

Rainbow 2018



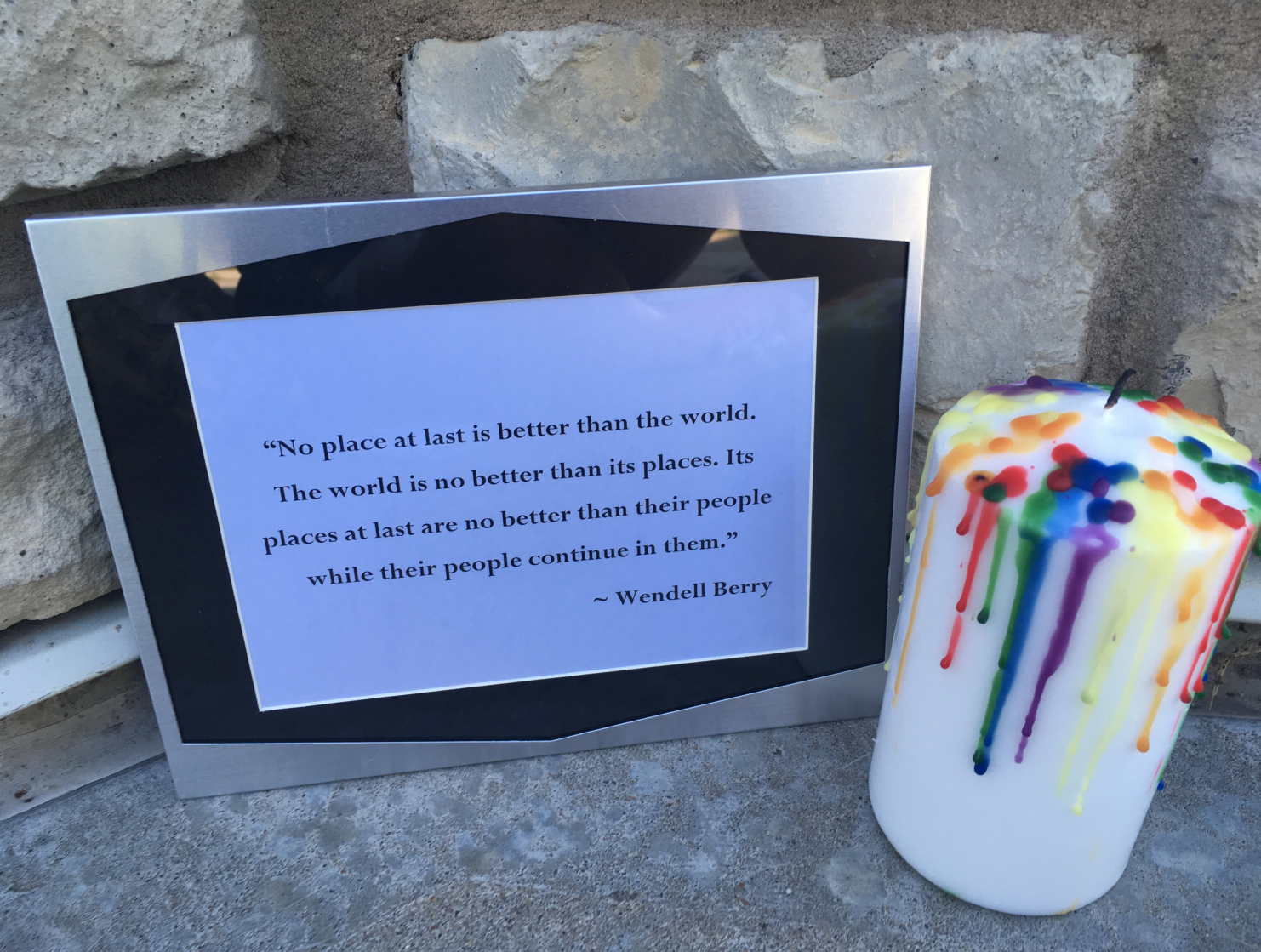


Sanctuaries
within sanctuaries
within sanctuaries

The light reflecting in this
place is amazing.







