

RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH

October 4, 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 **Dan Duncan and Laura Schmidt**. 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 **Aaron and Caitlin Linscheid and Madeline Bollinger**.

Closing Trustee: **Clif Hostetler**

Please pray for Jake Beachey as he recovers from quadruple bypass surgery.

Today is **Worldwide Communion Sunday**. Thank you to everyone who shared the "breads of the world" displayed at the front of the sanctuary.

Included in your bulletin today is a piece of **tissue paper**. We invite you to write a memory and/or the name of someone who has passed away on the piece of tissue and then, as you leave the sanctuary, tuck it into our Memory Tower in the Wesley Room that we hope to fill over the next 4 weeks for a remembrance celebration of All Saints Day on November 1st. You are also invited to write names and memories on many more pieces of tissue over the next weeks to fill our tower.

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.

Interfaith Power and Light will be holding an interfaith **climate change vigil** this afternoon at 2 pm inside the sukkah at Congregation Bnai Jehudah, which is on Nall and 123rd. Pastor Ruth will be speaking and a small musical ensemble from Rainbow will sing a hymn.

We will be recognizing new members on **Sunday, October 18**. If you are interesting in becoming a member, please let Pastor Ruth know.

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. Registration begins at 1 pm and the walk at 2 pm at Central United Methodist Church, 5144 Oak, KCMO. Please email Renee Reimer if you would like to participate or donate.

Save the date! Our next congregational meeting and potluck will be on October 18 following Sunday School.

"Held Together in Christ," based on Colossians 1:17, is the theme of this year's **Western District Conference Annual Assembly** to be held on October 30-31 at Bethel College in North Newton, KS. Seven delegates from Rainbow have already been selected, but you don't have to be a delegate in order to attend.

Youth Updates

The **first youth group event** of the school year will take place this evening from 6:00-8:00pm. This event is for all youth in grades 6th-12th. Please meet at the Mennonite Voluntary Service house on 2303 S Early St. We will plan to have a bonfire cookout. Bring a lawn chair and some yard games if you have any!

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 tmcc.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 Dart for Art, see a play (Friday or Sunday, too), enjoy the Thresher Shop grand opening, shop at the Market on the Green and walk Sand Creek Trail. Plus food, reunions, children's park, music, sports – and the launch of a new book, *Museum Mysteries*, written and illustrated by Uncle Carl's Camps summer day campers, at Kauffman Museum! Check it out at www.bethelks.edu/fallfest (click "Schedule").

The Annual meeting for **Mennonite Disaster Service** Region III will be held October 30-31, 2015 at: The Ark on Table Rock Lake, Conference Center, 1190 State Hwy. East, Eagle Rock, Missouri 65641. You are invited to attend. Click here for the registration form.

This 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
		Personnel Committee Meeting	5:30 pm
		Taizé Service	5:45 pm
		Choir Rehearsal (dinner at 6:15)	6:45 pm

Next Week

Sunday	October 11	CROP Walk	2:00 pm
Tuesday	October 13	Deacons Meeting	1:00 pm
Wednesday	October 14	Choir Rehearsal (dinner at 6:15)	6:45 pm
		Church Council Meeting	7:00 pm
Thursday	October 15	Park Committee Meeting	6:00 pm
Saturday	October 17	Garden Workday	9:00 am

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.