

Our Mission:

Raleigh Mennonite Church is a community growing as disciples of Jesus, the Christ. We nurture growth of the inner spiritual life, seeking transformation through God's grace as followers of Jesus.

We are active in reconciliation and service, making Christ known through sharing the story of God's love and forgiveness with our children, our neighbors and our world. In our lives, we seek justice, healing, hope and peace for all people.

We warmly and actively welcome others to join us on this journey.

astor	Melissa F-B
Servant Leaders	Ben H, Karin S AI R, David R & Rachel T
Pastoral Care Team	Brenda NM, Stephen J, Dave C & Janet F
Church meeting location	1116 North Blount St., Raleigh NC
Mailing address	P.O. Box 25545, Raleigh NC 27611
RMC Website	www.raleighmennonite.org
Email for announcements	bulletin@raleighmennonite.org
Email slides or videos to be projected	AV@raleighmennonite.org

Children in Worship

*Children are encouraged and celebrated in worship. Worship bags are available for use during the service. Nursery is available mid-way through the service for children up to kindergarten. To utilize our nursery, staffed by volunteers who have undergone our Safe Church training, meet at the entrance at the hymn prior to the sermon.

Hearing Assistance:

Hearing enhancement devices are available at the A/V table.

Prayer concerns:

The Lezha Academic Center in Albania has students and staff from Australia, Albania, Brazil, Italy, Greece, Russia, Ukraine, and the United States. Pray for God's love and unity between all.

Announcements:

- Local Mennonite congregations are hosting an **Advent hymnsing and potluck** at Church of the Reconciliation in Chapel Hill (where CHMF meets - 110 N. Elliott Rd.) on Saturday, December 3 at 4pm. Please come to enjoy music and food this season.
- The **following adult classes will be starting on December 4**. Please RSVP to the class leaders if you plan to attend the class.
Love is a Verb: A study of I John, A Bible study, led by John F. Mennonite Church USA encourages the study of 1 John as a lead up

to the 2017 Convention theme "Love is a Verb". In Christ, we see that love is something lived, love is active in the world, love is a verb.

Download the MCUSA study resource here:

<http://mennoniteusa.org/menlove/> It is provided as a year-long study, this class will focus on Part One: Loving One Another.

Trouble I've Seen: Changing the way the church views racism. A book study, led by Karin S and AI R. Theologian and blogger Drew Hart places police brutality, mass incarceration, anti-black stereotypes, poverty, and everyday acts of racism within the larger framework of white supremacy. Leading readers toward Jesus, Hart offers concrete practices for churches that seek solidarity with the oppressed and are committed to racial justice.

- There will be a **Fellowship Meal** on Sun, Dec 4 between worship and our **Coloring Party**. Please bring a dish to share and stay after church to enjoy some good food and fellowship. Hospitality asks those with last names starting with K- Z help with setting up tables and chairs before the meal as well as assist with clean up afterwards.
- **MDS Relief Work** Thank you to all who went on the service project yesterday to help rebuild Tarboro after the flooding! There will be more opportunities on another date. Claude K is keeping a list of people who expressed interest in volunteering; if you are interested and want your name added let him know.
- **Christmas Caroling & Fellowship with Parkview** - Our annual potluck meal and fellowship with residents of Parkview Manor will take place Friday, Dec. 9, at 6:00 pm. If you would like to join a group of carolers walking down Blount Street to Parkview Manor, please meet at the church at 5:00. (You may drop off your covered dish at Parkview ahead of time.) The meal and festivities will begin around 6:00 pm, with Craig H serving as MC for an evening of song and merriment.
- **Men's March Getaway** - RMC men are invited to a weekend of hiking, eating, talking and chilling in the mountains (well okay, the hills) of Hanging Rock State Park, March 24-26, 2017. We've reserved a couple of the park's cabins for the weekend. If you're even a little interested, please talk with Stan NM soon; if there's enough interest we'll rent another cabin before they're all taken.
- **Women's Beach Retreat April 28-May 1, 2017**
Mark your calendars! We have already reserved the same house we had last year for April 28- May 1. Come join a bunch of like minded ladies for a fun weekend of walking, talking, beach lounging, games, food and fun! More details in Feb but set aside the last weekend in April. Questions? See Sue S

RMC receives a **public offering** once each month (generally the first Sunday of the month); at other times gifts may be placed in the oak offering box on the back table.

Upcoming Events

Advent Hymnsing and Potluck (CHMF site)	Dec 3
Potluck Fellowship meal	Dec 4
Advent Coloring Party, 1:30pm	Dec 4
Christmas Caroling and Parkview Party	Dec 9
Second Informational Meeting following worship	Dec 11
Men's March Getaway 2017	Mar 24-26
Women's Beach Retreat 2017	Apr 28-May1

Birthdays and Anniversaries

If your birthday or anniversary is missing from this list, please contact the bulletin team at bulletin@raleighmennonite.org

Adrienne Isaacs	Dec 2
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Adult Sunday School classes:

Soundtrack of Our Faith - Auditorium
Mud house Sabbath - Room 6

2 new classes will be beginning Dec 4
Bible study of I John "Love is a Verb"
The Church and Racism

	Today (November 27)	Next Week (December 4)
Greeter/Usher	Kim B, Liza F	Joy W, Chrys B
Nursery	Joanna J, Marva K	Ruth R, Rosene R
Sharing	Brenda NM	Rachel T
Sound	Marc S	Stan NM
Bulletin	Joanna J	Joanna J
Worship Coordinator	Rosene R	Brenda NM

Raleigh Mennonite Church

November 27, 2016

First Sunday of Advent

Welcome to our worship!

We are a community seeking to keep Jesus at the center of our lives, aware that we come from a variety of life experiences and points in our faith journeys. God invites us all to worship no matter our cultures, traditions and paths to God. We truly welcome you whatever your religious background or spiritual practice.

Sunday School **9:30 a.m.**

Gathering for Worship **10:30 a.m.**

Prelude	
Welcome & Announcements	Stephen J
Invitation to Worship/Prayer	Rosene R
WB 172	O Come, O Come, Immanuel
Reading: Psalm 122	
Lighting of Advent Candle	
SS 3	Come, Light of the World
Confession/Words of Assurance (Screen)	
WB 178	Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus
Children's Story	Janet F
SJ 87	Put Peace Into Each Other's Hands (v 1-2)
<i>Children are invited to Nursery</i>	

Hearing and Responding to God's Word

Scripture Reading	Isa 2:1-5 ; Rom 13:11-14	Erin & Anali NM
Sermon	Staying Away in the Dark	Melissa F-B
Song of Response		
SJ 87	Put Peace Into Each Other's Hands (v 3-5)	
Communion		
Sharing and Prayer		Brenda NM

Sending to Serve

Song	SS 16	Peace Before Us
Words of Blessing		Rosene R