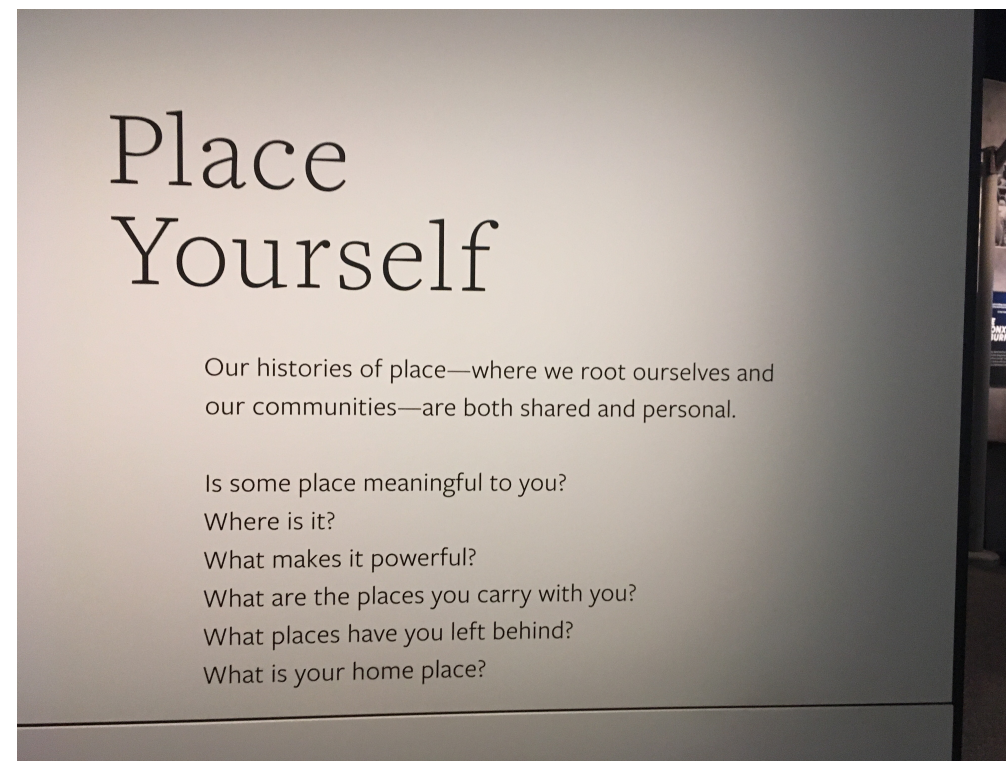
Found your hope, then, on the ground under your feet.
Your hope of Heaven, let it rest on the ground
Underfoot. Be it lighted by the light that falls
Freely upon it after the darkness of the nights
And the darkness of our ignorance and madness.
Let it be lighted also by the light that is within you,
Which is the light of imagination. By it you see
The likeness of people in other places to yourself
In your place. It lights invariably the need for care
Toward other people, other creatures, in other places
As you would ask them for care toward your place and you.
No place at last is better than the world. The world
Is no better than its places. Its places at last
Are no better than their people while their people
Continue in them. When the people make
Dark the light within them, the world darkens.
-Wendell Berry

Our ministry intern from this year, Will Compton, framed these words by Wendell Berry as his thank you to Rainbow. And what a gift these words (and Will's time with us) continues to be.

Thank you Will!

