

# RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH

May 17, 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 **John Mueller and Mary Redmon**; our greeters are **Will and Kent Moore**. 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. It is provided during church and Sunday school for children three years of age and younger. Today's nursery workers are **Karla Leuenberg, Amy Kliewer, and Will Moore**.

Closing Trustee: **Gary Kaufman**

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Don and Norma Moeller want to **thank you** for all the expressions of sympathy in the death of their son, Mike. The Peace Lily plant was lovely and hand-delivered by Ruth! Your many acts of kindness including attending Mike's visitation and funeral along with all the memorials, cards, emails and phone calls hold special meaning for us. The support from Rainbow has been extraordinary and touching and we thank you so much.

Our grant year for **WorshipArts** is flying by. One of the things the grant promised to provide is an end-of-year celebration, a time to recognize what we've learned together. Because there is no Sunday School on May 31, we will have a simple catered brunch (muffins, cinnamon rolls, fruit and cheese) after church and spend some time sharing. The congregation is invited - this grant is all about making worship vital for everyone, and we have lots to share.

Ashton Wells will be **out of the office** May 21-June 1. Volunteers are needed to help cover the office from 9 am-12 pm from May 21-22, May 26-29, and June 1. Please let Ashton know if you can help ([office@rainbowmennonite.org](mailto:office@rainbowmennonite.org))

**Save the date!** We will dedicate our new pulpit on Sunday, June 21. Joining us that morning will be several of our former Rainbow pastors including Stan Bohn, Frank Ward, Gary Schrag, Ron Holland, and Robert Kaufman.

The topic of the **Next Chapter KC** May 21 forum is “Downsizing Your Stuff – Clutter vs. Keepers.” The forum will be held here at Rainbow Mennonite in the fellowship hall from 6 to 7:30 p.m. It's possible that having too much stuff requires personal energy that could be freed to take on new learning, goals, and passions in our lives after leaving our primary careers. The focus will be on how to reduce our stuff, to learn about practical ways of tackling the situation, and also to understand and deal with the emotional factors that may make this particularly challenging. Our presenters will be Chiquita Miller, PhD, CFLE, with K-State Research and Extension, and Nancy Luber, LCSW, with Mental Health Specialists in Aging. By way of clarification, the focus will NOT be on Hoarding, which is a different topic. Contact Karen Hostetler at [karenh@sckck.org](mailto:karenh@sckck.org) if interested in attending.

### **Freedom School Update**

The Sharing Community in Rosedale is launching an Individual Giving Campaign to support Freedom School this summer. The 2015 budget for the school is \$109,846. The majority of our funding will be given on a reimbursement basis, so we need funds to help us operate until we are reimbursed. The goal is to raise \$20,000.

Persons are encouraged to make checks payable to Sharing Community in Rosedale, but they can also be made out to Rainbow Mennonite Church and designated for Freedom School. Feel free to talk with Rachel Hostetler with questions or for more information.

### *Freedom School Story:*

Scholars who participate in Rainbow Freedom School are expected to either maintain or improve their reading levels. Parents have observed this and the research backs it up as well. In 2014, our site participated in the Children’s Defense Fund national assessment of the Freedom Schools program. On average, the 28 children tested demonstrated a 1-year and 1-month of increase in their instructional reading level. In addition, 91% of the children tested maintained or gained in instructional reading level and did not experience summer learning loss.

**Today, May 17**, many people around the world are commemorating the World Health Organization's decision on May 17, 1990 to declassify homosexuality as a mental disorder. The IDAHOT (<http://dayagainsthomophobia.org>) organization has encouraged churches worldwide to mark this day in prayer. Therefore the following prayer will be offering during today's worship service: *We give thanks for the sacredness of humanity. We uphold our call to witness and respond to human suffering and brokenness. We must not keep silent when lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people face persecution or discrimination. We lament that people experience injustice, in our communities and across the globe, based simply on whom they choose to love or how they acknowledge their gender identity. Rooted in awareness, we pray for healing. Anchored in humility, we work for peace and justice. Guided by love, we hope for a world where all people are celebrated and loved, where their rights are secured, and where their sexual and gender diversity is valued. Amen.*

**This Week**

Sunday	May 17	Welcoming Committee Meeting	12:00 pm
		Youth Education Committee Meeting	12:00 pm
		MVS Support Board Meeting	12:00 pm
Tuesday	May 19	Harvesters Cooking Class	6:00 pm
Wednesday	May 20	Women's Luncheon	11:00 am
Thursday	May 21	Shepherd's Center Next Chapter	5:00 pm
		Park Committee Meeting	6:00 pm
Friday	May 22	SCR Meeting	8:00 am

**Next Week**

Monday	May 25	Memorial Day-Office Closed	All day
Tuesday	May 26	Harvesters Cooking Class	6:00 pm
Thursday	May 28	Church Council Meeting	7:00 pm

This is **the last Sunday** for the Spring Sunday School quarter for adults and children. Our summer education offerings are as follows:

Here is the **schedule** for the month of June for children, jr high, and sr high youth. Each Sunday has a theme but will be divided into age appropriate groups.

June 7th Team Building Activities

June 14th Scavenger Hunt

June 21st Camp Sing

June 28th Veggie Tales/Ted and Company

We are still looking for volunteers to help lead or supervise these pre-planned activities. Please email Renee at [reneer@rainbowmennonite.org](mailto:reneer@rainbowmennonite.org) if you are able to help.

The **adult Sunday school** electives planned for June are as follows:

- **June 7-** Special guest Rachel Waltner Goossen will share about her recent study of Mennonite responses to John Howard Yoder's Sexual Abuse. Rachel is a professor of history at Washburn University. This study was initiated at the invitation of Mennonite Church USA. Her report called "Defanging the Beast" can be found in our church library. Look for the January 2015 issue of The Mennonite Quarterly Review.
- **June 14, 21, and 28-**Sara Mwangura will facilitate a conversation based on Marshall Rosenberg's theory of Nonviolent Communication.