

RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH

December 15, 2019

Welcome to our worship service. We strive to welcome everyone without regard to race, ethnic identity, gender, sexual orientation, age, and economic or other life circumstances. For information about our church or the Mennonite faith, literature is available in the east and west foyers outside the sanctuary.

We invite you to sign our friendship register when it is passed during the offering. Between the worship service and Sunday school, please join us for coffee and donuts downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. Visitors and newcomers, please look for the Rainbow Connections Table!

This morning's ushers are **Jana Graham and Kent Moore**. Greeters are **Becca Claassen and Melissa Schroeder**. Please ask them if you need assistance with seating, use of a large-print hymnal, hearing assistance device or have questions about the location of the restrooms. The nursery, available for children from birth to age 4, is located on the second floor in the education wing. Nursery workers are **Karla Leuenberg, Joshua Chittum and Madeline Bollinger**. Closing Trustee is **Clif Hostetler**.

Remembering in Prayer...

Please pray for Mark Bartholomew following his unexpected hospitalization last week during which a catheter procedure was done to successfully repair an electrical issue found in his heart.

This Morning at Rainbow



Advent 3, December 15: *A Way Through—Joy*

Worship 9:30am

WorshipArts (K – 5th Grade) 10:30 – 10:55am (Rainbow Room)

Second Hour 10:50am – 11:45am

- Dress rehearsal for preschool through high school, WorshipArts, bell choir, Rainbow strings, and adult choir.
- Join in the Rainbow Room for a time of sharing stories of embodied hope, peace, joy, and love
- This morning will be the final week that the Sunday School offering for Camp Mennoscah will be collected.

Christmas Program 5:00pm

The social committee asks that we bring treats to share for a time of fellowship after the Christmas program.

A Way Through ADVENT 2019

“Prepare the way of the Lord,” cried prophet John in the wilderness, echoing the prophet Isaiah’s cry centuries earlier: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.” -Isaiah 40: 3-4.

It’s no wonder early followers of Jesus were known as the **People of the Way** (Acts 9:2). From the earliest of times, wending the path pioneered by Jesus consisted of lives built on transformative practices of **hope, peace, joy, and love in the world**. These practices have included forming countercultural communities of economic sharing or mutual aid, participatory worship, scripture study, compassion for society’s most vulnerable, and subversion of the idolatries of the empire. This is the ancient path that calls us as we anticipate and celebrate Jesus’ arrival, an arrival that has already happened, and yet is always on its way.



Advent 4, December 22: *A Way Through—Love*

Isaiah 7:10-17, Psalm 80:1-19, Romans 1:1-7, Matthew 1:18-25

2nd hour: Sharing Christmas music by and for all ages in the Sanctuary, followed by outside caroling around the neighborhood