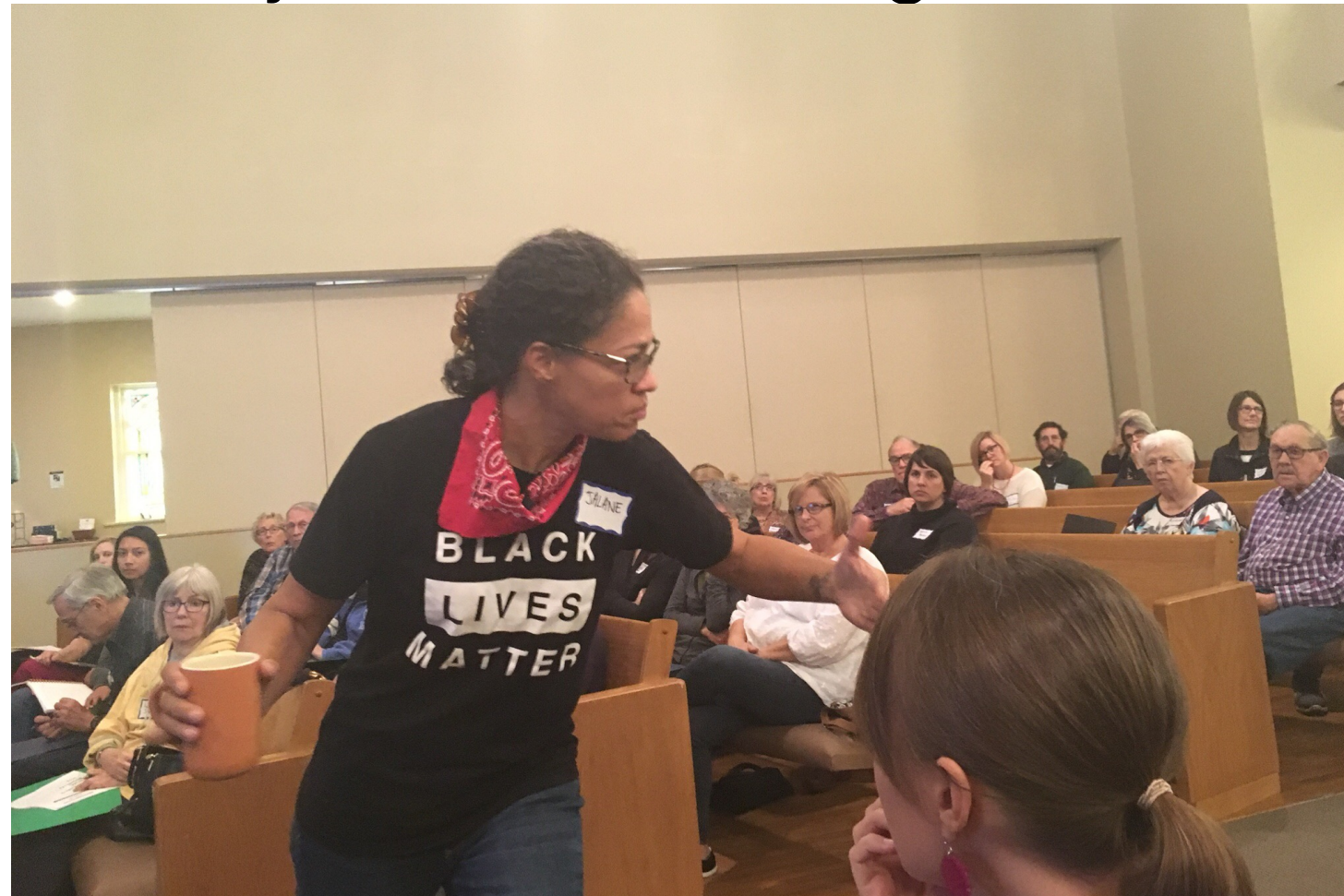


Place was a theme this year as I moved through this 5th year as Rainbow's pastor. The year began with a chance to tour the National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C. In one of the museum exhibits, guests are asked questions about place.



It was a powerful reminder that we all define and experience place differently and that many historical and social realities shape our experiences and definitions of place and/or displacement.

Our Rainbow symposium this year on confronting white supremacy was yet another reminder of these complex realities having to do with place. Thank you to all who helped plan and carry out this learning event.



Rainbow Mennonite Church is both place and people. Each person who finds their way in and out of this place will have their own stories and experiences. In their farewell to Kansas City this year, Robert (pictured below) and Krista Kaufman said that over and over, they experienced a “sweet, sweet spirit in this place.” How I hope that is true for the many people who move in and out of this building, the green spaces outside, and those who attend the Head Start program, Rainbow Summer Program, those who garden, vote, play, sing, pray, or receive utility or rent assistance in this place.



**Welcome to
Rainbow Mennonite Church**
We are glad you're here!

Sunday Worship 9:30am
Fellowship 10:30am
Adult and Children's Education
10:50am

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www.rainbowmennonite.org



If you would like to be contacted,
please email the church office at
office@rainbowmennonite.org.

Welcome!

