

# RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH

**August 25, 2019**

Welcome to our worship service. We strive to 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!

This morning's ushers are **David Bluford, Eric and Alex Jantzen**. Greeters are **Sammy Stayton and Dan Duncan**. Please ask 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 and is available for children from birth to age 4. Nursery workers are **Cynthia Olavarria Kaufman, Barbara Baumgartner and Eva Parsons**. Closing trustee is **Scott Weast**.

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## Remembering in Prayer...

- Clif Hostetler as he recovers from injuries sustained in a bicycle accident this week.
- Annie Jones who is currently at KU Med recovering from surgery on her leg.
- Claire Zehner is having spinal fusion surgery August 28th at KU Med. Please pray for the KU staff caring for her, steady hands and positive outcome. A three or four day hospital stay is expected. See the midweek email for meal sign up.
- Michelle Rempel would like to thank the Rainbow community for the many prayers and cards that were sent after the death of her brother, Carl Rempel, this summer.

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## This Morning at Rainbow

This morning we begin a new worship and sermon series on Matthew 5-7, also known as the Sermon on the Mount. New Testament Scholar Mary Schertz says, "Congregations in the Anabaptist/Mennonite traditions have long held that living out the Sermon on the Mount is doable and that, furthermore, it is our calling." That being said, she also suggests we cannot do this on our own and that we need voluntary and visible communities in which there is mutual accountability in order to make this Sermon a way of life. "The Sermon on the Mount," she says, "is not a rule book to be followed as closely as possible, line by line. The Sermon on the Mount is the thorn in our side and the rainbow in our sky, discomfiting and comforting by turn, but always calling us beyond our perspective to a more joyous and loving existence."

## **Second Hour, Safe Sanctuary Training 10:50 – 11:45am in the Sanctuary**

Rainbow Mennonite Church strives to be a Safe Sanctuary church for all ages. Each year we provide training on our Abuse Prevention Policy. All adults are encouraged to attend. Please note that all congregants serving or volunteering with youth and children are required to participate in this training. We ask all Deacons and Church Council members to attend as well, per our policy. Training sessions will be offered these following Sundays during the Second Hour at 10:50 am: August 25, September 1, and September 8. There will also be a Wednesday evening session offered on August 28, time to be determined. The youth and children will have their own session to review our safe sanctuary practices on Sunday, September 8.

## **Announcements**

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The Outreach Committee is exploring the possibility of preparing and serving lunch at the Cross-Lines Food Kitchen. We would need volunteers to help with preliminary meal preparation which could be in an evening or after church, and then other volunteers to help finish preparing and then serving the meal from 10:30am to 1:30pm. The specific days are not set, but would be during the week. If this is of interest and you are able to help please contact Terry Rouse.

During recent Women's Lunch Group gatherings we have talked about the great difficulties faced by those crossing our southern border and seeking asylum in America, as well as the Mennonite Central Committee project of creating immigration detainee care kits as a way of providing help to these refugees. We have shared links in the midweek email to provide information for your consideration. Many in our group have made donations to MCC specifically for this project and encourage this for your consideration as well. Contact Pat Peters with interest or questions.

Interviewers needed! The Welcoming Committee intends to expand the Rainbow Connections library, a collection of stories about friends and members of Rainbow started last year. If you want to get to know someone at Rainbow a little better, please consider volunteering to interview that person for Rainbow Connections. If you would like to be interviewed, or to submit a story from your own life, that's welcome, too. The Committee can provide direction, assistance with editing and submission to the library. Please contact Gail Goeke to volunteer or for more information. The link to Rainbow Connections is on the church website.

BikeMS for 2019 is coming up soon! Rainbow has traditionally shown strong support for this worthy cause, especially because of our special tie to it via the Penner family. If you'd like to donate, visit <http://tinyurl.com/KDB-BikeMS>

## Mennonite Voluntary Service (MVS) News

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Update from MVS Board: Recently we learned that we won't have any new volunteers placed in Kansas City this school year. Therefore, our main priority is to help our sole VS'er, Hanna Hochstetler, have a great last couple months at the VS house and at her placement. We request prayers as we discern our future with MVS, especially given some of the proposed changes coming out of the MVS national office.

