

RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH

December 10, 2017

Welcome to our service of worship. 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. After the worship service, the Welcome Committee invites you to the designated Welcome Table in the Fellowship Hall (lower level) to connect with other attendees.

Today's greeters are **Melissa Funk and Laura Schmidt**. Ushers are **Jerry Jantz and Dan Duncan**. 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, Melissa Funk and Hannah Schrag**.

Closing Trustee: **Eric Jantzen**

Remembering in Prayer...

Please keep Lori Lichty in your thoughts and prayers as she is recovering from recent surgery which removed a carcinoid tumor from her lung. While NOT life threatening and a full recovery is expected, she will be recuperating from this major surgery for 4 to 6 weeks.

We are sad to share the news that Shelley Voth-Kritser passed away Friday at the age of 54. Shelley, who lived in Louisburg, Kansas, grew up attending Rainbow with her parents, Don and Jennie Voth, and brother, Jeff. Please keep Shelley's family in your prayers: Jeff, of Richmond Vermont, and Don and his wife, Carol Beachey, of Memphis, Tennessee. Jennie preceded Shelley in death in 1996. There are no immediate plans for a service.

Today at Rainbow – Second Sunday of Advent

The youth will be selling peppernuts that THEY made in the fellowship hall after this morning's worship service. All donations will go toward youth trips. Some upcoming trips are Snow Camp in February and a Colorado Service trip in June.

The final rehearsal for the Christmas Program will be this morning during the Sunday School hour. Children in preschool will meet in the preschool Sunday School room. Children in grades K-5th will be taken to their interest group following Worship Arts. Youth in grades 6th-12th will meet in their assigned interest group rooms.

The **Christmas Program**, *O Come ALL Ye Faithful*, begins at 4:00pm this afternoon with refreshments to follow. (Please bring a dessert or snack to share!) The program will be a collaborative work with children, youth and adults. A free-will offering will be received with funds disbursed evenly to Deacons' Fund and Mennonite Central Committee.

Advent Hope

Our Advent season (December 3-24) will revolve around hope—hope observed, experienced, sometimes barely flickering. Here are a variety of ways we will offer and receive hope in the coming weeks:

Sun, Dec 17

9:30 am worship; Sunday School will feature an outdoor **carol sing** (weather pending) with cider, hot cocoa and doughnuts.

Thurs, Dec. 21

7:00 -8:00 pm **Longest Night/Winter Solstice Service**. This will be a quiet, candlelit service as we hold our various losses and grief up to the Light of Hope and Love.

Sun, Dec. 24

10:00 am worship (no Sunday school) *Note the later time!*

6:00 pm **Christmas Eve Service**

Sun, Dec. 31

10:00 am worship (no Sunday school) *Note the later time!*

Announcements

Thank you to everyone who participated in congregational goal table talks the last two Sundays and Wednesday evening. Rainbow Church Council will meet again Tuesday, December 19 to review the feedback we have received thus far. Please email Christian Buller if you have additional comments before the 19th.

Committees are reminded that requests for the 2018 budget were due to Stewardship Committee by December 1. Contact Mark Unruh with any questions.

Online Giving - if you set up automatic contributions in November or December of 2016, your giving schedule may be expiring or already has expired. Please log in to Online Giving from the church website to check your automatic deductions schedule to renew, if necessary. Whether or not you have automatic deductions, anyone can make contributions to the general fund or any of the other funds we have, including Crosslines Christmas. Please contact Mark Unruh with any questions.

Budget Update - as of December 6, we project requiring \$83K in contributions during the remainder of December to meet our budget. Thank you for your continued generosity and for remembering the church's financial needs as the end of the year approaches.

For all those who feel they are (or would like to be considered) a young adult, you are cordially invited to the Young Adult Progressive Dinner on Saturday, December 16th. Come for stops 1, 2, 3, or all of them.

- 1st Stop: Tara Lindhal **5:30pm**
- 2nd Stop: Renee Reimer **7:00pm (ish)**
- 3rd Stop: Tina Hestand and Joshua Chittum **8:30pm (ish)**.
- See the Rainbow Young Adult Facebook page for more details or contact Joshua Chittum or Renee Reimer if you have questions.

Youth Updates

Jr high breakfast in December is scheduled for **Sunday, December 17th beginning at 8:30am** in the jr high Sunday School room. Dress warm as we will be outside for part of the breakfast!

Sr high lunch discussion is set for Sunday, December 17th from 11am-12:30pm. Dress warmly for this "discussion"!

Staff Updates

Please note that the church office will be closed at the following dates and times:

- Tuesday, December 12 – Closing at noon (Staff Outing)
- Friday, December 22 – Closing at noon (Christmas Eve Holiday)
- Monday, December 25 thru Wednesday, December 27 – Closed for Christmas
- Friday, December 29 – Closing at noon (New Year's Eve)

Member & Community News

Abigail Gritman and Joel Bollinger will be performing with the Westridge Middle School Choir at Crown Center on Tuesday, December 12 at 1:00 p.m.

The Next Chapter Kansas City forum on will meet Tuesday, December 12 at the West Wyandotte Library, 1737 No. 82nd St, KCKS and will focus on "Finding Purpose in Creative Pursuits." There will be presentations and displays in the areas of metal sculpture, writing a book, knitting, woodworking, sewing, jazz on the piano, and writing reviews of performing arts events and exhibits -- all by persons 50 and over. Contact Karen Hostetler about registering or for more information.

December 3

Attendance.....	161
Visitors (included in attendance count)	0
General Fund	\$ 11,211.25
Other Donations	\$ 476.00
November Online Giving.....	\$ 3,373.40
Total Offering and November Online Giving	\$ 15,060.65
Cross-Lines Christmas Store Donations to Date	\$ 8,821.50

This Week

Sunday	Dec 10	Second Sunday of Advent	
		Youth Peppernut Fundraiser	10:30am
		Christmas Program Rehearsal	10:50am
		MVS Support Board Meeting	12:00pm
		Christmas Program	4:00pm
Monday	Dec 11	United Government Meeting	4:00pm
		SCR Board Meeting	6:30pm
Tuesday	Dec 12	Staff Outing – Office Closes at Noon	12:00pm
		Personnel Committee Meeting	5:00pm
		United Government Meeting	5:30pm
		Stewardship Committee Meeting	6:00pm
		Worship Committee Meeting	7:00pm
Wednesday	Dec 13	Rainbow Quilters	9:00am
		Choir Dinner	6:15pm
		Choir Rehearsal	6:45pm
Thursday	Dec 14	Trustees Meeting	7:00pm
Saturday	Dec 16	Hayes Family Christmas Breakfast	8:00am

Next Week

Sunday	Dec 17	Third Sunday of Advent	
		Jr High Breakfast	8:30am
		Sr High Lunch Discussion	11:00am
Tuesday	Dec 19	Staff Meeting	1:30pm
		Church Council Meeting	7:00pm
Wednesday	Dec 20	Women’s Luncheon	11:00am
		Choir Dinner	6:15pm
		Choir Rehearsal	6:45pm
Thursday	Dec 21	Longest Night Service	7:00pm
Friday	Dec 22	Church Office Closes at Noon	12:00pm