

RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH

December 31, 2017

Welcome to our service of worship. 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. After the worship service, the Welcome Committee invites you to the designated Welcome Table in the Fellowship Hall (lower level) to connect with other attendees.

Today's greeters are **Laura Schmidt, and George Melby**. Ushers are **David Stewart and Dan Duncan**. Please ask any of them if you need assistance with seating, would like to use a large-print hymnal, need a hearing assistance device or have questions about the location of the restrooms. The nursery is located on the second floor of the education wing. Our nursery workers today are **Bob Campbell, Elizabeth Stamper and Emma Campbell**.

Closing Trustee: **Robert Kaufman**

Remembering in Prayer...

Please continue to pray for Betty Bodine. She is now receiving rehab care at Bishop Spencer Place and is accepting visitors.

This Morning at Rainbow

This morning at Rainbow as we gather on the day before the New Year, we have invited reflections from three Rainbow members about being on the cusp of something new. Thank you, Hannah, Rod, and Carol for sharing your words in our worship service.

Year End Reminders

Budget Update – as of Dec. 25, we are requiring approximately \$27K by the end of today to meet projected 2017 expenses. Below are two ways to help contribute to the church's need as the year ends today. Thank you for your generosity throughout the year!

- Donate during the church service this morning
- Donate online via the link at the home page of the church website. Look for the Online Giving item in the main menu. You can donate until 11:59 PM tonight to count toward 2017.

A letter was recently emailed to the congregation from the Stewardship Committee announcing the starting of a **Rainbow Endowment**. Please refer to your email for this announcement or find hard copies of the letter in the east and west foyers this morning for your review.

Online Giving - if you set up automatic contributions in November or December of 2016, your giving schedule may be expiring or already has expired. Please log in to Online Giving from the church website to check your automatic deductions schedule to renew, if necessary. Whether or not you have automatic deductions, anyone can make contributions to the general fund or any of the other funds we have. Please contact Mark Unruh with any questions.

Announcements

Interested in formalizing your involvement at Rainbow through church membership? We will recognize new members in worship again in mid-January. If you would like more information about church membership at Rainbow, please contact Ruth at ruthh@rainbowmennonite.org.

Annual Reports are due by 9am on Monday, January 8. Please email your report to office@rainbowmennonite.org prior to this deadline.

Saturday, January 13th at 9am will be the time to gather the Christmas decorations around the church and pack them away for the year. The Visual Arts Committee needs volunteers to help and promises the decorations come down and pack faster than they go up, so are looking for help between 9 and 11 a.m. (or perhaps even less time with many hands helping).

Rainbow Retreat Planning - January 25th at 7pm in the Sunflower Room. This will be the first planning session for Rainbow's 2018 church retreat. Keeping in line with proposed congregational goals, classic anti-racist concepts of power, privilege, and identity will be the retreat's focus. Our learning will help further the goal of dismantling racism at individual and institutional levels. There will be a variety of planning tasks that can be chosen based on interest and level of time commitment. If you would like to help, but are not able to attend this first session, or if you have any other questions, contact Joshua Chittum.

Save the date! Our annual business meeting will be Sunday, January 28 following an 11:30am potluck. Please plan to attend!

There is a bulletin board in the nursery that is completely blank! Please help us fill it up by providing a picture of your baby/toddler. You can place the printed picture in the office mailbox or you can email a photo to the church office at office@rainbowmennonite.org. Your child's photo will be hung on the bulletin board along with a label stating his/her name and age.

In the event of **inclement weather**, church-related cancellation notices will appear on the home page of our church website. An email will also be sent to the congregation and the church facebook page will be updated.

Youth Updates

Jr High and Sr High youth group will be held on Sunday, January 7th from 6-8pm at the church. Come prepared for a New Year of food, fun, and fellowship!

Staff Updates

Pastor Ruth will return to the church office on January 2. If you have a pastoral emergency today or tomorrow, please contact Deacon Chair, Amy Kliwer.

Rosi will be out of the office from Jan 2 – 7.

Please note that the church office will be closed tomorrow, January 1, for New Year's Day.

December 24

Attendance.....	121
Visitors (included in attendance count)	9
General Fund	\$ 28,961.00
Other Donations	\$ 1,063.02
Total Offering	\$ 30,024.02

This Week

Monday	Jan 1	Church Office Closed for New Year's Day	
Tuesday	Jan 2	Staff Meeting	1:30pm
Wednesday	Jan 3	Women's Luncheon	11:00am
		No Choir Rehearsal	

Next Week

Sunday	Jan 7	Rainbow Guest House Meeting	12:00pm
		Youth Group	6:00pm
Tuesday	Jan 9	Staff Meeting	1:30pm
		Worship Committee Meeting	7:00pm
Wednesday	Jan 10	Choir Dinner	6:15pm
		Choir Rehearsal	6:45pm
Thursday	Jan 11	Trustees Meeting	7:00pm
Saturday	Jan 13	Faith Formation Board Retreat	9:00am