a type that works best in the acoustic environment we have. We will be adding a hearing assistance system for those with hearing loss. There are several other changes that we need to make to complete the project. The cost to make those changes is around \$4500. This is not an expense covered by our budget. We currently have pledges that will cover just over half the cost of the improvements. If you would **like to contribute** to this project please designate on your check that it is for the sound system.

We are planning to add a **hearing assistance system** in the sanctuary in the near future. In order to have enough receivers available we would like to get a count of how many people would use the system. In addition the system comes with the option of using headphones or if you have hearing aids with a t coil, it has a neck loop that can transmit directly to your hearing aids. Please contact Terry Rouse at trbikerkc@gmail.com or 816.810.0987 and let him know you want a receiver and whether you want headphones or a t coil neck loop.

Mike Peters, LSCSW, will be the presenter at the Next Chapter Kansas City forum on Tuesday, May 24 in the West Wyandotte Library auditorium, 1737 N. 82nd St. KCKS. The topic is "**Rolling with the Punches**" and will focus on resilience and why some people are more successful than others in bouncing back from challenges and setbacks while in or anticipating retirement. Mike is a life coach, employee assistance professional, psychotherapist, workshop leader and speaker. There is no charge for the forum which meets from 6 to 7:30 pm, but we do ask for registrations to help us plan for setup and light refreshments. Next week's mid-week announcements will include a link to register. You may also contact Karen Hostetler at karenh@sckck.org or at 913-485-0975 for more information. Next Chapter Kansas City is a program of Shepherd's Center of Kansas City, Kansas and partner agencies. Our church is a Sponsoring Congregation of Shepherd's Center of KCK.

Youth Updates

All **jr high youth** are invited to the final breakfast of the school year on Sunday, May 15th at 8:30am. Breakfast will be provided and we will be meeting in the jr high Sunday School classroom.

The **last sr high** lunch discussion will be on Sunday, May 15th from 11:00am-12:30pm. Lunch will be provided and we will be discussing the question, "Does God endorse violence?"

This Week

Monday	May 9	Stone Work Begins	8:00 am
Wednesday	May 11	Trustees Meeting	10:00 am
		Women's Luncheon	11:00 am

Next Week

Sunday	May 15	Jr High Breakfast	8:30 am
		Reception for Sr High Students	10:30 am
		Sr High Lunch	11:00 am
		Special Congregational Meeting	12:00 pm
Tuesday	May 17	Head Start Meeting	4:45 pm
Wednesday	May 18	Personnel Committee Meeting	6:30 pm
Thursday	May 19	Deacons Meeting	11:30 am
Friday	May 20	Wedding	6:30 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.