Your presence is important to us.
Please sign the friendship register,
passed during the offering, filling in
as much information as you desire.

We hope you'll take time between
service and Sunday School to join us
for coffee and doughnuts downstairs
in the Fellowship Hall. Look for the
Welcome Table!

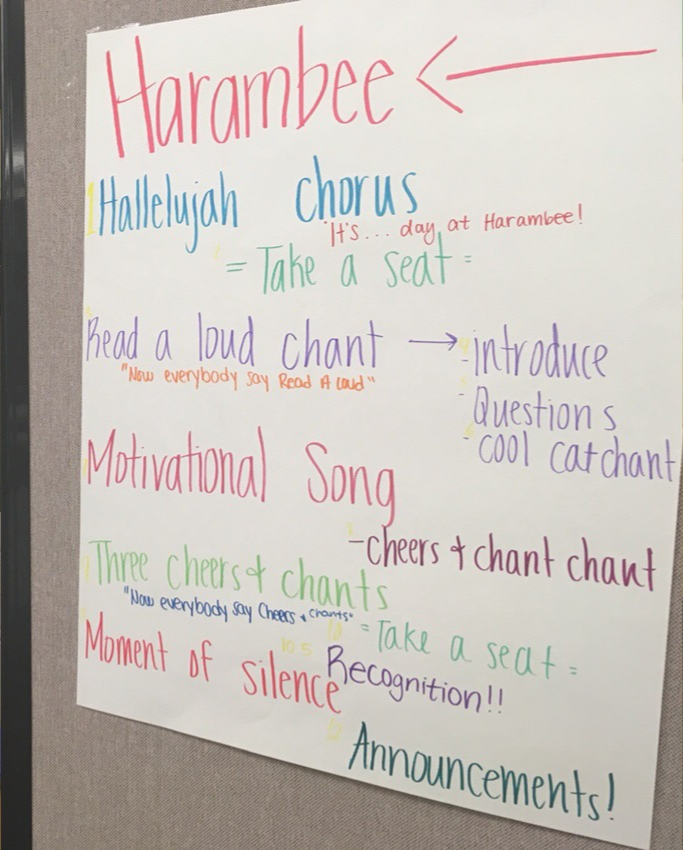
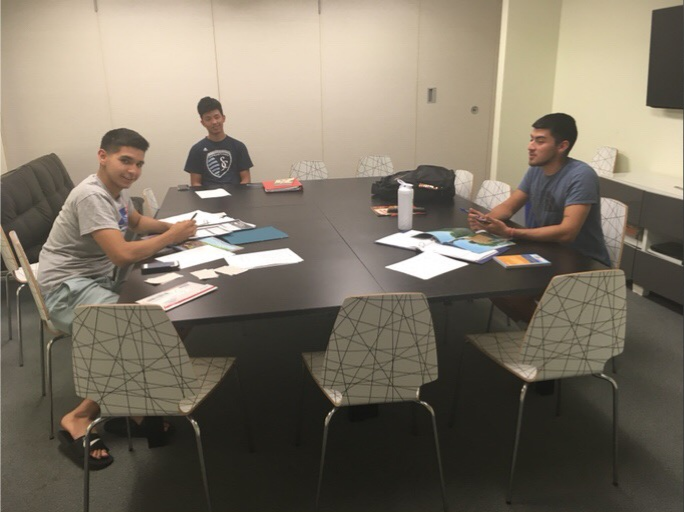
For more information about Rainbow
or about the Mennonite faith,
literature is available in the east and
west foyers outside the sanctuary.

Slips of paper are available in the
pew racks for those who wish to offer
joys and concerns silently and
anonymously. These papers, if put in
the offering plate, will be placed in
the prayer bowl table at the front of
the sanctuary.









Rainbow is never the same year to year, month to month, Sunday to Sunday. This year we were impacted by the deaths of so many Rainbow friends and congregants: Hal Boyts, Joyce Mills, Glenda Campbell, Irene Stewart, Leo Goertz, Janelle Schrag, and long-time Rainbow pastor Frank Ward.

These lives have now become part of the "great cloud of witnesses" (Hebrews 12:3). They will continue to inspire and shape who and why we are.



