

# RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH

August 16, 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 **Brad and Nancy Gritman**. Our greeters are **Clyde and Peggy Coriell**. Please ask any of them if you need assistance with seating, would like to use a large-print hymnal, or have questions about the location of the restrooms.

The nursery is located on the second floor of the education wing. Today's nursery workers are **Tanya Ortman, Amy Kliewer, and Abigail Gritman**.

Closing Trustee: **Clif Hostetler**

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**Interested in learning more about membership at Rainbow?** Join Ruth in the sunflower room for a conversation about the meaning of church membership following worship today.

**"Church chat: Let's talk about worship"** Join us at the table in the fellowship hall during the coffee time following service today to discuss your thoughts and hear others' ideas about our worship at Rainbow. This is an opportunity to be conversational in your reflections and feedback; while many will discuss worship in our small groups, this is an open venue to reach any and all at Rainbow. Feel free to listen and share!

The Worship Committee invites you to fill out a **worship feedback form**, with the goal of learning about the congregation's worship experience. Paper copies are available and the survey can be found on the church website ([www.rainbowmennonite.org](http://www.rainbowmennonite.org)) under the members/friends section. Use the password "worshipsurvey".

**Singing, food, fellowship -- the Rainbow Choir trinity.** I know it's still August, but I'm thinking about what great fun we can have learning new tunes and eating good food. We'll kick off a new choir season with a potluck at Duane Graber's home on Wednesday, September 9. For those who want to carpool, meet at the church at 6:00. We'll eat at 6:30, followed by a preview of anthems for the Fall. Duane's address is 11149 Cernech Rd., Kansas City, KS 66109. Talk to Rosi Penner Kaufman if you have questions.

Interested in service and international travel? We're exploring the idea of planning an **International Service Trip** for the summer of 2016. Please let Jana Graham (913-722-6040, [jana.m.graham@gmail.com](mailto:jana.m.graham@gmail.com)) or Karla Leuenberg (913-707-5920, [kleuenberg@att.net](mailto:kleuenberg@att.net)) know if you'd be interested in learning more!

### **Regional/National News**

Attention high school students! Win \$1,000 by writing an essay for the Mennonite Central Committee U.S. Washington Office annual public policy essay contest. Topics include the militarization of police, climate change, and prisoner re-entry. All students who attend Mennonite high school or are members of Anabaptist congregations are eligible to participate. Learn more at: <http://mcc.org/get-involved/advocacy/washington/contest>.

**Bethel College golf tournament.** Alumni and friends of Bethel are invited to play in the Thresher Golf Classic, Saturday, Sept. 19, in Newton. For details, search for "Alumni Sporting Events" at [www.bethelks.edu](http://www.bethelks.edu), call 316-284-5251 or email [alumni@bethelks.edu](mailto:alumni@bethelks.edu). Discount deadline Sept. 4, final deadline Sept. 10.

### **This Week**

Sunday	August 16	Youth Education Committee Meeting	10:50 am
Monday	August 17	Youth Support Board Meeting	7:00 pm

### **Next Week**

Wednesday	August 26	Deacons Meeting	10:00 am
Thursday	August 27	Church Council Meeting	7:00 pm
Friday	August 28	SCR Meeting	8:00 am

*“To create a community of awakening and discovery, where the joys and challenges of Christian living are made accessible and relevant to contemporary life.”*

--Rainbow Vision Statement

## **A Time to Reflect on Worship at Rainbow Mennonite Church**

The Worship Committee meets monthly to help develop the worship experience at Rainbow. We support the staff in making decisions about emphasis, content and form. Ten years ago we conducted a survey to try to understand what was most meaningful in our services and we used that to make changes and to gain understanding about our common needs in worship. We are following that up with an eight week emphasis (Aug 9 to Oct 18) during which we hope all participants in the Rainbow community will have several opportunities to reflect and respond to our communal worship experience. The committee will review all of the input from this process in order to take it into account as we move forward for the next 10 years.

We will do this in several formats:

- **Sermons**. Ruth will be preaching on the various components of worship over this time period. We hope you will attend as many of these as possible. If you feel led, please send her your reactions and thoughts.
- **Small Group Discussions**. We are inviting all small groups to spend at least one meeting discussing the experience of worship at Rainbow. The small group coordinating committee has begun working with us to facilitate this. We hope that each group will send us a synopsis of your discussion. Bob Carlson is the coordinator for this.
- **Coffee Time Table**. On at least 4 Sundays during this period, there will be a table set aside during our fellowship time each Sunday for a discussion of worship. This will be facilitated by a member of the Worship Committee. Please be sure to stop by the table at least once. Jan Good-Bollinger is the facilitator for these discussions.
- **Youth of all ages**. We will make a specific effort to gain feedback from all our young people. We will invite them to involve themselves in all facets of this experience plus we will be meeting with them specifically to hear about their worship experience and what makes worship meaningful for them. Renee Reimer and Lonnie Buerge are coordinating this.
- **Families**. We are inviting family groups of any description to spend some time talking and reflecting together on why you worship at Rainbow and how

it is meeting your needs. We want to hear where it is not meeting those needs as well as where you find the most meaning. Lonnie Buerge is a contact for this part.

- **Feedback form.** We have developed a feedback form that will be available to all members and friends of the Rainbow community. On August 12, it will be placed onto the Rainbow web site and anyone can answer the few questions or give any type of feedback that will help us understand what might be missing in your experience. Feel free to answer it more than once if you gain additional insights as we move through these eight weeks. For those who prefer a hard paper copy, there will be forms available from the ushers each week. Ken Parsons is coordinating this part of the feedback process.

As you can see, we have a great number of activities planned throughout this period. We hope this is a worship experience in itself; a time of reflection and thought. We see this as a time to grow as a community and we envision many discussions and interactions as this process unfolds. Please take part in any or all of it.

Thank you for being part of Rainbow,  
Rainbow Mennonite Church Worship Committee