

RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH

January 22, 2017

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 **Darin and Jacob Kaufman**. Our greeters are **Leah and Greg Schwarz**. Please ask any of them if you need assistance with seating, would like to use a large-print hymnal, need a hearing assistance device or have questions about the location of the restrooms. The nursery is located on the second floor of the education wing. Our nursery workers today are **Janelle Schrag, Amy Ortman, and Hannah Schrag**.

Closing Trustee: **Richard Crabb**

We thank Sarah Klaassen, pastor of Rock Bridge Church Church in Columbia, MO, for loaning us the Peace and Service banner at the front of the Sanctuary. Here is a note from the designer, Bob Regier of North Newton, KS: "Perhaps there is no more familiar symbol of service within the Mennonite church than the logo of the Mennonite Central Committee. So I have given this symbol, composed of the cross and dove, a prominent position in the upper third of the banner. There is a circular motion around this symbol that alludes to the orb, or world. This witness through service is not restricted, but extends to the entire world. An olive branch forms the lower part of the circle. This symbol, as you recall, has its origins in the story of Noah and the flood. The dove returning to the ark with this branch has become a symbol of peace, reconciliation, and new life.

The bright curved band at the upper right corner of the banner helps further define the orb and suggests a portion of a rainbow emerging from the darker left side. The rainbow is another symbol of God's reconciling action after the flood. Reference to this is made in the ninth chapter of Genesis. Placed below the symbols I have mentioned are the basin and towel. The towel sweeps to the very bottom of the banner and forms part of the bottom contour. Rooted in the account of the Passover supper, the towel and basin have become longstanding symbols for humility and service.

The holidays are over, but that doesn't mean the celebrations end! **Join in celebrating** the October wedding of M'Balia Thomas and Scott Cossel after the worship service today. There will be a basket for cards and a money tree

Please continue to pray for **Tracy Long and her family**. Tracy has returned home, and will require around the clock care. If you would like to sign up to spend some time with Tracy or to take the family a meal, please contact the church office.

Thank you so much to everyone who showered Baby Hawk with love last week. We are blessed to have such a supportive and caring church family! — Nick and Dawn

We're updating the church directory! Paper copies are available to edit in the Fellowship Hall.

New members will be recognized during worship next Sunday, January 29. We will also witness and celebrate the baptism of Allison Unruh.

Save the date! Our annual congregational business meeting will begin sharply at 12:30 pm (following potluck) on January 29. Major agenda items will include 1) Discussion and vote on 2017 budget, 2) Vote on Gifts Discernment nominations, 3) Review of annual reports meeting 4) MVS Update, and 5) SCR update. The Annual Report is available today at the east and west entrance to the Sanctuary.

The next **young adult potluck** will be taking place in the home of Jan and Lonnie Buerge (302 E 68th St, Kansas City, MO 64113). Bring a dish to share (table service will be provided) and please RSVP on Facebook.

Youth Updates

There will be a **youth sonic chat** following the potluck on Sunday, January 29th (12:30pm). Renee will pick up the drink orders and bring them back to Rainbow where we will have a special sonic drink meeting.

Avila University's Buchanan Initiative for Peace and Nonviolence is hosting a conference entitled "**Troost: A Vision for Peace & Action!**" on February 8th and 9th at Avila University. There will be poetry readings, speakers, and breakout workshops. Ken Parsons is one of the organizers for this event. For more information, go to peace.avila.edu.

RESCHEDULED: Sexual violence in the church is an uncomfortable and challenging subject for conversation, but one that's important to have as we explore our Mennonite identity this month. **You're invited to a lunch and learn conversation** with Dr. Stephanie Krehbiel, one of the forces behind the Our Stories Untold blog and the SNAPmenno accountability movement, on **Sunday, February 12**, in the Fellowship Hall.

January 8

Attendance.....	163
Visitors (included in attendance count)	5

This Week

Sunday	January 22	Jr High Snow Camp	All day
		MVS Support Board Meeting	12:00 pm
Tuesday	January 24	Staff Meeting	1:30 pm
Wednesday	January 25	Choir Rehearsal (dinner at 6:15)	6:45 pm
Thursday	January 26	SCR Meeting	6:30 pm
		Church Council Meeting	7:00 pm
Saturday	January 28	Worship Committee Retreat	9:00 am

Next Week

Sunday	January 29	Church Potluck	12:00 pm
		Annual Meeting	12:30 pm
		Sonic Chat	12:30 pm
		Young Adult Potluck	6:00 pm
Tuesday	January 31	Staff Meeting	1:30 pm
Wednesday	February 1	Women's Luncheon	11:00 am
		Choir Rehearsal (dinner at 6:15)	6:45 pm
Friday	February 3	Willa Gill Food Kitchen	10:30 am

Adult Education Classes

***Religion for Atheists* Room 110**

This class will be a discussion of the book *Religion for Atheists: A Non-believer's Guide to the Uses of Religion* by Alain de Botton. Botton suggests that rather than mocking religion, agnostics and atheists should instead steal from it—because the world’s religions are packed with good ideas on how we might live and arrange our societies. Blending deep respect with total impiety, de Botton (a non-believer himself) proposes that we look to religion for insights into how to, among other concerns, build a sense of community, make our relationships last, overcome feelings of envy and inadequacy, inspire travel and reconnect with the natural world.

***The Fire This Time, Part Two* Library**

This class will not meet this week as Joshua Chittum is at Snow Camp, but will resume next week.

To be or not to be an Anabaptist Mennonite..... Wesley Room

This class, facilitated by Pastor Ruth and friends, will compliment the January-February worship series where we will learn more about the gifts and challenges of belonging to a Mennonite denomination and global Anabaptist movement. If you've ever wanted a chance to learn more about the historical and contemporary realities Mennonites face, join us!

The class on climate change has been canceled for this quarter.