BEACHEY
1940 - 2016

JOYCE E MILLS
1940 - 2018

RALPH J MILLS
1936 - 2007



FRANK G. WARD

1928 - 2018

HOPE
PEACE
JOY
LOVE



This year we said goodbye to others due to job changes and/or transitions to new places. This included supporting (and saying goodbye to) Renee Reimer who is completing a seminary degree this year at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary. What a joy it is to see people like her, Will Compton, Rosi Penner Kaufman, Dave Richardson Spaite, and Debra Sapp-Yarwood stretch themselves and embrace ministerial vocations.



We participated in licensing Rosi toward ordination this year.



Renee Reimer is
now attending
seminary full-time.

Sociologist Margaret Mead writes this:

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

The impact that Rainbow has had and continues to have leaves me speechless at times. There is indeed no place I’d rather be.

Thank you Rainbow staff, including Hanna Hochstetler who worked with us for two months, as well as Ashton Wells who served as Executive Director of Sharing Community in Rosedale for part of 2018.



**TEAM
RAINBOW**

And thank you to all the people who have contributed in time, talent, and treasure this year!



We welcomed three new Mennonite service volunteers



Thank you to those who donated toward a new VS car!



And the VS
house got
a new
stove!

There were other ways we served the broader
Kansas City Community including....

A white semi-truck with a red trailer is parked on a street. The trailer features a repeating pattern of small, stylized trees. A large white banner is draped across the side of the trailer. The banner has the word "HARVESTERS" in large, red, serif capital letters. Below it, the words "COMMUNITY FOOD NETWORK" are written in white, sans-serif capital letters on a red background. To the right of the banner, the slogan "Hunger has no boundaries." is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. Above the banner, there is a graphic of a golden sheaf of wheat. Below the banner, there is a graphic of a golden cornucopia overflowing with produce. The truck is parked on a paved street with a sidewalk and trees in the background. A house is visible in the distance.

HARVESTERS

COMMUNITY FOOD NETWORK

Hunger has no boundaries.



And Cross-Lines Christmas Store



MERRY CHRISTMAS
FROM THE
SHARING COMMUNITY IN RAINBOW
MENNONITE CHURCH
FELIZ NAVIDAD

Parking
→
♿

HAMMERMILL



And participation with Mennonite Disaster Service



The senior high youth volunteered a week at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp (and got some hiking in).



In terms of worship...