Christmas Eve Service, December 24 at 6pm

A contemplative service of lessons and carols

Announcements

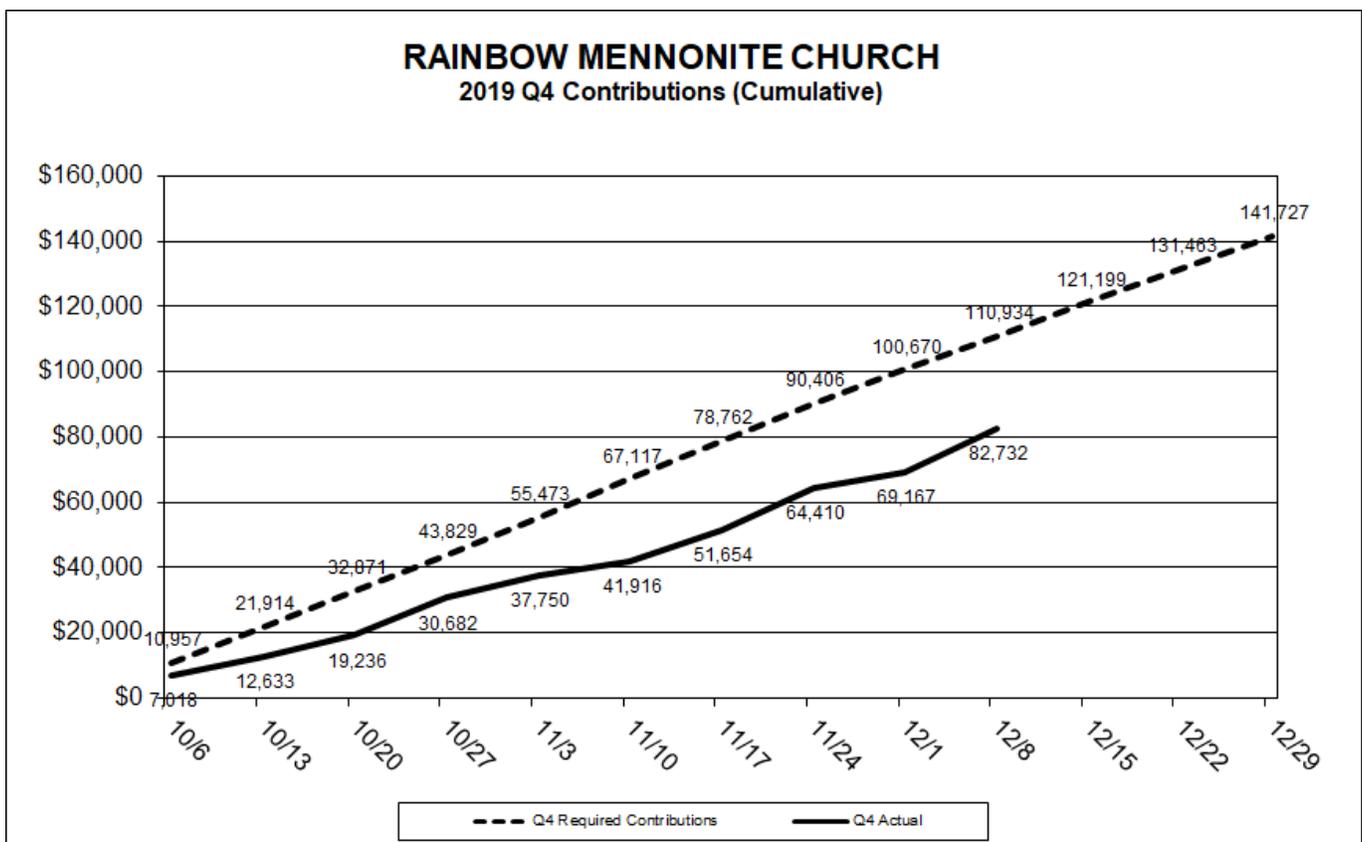
The Junior and Senior High youth would like to thank the congregation for their generous support of their peppernut fundraiser held last Sunday. We received over \$1,200 in donations. The money will go toward supporting their service trip this summer. Thank you! ~ Sarah Neher

Next Tuesday, December 17, from 6-8 pm, Rosedale Development Association will hold its annual meeting. This year it will be held here at Rainbow. All are invited to attend, especially since part of the program will include the celebration of RDA taking full ownership of the Rainbow Summer Program. This is a great chance for our church to connect with Rosedale neighbors and community leaders!

The church office will close at noon on December 24 and will be closed all day on December 25. Please note that hours will be limited on December 26, 27 and 30, so please call ahead if you need to access the building on these days.

Historical note: In December 1969, Rainbow Boulevard Mennonite Church moved from its location on Rainbow Blvd to the Rosedale Methodist Building (our current location on Southwest Boulevard). This means we have been in our current location for exactly 50 years! Let us give thanks to God for all the people through the centuries who have been good stewards of this place. May we have another 50 years of stewarding, worshipping, learning, serving, and growing as disciples of Jesus!

Stewardship Update: As of 12/8/19, we are forecasting that we will require \$59K in contributions in the final 3 weeks of the year to meet our 2019 commitment to fund all the missions of the church and break even for the year. This averages out to \$19.7K per Sunday beginning 12/15. The chart below illustrates our actual vs. needed giving during the 4th quarter. Please keep church finances in mind as we head toward the end of our business year. Thank you.



Youth News

Tonight, Christmas Program, 5pm

Sunday, Jan. 5th, Ice Skating at Crown Center, 6-8 pm

Sunday, Jan. 12, Jr. High Winter Retreat, 12-7:30 pm

Saturday, Jan. 18-19th, Senior High Winter Retreat, 9:30 am

Sunday, Jan. 19th, Junior High Breakfast, 8:30 am

Sunday, Jan. 26th, Soup Fundraiser, 8:30 am

December 8, 2019

Attendance.....	140
Visitors (included in attendance count)	4
General Fund	\$ 12,568.40
Other Donations	\$ 261.58
Total Offering	\$ 12,829.98

This Week

Sunday	Dec 15	Christmas Program	5:00pm
Tuesday	Dec 17	Staff Meeting	1:00pm
		RDA Annual Meeting	6:00pm
Wednesday	Dec 18	Women’s Luncheon (7936 Quivira Rd, Lenexa, KS)	11:00am
		Choir Meal	6:15pm
		Choir Rehearsal	6:45pm
Thursday	Dec 19	Church Council Meeting	7:00pm

Next Week

Tuesday	Dec 24	Christmas Eve - Church Office Closes at Noon	
		Christmas Eve Service	6:00pm
Wednesday	Dec 25	Christmas Day – Church Office Closed	