

RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH

September 20, 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 **Mitch Kaufman and Jonathan Bollinger**. Our greeters are **Laura Schmidt 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. Today's nursery workers are **Cynthia and Jacob Kaufman**.

Closer: **Scott Weast**

Mennonite Church USA (MCUSA) has designated today as **Peace Sunday**. Each year Peace Sunday is observed on the Sunday closest to the United Nations' International Day of Peace on September 21. The Peace and Justice Support Network of MCUSA creates worship materials that congregations may use on this or any Sunday throughout the year. Peace Sunday is an annual opportunity to acknowledge and respond to the violence that continues to be our culture's all-too-frequent response to conflict.

There will be a **Safe Sanctuary** training today starting at 11:15 am in room 114.

Next Sunday we will start a new worship series focused around Jesus' parables. Amy-Jill Levine's book, *Short stories of Jesus*, will be a primary resource throughout this series.

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 **today** 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!

There will be a **women's luncheon** on September 23 at 11 am at the First Watch located at 11112 W 63rd St off of Shawnee Mission Parkway.

Retirement is a life transition that can have a profound impact. For most people, it is not a simple change from working to not working. "A Roadmap for the Uncertainties of the **Retirement Transition**" is the topic of the Tuesday, September 22 Next Chapter KC Forum. It will be held at the KCK West Wyandotte Library, 1737 N. 82nd St, KCKS from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Mickie Schroeder and Jeff Jans with "Boomerangs Circle Back to Your Dreams" will be the presenters. They have over 70 years of experience in coaching, training, and designing adult education. There's no charge. To register, contact Karen Hostetler at karenh@sckck.org or use the link in the church's midweek email update.

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

Staff Updates

Community Services Coordinator Rachel Hostetler will be on vacation starting September 14 through October 2.

Youth Program Director Renee Reimer will be on vacation September 21st-27th. Email response may be delayed as there is no wifi or electricity on her backpacking trip.

Regional/National News

Leave or stay? Many Syrian families face that question as international humanitarian assistance dwindles and the patchwork of resources they used to rely on wears thin. Your gift of money helps **Mennonite Central Committee** continue to provide food, water, rent assistance and winter supplies so families that decide to stay in the region can survive the cold weather ahead. Please give online at mcc.org/syria-iraq; by phone at 1-888-563-4676; or by check, sent to MCC U.S., P.O. Box 500, Akron, PA 17501. Thank you!

What you should know about Medicare options

Wouldn't you like to make sense of your Medicare options? Everence can help with our "Retiring soon?" webinar, scheduled for 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. (EDT) Thursday, Sept. 24. Find out about enrollment deadlines, your options if you continue working and other important factors as you approach retirement. For more information or to register, contact Melissa Short at (800) 222-5054 ext. 3392 or melissa.short@everence.com. You also may visit everence.com/direct to register.

Mennonite Disaster Service and Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp are collaborating in a disaster mitigation project to stop the spread of the spruce beetle to other trees on the camp property. ***Volunteers are urgently needed at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp in Divide, Colorado - any time from Oct. 2 through Oct. 10.*** You can help fell, limb and remove logs. Also chip branches, debark trees that cannot be removed, split and stack firewood. ***All skill levels are welcome!*** Accommodations, meals and tools will be provided. ***Please contact Corbin Graber to let him know when you are available. 719-687-9506.***

This Week

Sunday	September 20	Youth Program Kickoff	12:00 pm
Monday	September 21	Head Start Parent Meeting	4:30 pm
Wednesday	September 23	Women's Luncheon	11:00 am
		Choir Rehearsal (dinner at 6:15)	6:45 pm
Thursday	September 24	Church Council Meeting	7:00 pm
Friday	September 25	SCR Meeting	8:00 am

Next Week

Sunday	September 27	Small Group Kick Off	12:00 pm
Wednesday	September 30	Personnel Committee Meeting	5:30 pm
		Choir Rehearsal (dinner at 6:15)	6:45 pm

Fall Adult Education Classes

***Lila: A Novel*.....Library**

This class will discuss the book *Lila* by Marilynne Robinson. The novel is a story of a girlhood lived on the fringes of society in fear, awe, and wonder. Lila was rescued as a toddler by Doll, a young drifter, and together they lived life on the run, living hand to mouth. After years of roaming the countryside, Lila steps inside a small-town Iowa church and ignites a romance with the minister and becomes the minister's wife. However, she struggles to reconcile the life of her makeshift family and their days of hardship with the gentle Christian worldview of her husband who paradoxically judges those she loves.

Three Shorts Books Everyone Should Read..... Wesley Room

This class will discuss three books, starting with *Slaughterhouse-Five* in September. Kurt Vonnegut's novel is about the fire-bombing of Dresden, examining the futility of war. The other two books will be *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denosovich* in October and *Ceremony* in November. Feel free to attend any or all of the discussions.

***Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus Christ*.....Room 111**

This class will discuss the book *Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus Christ* by Reza Aslan which offers a fresh look at the Nazarene, focusing on how Jesus the man evolved into Jesus the Christ. Approaching the subject from a purely academic perspective, the author parts an important curtain that has long hidden from view the man Jesus, who is every bit as compelling, charismatic, and praiseworthy as Jesus the Christ.

Polity, Bible, & LGBTQ Controversies in MCUSA.....Sunflower Room

This class is primarily focused on the study of Stephanie Krehbiel's PHD dissertation titled, "*PACIFIST BATTLEGROUND: Violence, Community, and the Struggle for LGBTQ Justice in the Mennonite Church USA.*" Additional material that will be studied includes a study of Mennonite Church polity titled, "*Grace at the Table: A Resource for Institutional Peacemaking,*" by our own Alyssa Bennett Smith. Other material covered will include commentary on Biblical references to same sex issues.