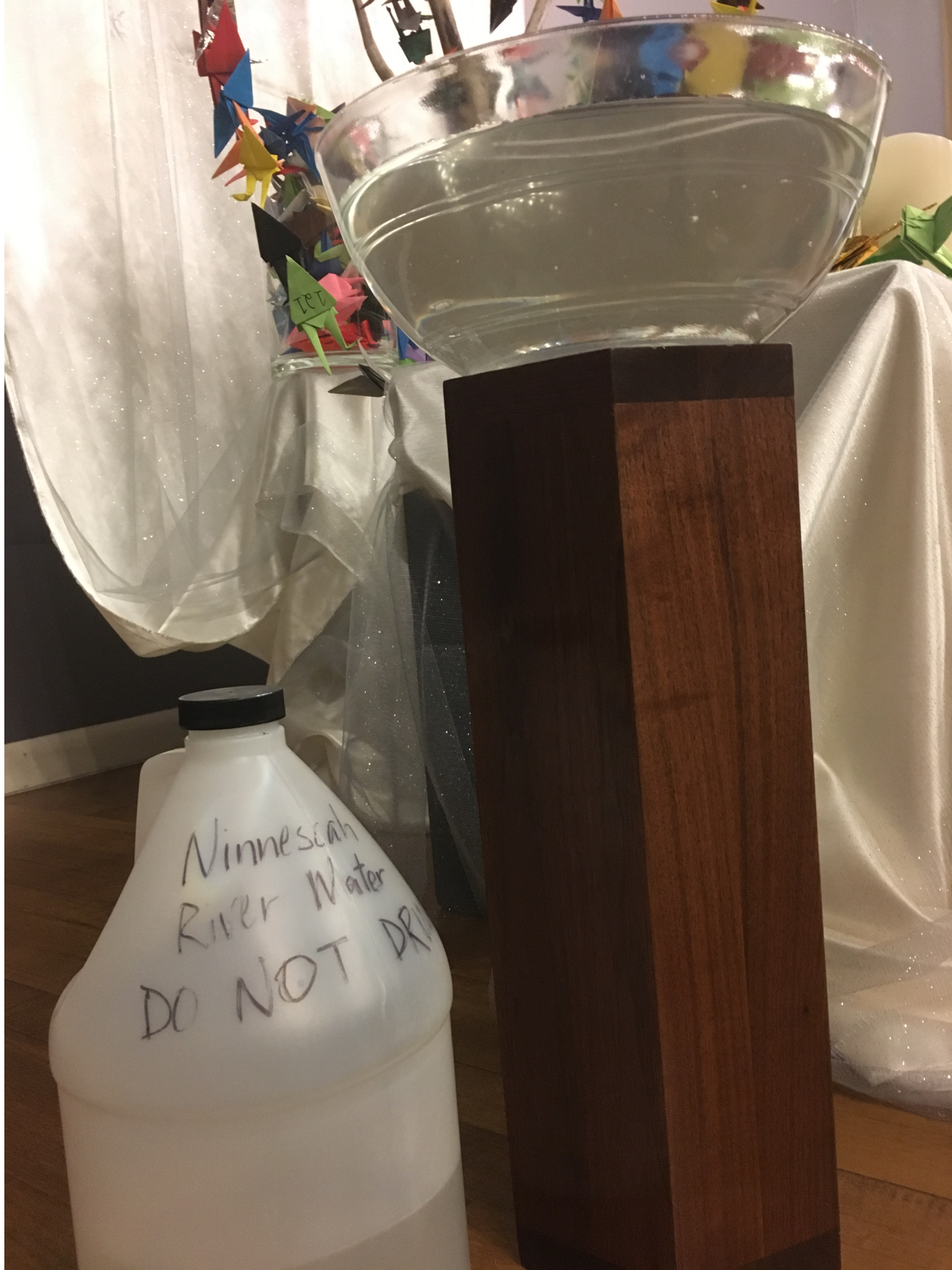
We had some fun with Ash Wednesday falling
on Valentine's Day and Easter falling on April
Fool's Day.



"To take the sign of the cross
means to allow oneself
to be stretched out wide
in solidarity with the Christ and in compassion for all, even at cost,
and to believe against defeat and despair
that hope can rise and life begin again."
-Liturgy of Ashes

"You are dust, and to dust you shall return."
-Genesis 3:19





Notice the baptismal
water source

Pastor Ruth's Blog: www.overandaroundtherainbow.com
(913) 236-8820

Rainbow Lineup:

Point Guard: Devonte Harder (ruthh@rainbowmennonite.org)

Wing(s): Svi Penner Kaufman (music@rainbowmennonite.org)

Team Manager: Malik Parsons (office@rainbowmennonite.org)

Center(er): Lagerald Reimer (rener@rainbowmennonite.org)

Forward (Thinker): Udoka Rouse (maintenance@rainbowmennonite.org)