Save your paper grocery bags! The Migrant Farmworkers Assistance Fund (MFAF) will re-use them for food distributions. We are currently holding a weekly food distribution for migrant and seasonal farmworkers who are here for the fall harvest season; distributing between 100-180 food bags a week. Please contact Hanna Hochstetler (MVSer currently serving at MFAF) if you have bags to donate. Thank you!

## Youth News

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Sept. 15th 12:00-1:00 Junior & Senior High Youth Parent Meeting (Lunch provided)

## Staff Updates

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Ben Parker Sutter will be out of the office August 24-29 while attending a class at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart, IN.

## July 2019 Financial Update

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### Highlights: 2019 vs. 2018 (as of 7/31)

	2019 Actual	2019 Budget	Variance Fav/(Unf)	2019 Actual	2018 Actual	Variance Fav/(Unf)
<b>Revenues</b>	\$ 235,062	\$ 233,359	\$ 1,703	\$ 235,062	\$ 234,542	\$ 520
<b>Expenses</b>	231,935	252,694	20,759	231,935	243,026	11,091
<b>Net Income</b>	3,127	(19,335)	22,462	3,127	(8,484)	11,611
<b>Bank Balances</b>				173,156	158,556	14,600
<b>Mortgage</b>				366,011	397,525	31,514
<b>Endowment</b>				96,115	66,569	29,545

### Highlights through the end of July:

- 2019 revenues are 0.7% over budget, and a little ahead of our revenues at the same point in 2018.
  - YTD contributions as of 7/31 were \$223,409.21, which is roughly 49% of our annual 2019 contributions budget of \$453,016.
- 2019 expenses were significantly below budget as of 7/31, and also behind where they were at this point in 2018.
  - Shortfalls on the expense side were caused primarily by lower than budgeted spending on electricity, park maintenance, building maintenance, peace and social justice, and educational expenses.
- Net Income at 7/31 was \$3.1K compared to a \$19.3K budgeted loss through July. Our Net Income is \$11.6K ahead of where we were at the same point in 2018.
- Cash in the bank remains in a very healthy position.
- Our mortgage balance has been reduced by \$31.5K in the past twelve months.
- Our annual liability insurance payment of around \$22,000 will be coming due in October.
- The Rainbow Mennonite Church Endowment Fund was at \$96.1K at 7/31, an increase of \$30K over the balance at this time last year. A \$4,500 contribution to the endowment fund in early August will bring the fund to a little over \$100K.

Please remember online giving as a way to make contributions if you will be away for vacation. You can access online giving at the church website or find the EasyTithe app on your smartphone. If you encounter any difficulties with online giving, please contact Andy Toews at treasurer@rainbowmennonite.org.

## August 18, 2019

Attendance.....	114
Visitors (included in attendance count) .....	3
General Fund .....	\$ 13,031.00
Other Donations .....	\$ 150.00
<b>Total Offering .....</b>	<b>\$ 13,181.00</b>

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### This Week

Sunday	Aug 25	Safe Sanctuary Training	10:50am
		Faith Formation Board Meeting	11:50am
		Playground Committee Meeting	11:50am
Tuesday	Aug 27	Staff Meeting	1:00pm
Wednesday	Aug 28	Women's Luncheon (7936 Quivira Rd., Lenexa)	11:00am
		Safe Sanctuary Training	6:30pm

### Next Week

Sunday	Sep 1	Safe Sanctuary Training	10:50am
		Safety Team Meeting	10:50am
Tuesday	Sep 3	Worship Committee Meeting	7:00pm
Wednesday	Sep 4	Rainbow Sewing Group	9:00am
		Welcoming Committee Meeting	7:00pm

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Rainbow Mennonite Church congregation hosts Kansas City's Mennonite Voluntary Service (MVS) unit. Currently we have one volunteer living in the MVS house, serving with a local nonprofit, while also plugging into the Rosedale neighborhood and Rainbow. This temporary resident is joined by longer-term house residents/managers Kimberly Hunter and Je'Taime Taylor.

Hanna Hochstetler ~ Migrant Farmworkers Assistance Fund