

RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH

December 9, 2018

Welcome to our worship service. We welcome everyone without regard to race, ethnic identity, gender, sexual orientation, age, and economic or other life circumstances. For information about our church or the Mennonite faith, literature is available in the east and west foyers outside the sanctuary.

We invite you to sign our friendship register when it is passed during the offering. Between the worship service and Sunday school, please join us for coffee and donuts downstairs in the fellowship hall. Visitors and newcomers, please look for the Rainbow Connections Table!

Please ask our ushers and greeters 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, for children birth to age four, is located on the second floor of the education wing. Our nursery workers today are **Heidi Braun, Carrie Parsons and Eva Parsons**. Closing trustee is **Steven Cress**.

Remembering in Prayer...

Greg and Leah Schwarz are very excited to be expecting a baby in May and appreciate the love and support of the congregation.

Congratulations to Kelsy and Jake Allison on the birth of their daughter Eleanor on November 29. Evelyn is the proud big sister and Gary Long is the proud grandpa!

Janelle Schrag's Caring Bridge site at can be found online at <https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/schragfamily>

This Morning at Rainbow ~ Second Sunday of Advent

- WorshipArts (K-5th Grade) and Women's Ensemble (Jr & Sr High) 10:25am
- Peppernut Sale Youth Fundraiser 10:30am in Fellowship Hall
- ◆ 2nd Hour Christmas Program Rehearsal 11:00am – 12:30pm in the Sanctuary
- 2nd Hour Christmas Story Bible Trivia 10:50am in the Fellowship Hall with special music that includes a symphonia brought by Richard VanDyke.

Announcements

In the event of **inclement weather**, church-related cancellation notices will appear on the home page of our church website. An email will also be sent to the congregation and the church facebook page will be updated.

Big news from Sharing Community in Rosedale (SCR) Board! Following many months of negotiation with Rosedale Development Association (RDA), we have officially entered a one-year contract with them to hire a Program Coordinator that will primarily be responsible for the oversight and management of the Rainbow Summer Program and year-round after-school educational opportunities. More details regarding this partnership between SCR and RDA will be forthcoming. See the midweek email for link to the posted job description. Thank you to Rainbow for your ongoing support of SCR! ~ Carlos Casas, SCR Chair

Stewardship Update (12/5) – As of Sunday, December 2, we are forecasting that we will require \$93K in contributions before the end of December to meet our 2018 budget commitment to fund all of the missions of the church. This averages to about \$23.3K per week. Please keep church finances in mind as we head toward the end of our business year. If you would like to give and cannot be at church a particular Sunday, remember the online giving option at our church website. Thank you.

A note from Rainbow Deacons: On January 1, 2019, Ruth will begin a three-month sabbatical. She will be away from Rainbow this whole time, as she plans to travel, rest, and study. In the coming weeks, she will share more about her sabbatical goals. In the meantime plans are underway to have Deacons rotate being on-call for pastoral and congregational care concerns during this three month stretch. That information will be shared in the coming weeks as well. Let's join in prayer for Ruth and the Rainbow congregation as we mutually prepare for Ruth's time away. ~ Amy Kliwer (chair), Mike Peters, Richard VanDyke, David Stewart, Marsha Rhoads, and Leah Schwarz

Youth Updates

Youth! Please save the date on your summer calendars for the **Mennonite Church USA convention on July 2-6** in Kansas City. Senior high youth will spend the whole week together and stay in the convention hotels. Junior high youth will attend the convention programming during the day from 8am-5pm, with a lock-in at the church on Friday night. Junior highers will need to be picked up after programming each day. More information about registration cost and deadlines will be coming soon.

Member News

Recently Kristina Yoder participated in a benefit concert for Tree of Life synagogue. Her performance with Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra will be broadcast live on PBS at 8pm Eastern time on December 11.

Community Events

Rosedale Development Association is celebrating 40 years! Join RDA at Vox Theatre on Tuesday, December 18 at 6:30pm to celebrate the milestones and stories from the past 40 years and look ahead to the next 40! Enjoy light fare, beverages, raffles and more. RSVP to the RDA office at 913-677-5097.

Advent Season 2018

Advent, which means "coming" or "arrival" is a time for us to shine a light on Jesus' entry into God's story, as well as our stories. More specifically we will shine advent lights on joy in God (December 16) and love in God (December 23). Hopefully we will shine as a result!

Sunday, December 16

- 2nd Hour Caroling in the neighborhood surrounding the church
- 2nd Hour Christmas Program Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- Christmas Program 5:00pm

Sunday, December 23

- Worship prelude 9:30am All are invited to share a Christmas solo or small ensemble piece. Contact Rosi Penner Kaufman to sign up.

Monday, December 24, Christmas Eve Service 6:00pm

Thank you to everyone who participated in supporting the **Cross-Lines Christmas Store!** The Outreach Committee is thankful for all those who contributed canned tuna, peanut butter or Bisquick. Thank you as well to all the volunteers who worked in the store. The Cross-Lines Christmas Store allowed 500 area families the opportunity to shop for Christmas this past week. After paying a small dignity fee, families were able to select clothing, toys, household items, and food. Since the beginning of the Christmas Store in 1968, Rainbow Mennonite Church has been responsible for the food section of the store, while other churches are responsible for other items.

This year we purchased \$12,000 of food in bulk and we've received \$11,000.00 in donations so far. You can still help us cover this expense by donating online through Rainbow's website or make checks payable to Rainbow Mennonite Church. Please designate either donation for *Cross-Lines Christmas Store*.

December 2, 2018

Attendance.....	189
Visitors (included in attendance count)	6
General Fund Nov 25 & Dec 2 Combined.....	\$ 9,830.91
Other Donations Nov 25 & Dec 2 Combined.....	\$ 1,795.08
Total Offering Nov 25 & Dec 2 Combined	\$ 11,625.99
Total Online Giving for November	\$ 5,187.00

This Week

Sunday	Dec 9	Jr and Sr High Breakfast	8:30am
		Youth Peppernut Bake Sale	10:30am
		Christmas Story Trivia (Fellowship Hall)	10:50am
		Christmas Program Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	10:50am
Monday	Dec 10	Personnel Committee Meeting	5:30pm
Tuesday	Dec 11	Staff Meeting	10:30am
Wednesday	Dec 12	Choir Meal	6:15pm
		Choir Rehearsal	6:45pm
Thursday	Dec 13	Trustees Meeting	7:00pm

Next Week

Sunday	Dec 16	Neighborhood Caroling	10:50am
		Christmas Program Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	10:50am
		Christmas Program	5:00pm
Tuesday	Dec 18	Staff Meeting	10:30am
Wednesday	Dec 19	Women's Luncheon	11:00am
		Choir Meal	6:15pm
		Choir Rehearsal	6:45pm
Saturday	Dec 22	Private Family Meal in Fellowship Hall	8:30am

Rainbow Mennonite Church is the host congregation for Kansas City's Mennonite Voluntary Service (MVS) unit. Currently we have three volunteers living in the MVS house, serving with local nonprofits, while also plugging into the Rosedale neighborhood and Rainbow. These temporary volunteers are joined by an associate MVS resident and longer-term house residents/managers Kimberly Hunter and Je'Taime Taylor.

Sarah Tomas Morgan ~ Jewish Vocational services (sarah.tomasmorgan@gmail.com)

Hanna Hochstetler ~ Migrant Farmers Assistance Fund (hannakathleen.h@gmail.com)

Eba Goshu ~ Connecting for Good (elemes200@caledonian.ac.uk)

Paul Zehr, Associate ~ Heirloom Bakery (paul.zehr74@gmail.com)