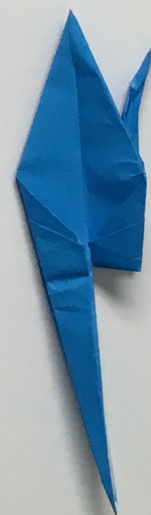
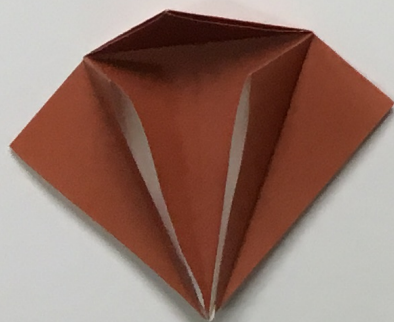
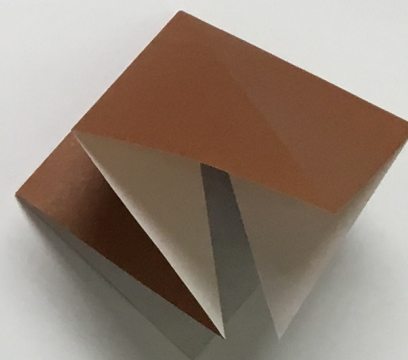
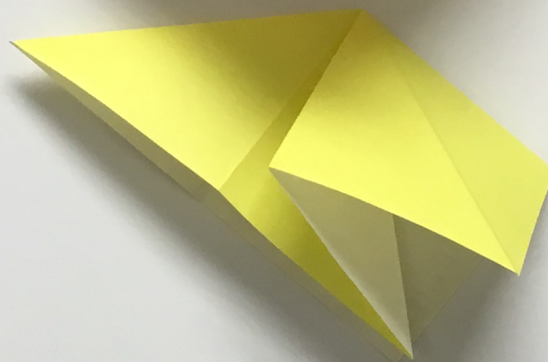
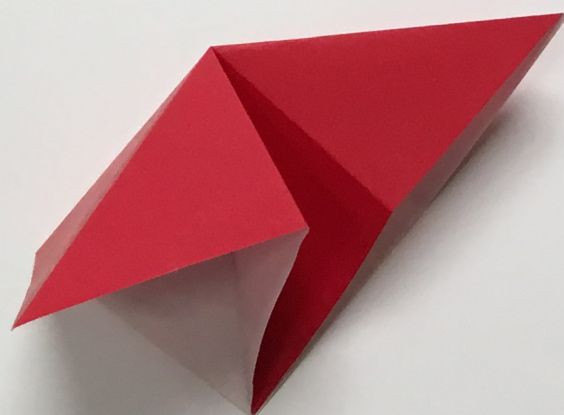
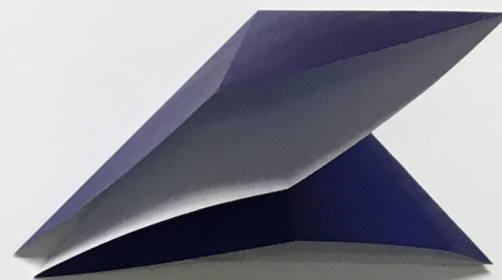
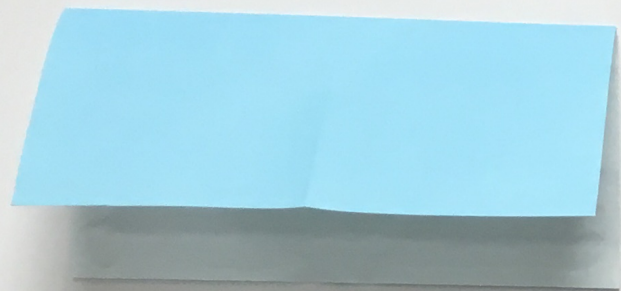






Cranes were a theme
this year thanks to
Seth Campbell!







Rainbow was alive with music this year:

Harp ensemble, bell choir, organ, and
instruments of all kinds.

And now we have our very own set of hand
bells!







