

RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH

September 27, 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 **Todd and Claire Zehner**. 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 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 **Karen Siebert, Timm Walker, and Carl Dean Yarwood**.

Closing Trustee: **Richard Crabb**

In conjunction with the sermon focus on **parables** for the next several weeks, we have borrowed a number of children's books from the Western District Library. They are available on the cart in the Wesley Room.

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

The **Small Group Kickoff** will take place this Sunday after Sunday School. Plan to stick around for pizza and getting acquainted with your new small group!

Be sure to check out the **new church sign** on the corner of Southwest Blvd and Mill St. Thanks to all who helped with this project!

October 4 is known as worldwide communion Sunday. The service will include a presentation of breads/food from around the world, as well as prayers for the worldwide family. If you would like to bring bread/food representing a specific region of the world, along with a prayer for that place, please let Pastor Ruth know.

Interfaith Power and Light will be holding an interfaith **climate change vigil** on October 4 at 2 pm inside the sukkah at Congregation Bnai Jehudah, which is on Nall and 123rd. Pastor Ruth will be attending and would love for people from Rainbow to join! Email ruthh@rainbowmennonite.org if you are interested in attending.

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".

Interested in a Sunday afternoon walk on October 11th? The jr high youth from Rainbow will be participating in the **Crop Walk** and would love your company. Anyone and everyone is welcome to participate. Please email Renee Reimer if you would like to participate or donate.

Staff Updates

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

Pastor Ruth will be out of the office on Tuesday for the I-70 pastor's group meeting.

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!

This year at **Fall Festival, Saturday, Oct. 10**, at Bethel College, you can enjoy music by Bethel and high school jazz groups, small a cappella vocal ensembles, the Newton Community Children's Choir and the McPherson Community Brass Ensemble. Or help make it yourself at the afternoon hymn sing with the Bethel Alumni Choir. Plus food, reunions, children's park, sports and the biennial Low German program featuring Willmar Harder! Check it out at www.bethelks.edu/fallfest (click "Schedule").

This 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
Thursday	October 3	MVS Support Board Meeting	10:00 am

Next Week

Sunday	October 4	Jr/Sr High Youth Group	6:00 pm
Tuesday	October 6	Worship Committee Meeting	7:00 pm
Wednesday	October 7	Women's Luncheon	11:00 am
		Taizé Service	5:45 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 Short 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 Denisovich* 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.