

RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH

August 30, 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 **Dave and Hannah Schrag**. Our greeters are **Janelle and Larissa Schrag**. 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 **Carrie and Eva Parsons**.

Closing Trustee: **Gary Kaufman**

Please be in **prayer** for David and Anali Kratz Mathies as David's father passed away on Wednesday in Clarksville, MD.

The family of David Wiebe, whose funeral was held at Rainbow August 21, shared this note: Words cannot **express our gratitude** for all the church did to help us celebrate David's life. It was a tremendous service, and it couldn't have happened without your effort and love. We were all moved beyond measure. Thank you.

Today we continue **an eight-week worship series** on different elements of worship. Today our focus is scripture. After worship Pastor Ruth invites all to peruse the resources that she has placed downstairs in Fellowship Hall including *Imaging the Word*, an arts and lectionary resource, and *The Saint John's Bible* collection, a hand-written, hand-illuminated Bible commissioned in 1998 by Saint John's Abbey and University.

"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.

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) under the members/friends section. Use the password "worshipsurvey".

Taizé services centered around prayer, readings, silence, and singing will resume next week on Wednesday September 2 at 5:45 pm and will continue on the first Wednesday of the month.

Volunteers are needed to help serve at Willa Gill Food Kitchen on Friday, September 4 from 10:30 am-1:00 pm. Willa Gill is located at 645 Nebraska Ave in downtown Kansas City, KS. If you are available and interested in helping serve food, please contact Rachel Hostetler at rachelh@rainbowmennonite.org.

It's time to start **signing up for small groups**! Groups are intergenerational and focus on building relationships which provide a supportive environment for life's individual challenges and joys. Groups may provide an avenue for discussing congregational and community issues. Members will decide the shape and components of their group life. You can sign up online at www.rainbowmennonite.org or paper copies are available.

Plans are to include a **service of reception** of new members during worship on Sunday, September 6. If you are interested, please let Pastor Ruth know as soon as possible.

Singing, food, fellowship -- the Rainbow Choir trinity. 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. Talk to Rosi Penner Kaufman if you have questions.

Tony Brown, who recently completed fifteen years as artist-in-residence at Hesston College, will present a **multi-media concert at Rainbow** on Thursday, September 10 at 7:00. He will present a tribute to Paul Robeson in a 75-minute song-filled, multi-media presentation that reveals him as a towering figure in 20th century American history. Brown uses Robeson's own words from his autobiography "Here I Stand" and comments from legendary peace activist and artist Pete Seeger to trace his humble beginnings as a preacher's son in Princeton, N.J., to his international celebrity and pioneering activism on the world stage. There is no admission charge.

We will be conducting **Safe Sanctuary** instructions and training for all adults involved with children at Rainbow, including nursery and child care attendants, Sunday School teachers, and others during the Sunday School hour at the church on Sept 13th. This will coincide with the Safe Sanctuary training being administered by Renee Reimer to our youth at the same time. If questions call Keith Jantz.

Please plan to join us for the annual **Mennonite Voluntary Service (MVS)** open house on Sunday, September 13th. Walk down the block to 2303 S Early St following Sunday School for hot dogs and veggie burgers. Drinks and table service will also be provided. Please bring a side or dessert to share. This will be an indoor/outdoor event, weather permitting. Come meet our new volunteers for 2015-2016 and show our support for Kansas City's MVS crew. Questions? Contact Tanya Ortman

Please save Saturday, September 19th at 10:00 for a **baby shower brunch** for Grant and Erin Zehner at the home of Dale and Linda Graham. (Have you noticed how the grandparents-to-be, Claire and Todd Zehners', eyes have been shining?) The couple chose to not know the sex of the baby early, so the nursery will have an outdoor theme. Grant and Erin are registered at Buy Buy Baby and Target.

Save the Date - Hot Dogs in the Park will be on Saturday, Sept. 19 from 6:00-7:30pm. This event provides an opportunity to gather with residents from the Rosedale neighborhood for a barbeque and potluck in Whitmore Park. Volunteers are needed to help with set up (starting at 5:00 pm) and clean up (7:30-8:30 pm). To sign-up, contact Rachel Hostetler at rachelh@rainbowmennonite.org.

Do you have interest in participating in the **Harvesters' BackSnack program**? This program provides food to hungry children for the weekend. Our church plans to participate again and has openings for volunteers. As a community partner, we are responsible for filling and delivering 40 bags of food for children at Noble Prentis, a local elementary school. Volunteers are needed to unload boxes, fill bags with food or deliver them to the school. Persons sign-up to be responsible for the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th or 5th Friday of every month. Please let me know if you have interest or questions about this. –Rachel Hostetler (rachelh@rainbowmennonite.org)

Youth Updates

Start of the new school year means start of the new youth group year! All youth and families in 6th-12th grade are invited to attend a Youth Program Kick-off lunch on **Sunday, September 20th** following Sunday School. Lunch will be provided and we will talk about upcoming events and trips for this coming year. Hope to see you there!

Adult Education classes will resume on September 13. Classes are listed on the blue handout found at the East and West entry to the Sanctuary.

This Week

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| Tuesday | September 1 | Worship Committee Meeting | 7:00 pm |
| Wednesday | September 2 | Taizé Service | 5:45 pm |
| Friday | September 4 | Will Gill Food Kitchen | 10:30 am |

Next Week

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| Sunday | September 6 | Welcoming Committee Meeting | 11:00 am |
| Monday | September 7 | Office Closed | All Day |
| Wednesday | September 9 | Choir Rehearsal | 6:00 pm |
| Thursday | September 10 | Tony Brown Recital | 7:00 pm |