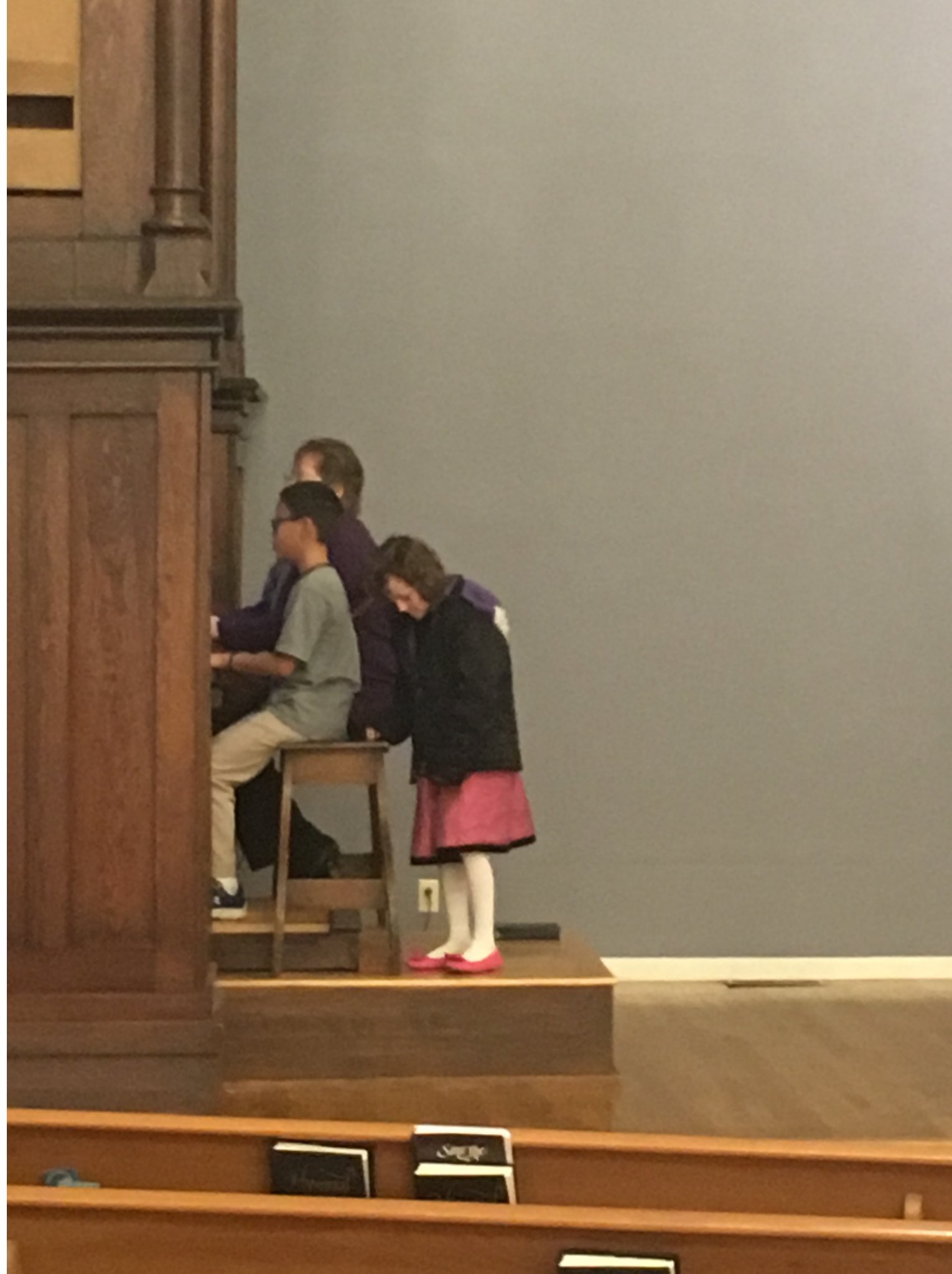
Rosi sharing about our organ.



Deacons This
R65: and
truth
Real
something that can help
hoaty
no lies
confusing

bystander
stand by
-confront
-tell parents about
Hi, I'm a ship
this is the first time
I've ever been
do this I think
you should give
yourself a 100%
I didn't do that action
looking back know
so I think
YO
SHOCK.





Backpacks blessed, Scripture read, children
dedicated, wheelchairs blessed, weddings
celebrated, Sunday school teachers thanked,
communion shared...

















Potlucks are a form
of communion
right?



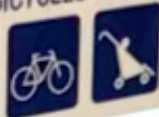
Oh and new furniture donated



And youth trips and
outings and general
fun



WHEN NOT BEING USED BY A
MOBILITY DEVICE, THIS AREA
CAN BE USED BY PASSENGERS
WITH BICYCLES OR STROLLERS



TOMAHAWK
2010



adidas



Dutch Blitz with George Houghton



Getting to know Sister Holy Hope



Outdoor adventures...



Rainbows on the Run!











New bat house!



Beyond Rainbow....

Can you spot Rainbow?





March for Our Lives rally to end gun violence



Smiling faces at Camp Mennoscah



Smiling faces at Western District Conference annual meeting



Ruth with other KC Mennonite pastors
Sandeep (left) and Omot (right)



One of many Poor People's Campaign rallies held in KC this year

And as we draw this year to a close, here are
just a few highlights from December.





Christmas caroling at the VS house





Christmas caroling in the neighborhood







Happy New Year Rainbow!

See you in April!

