

National Avenue Christian Church

May 2011

Springfield, Missouri

The Rainbow Network is a faith-based organization working to end extreme poverty in Nicaragua through housing, health care, education, micro finance, and sustainable agriculture.

About the Poverty Crisis in Nicaragua



Nicaragua is one of our hemisphere's poorest nations. Unsafe dirt-floor houses, lack of access to education, lack of food and water, little to no economic opportunity, and nearly nonexistent healthcare kill more people every year than violence. We are working to change that.

A Good Start



So far Rainbow Network has helped lift tens of thousands of people out of the clutches of extreme poverty. They have built hundreds of new homes. Their staff of medical doctors regularly visit more than 100 rural villages providing true patient care. They've made thousands of micro-loans to empower family businesses, sent thousands to high school, and taught tens of thousands to read and write. They have cut malnutrition to 8% in the communities they support, when they started people were dying from a lack of food.

Now it is our turn to help. National Avenue has been investing in a village called Hilapo Dos for several years and we are thrilled to be at an exciting new stage in our partnership with Rainbow Network and the village. We have learned in the past few weeks that a plot of land is available for purchase – this is land that will allow the village to build 30 new homes for families that desperately need this help.

Please watch for more information in the next few weeks which will explain how you can be part of this exciting development in our relationship with the people of Hilapo Dos.

May Meetings...

Every Monday	5:30 pm	Yoga in the Gallery
Wednesday, May 4 th	2:45 pm	Finance Meeting
	6:00 pm	Handbells
	7:00 pm	Choir
Friday, May 6 th	10:00 am	Church Women United
Sunday, May 8 th	5:30 pm	Deacons and Elders Meeting
	7:00 pm	Board Meeting
Tuesday, May 10 th	9:30 am	CWF Mary Martha
	7:00 pm	CWF Abigail

Wednesday, May 11 th	6:00 pm	Handbells
	7:00 pm	Choir
Saturday, May 14 th		Habitat for Humanity Run – NACC
	9am-12noon	Ozark Food Harvest
	9am – 12noon	NACC Building and Grounds Work Day
Sunday, May 15 ^t	3:00 pm	PFLAG
Sunday, May 29 th	11:30 am	Prayer Shawl Team
Monday, May 30 th	Memorial Day	Church Office Closed

Ozark Food Harvest May 14th ...

We will work our usual day at Ozark Food Harvest this month which is this Saturday, May 14th. As part of their Faith Formation Class, some of the youth who will be making a commitment to Christ on June 5th are helping at Ozark Food Harvest this month. Come join them as we work to help people in need. Contact Chad Young at cyoung@cameron-insurance.com if you can help this month or if you need additional information.

Building and Grounds Work Day...



Several times a year, the Property Team hosts a work day for our church building and grounds. The spring work day is now scheduled for Saturday, May 14th from 9:00 am to 12 noon. All skill levels are needed – we will find something for everyone to do! This is a great time to get to know people in our community. Please call the church office and let us know you will be coming so that we can be sure to have enough coffee and bagels.

Working to Create Community...

When you come to church this Sunday morning, you are going to see some exciting developments. The Membership Team asked Donna Charles to work with them on using the money given by the Unitrust Memorial Fund to furnish our Gallery/Fellowship Hall. The first delivery of furniture came on Friday and Donna, with the help of Charrie Dixon and our custodian Ben, began the renovation of the space. It is of course, absolutely beautiful but perhaps more importantly it is a place for us to gather and work on creating even more community within our church. We can't wait for you to see it on Sunday.



A Special Sunday – June 5th...

On June 5th, we will observe Pentecost [a week early!] by having Baptism during our 10:00 am Worship. If you are considering making a decision about becoming a Christ follower or reaffirming a decision you have made previously, please contact Pastor Laura. We will also recognize our seniors who are graduating this year that day.

Mark Your Calendars...

Art for Haiti returns on Friday, June 10th in the Gallery at National Avenue. Several artists have already responded to the call that went out a few weeks ago and our curator, Holly Elkin, is busy working with our Gallery Team members on planning another exquisite evening that will invite you to enjoy some wonderful art, hear some great music, and sample some delicious food. The event this year will benefit Community Coalition for Haiti, an organization that has local ties. To help with the event please contact Anna Squires.



**A One-Day
Lesbian and Gay
Couples Retreat**

COMMITTED & COMMUNICATING

GLO Center

518 E Commercial Street • Springfield MO

Saturday, May 7

10:00 am - 5:00 pm

**Celebrate Your Relationship
And Learn How to Make it Last**

There is **No Fee** for this Retreat, but

Space Is Limited

For More Info, Or to Sign Up
Call Marsha at 417-527-0599

Light Refreshments Provided / Lunch On Your Own



Presented by Forest Institute and the GLO Center