

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.

Pastor	Melissa F-B
Servant Leaders	Ben H, Karin S Al 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:

Pray for wisdom, direction, and vision for a VM Missions couple as they look to start a Bible Study in their South Asian neighborhood. Pray for discernment as they consider the format and leadership.

Announcements:

- **Longest Night Service, Dec. 21st** at 7pm: For many the holidays can bring up heaviness and longing. Perhaps it's because you are missing someone who has died and the holidays remind you of it. Perhaps it's the political climate, or maybe it's something else. During this service, we will create space to mourn, remember, and process some of these challenges together.
- Our **Christmas Eve service** will be held Saturday, December 24, **5:00 pm** at RMC. This is a great service to invite family, friends and neighbors, since it includes familiar Christmas carols, scriptures, and a children's story. The service concludes with "Silent Night" sung by candlelight. Please bring a plate of cookies or snacks for refreshments that will follow the service.
- **Christmas Day, Dec. 25th** at 10:30am: Please join us for a joint worship service with Chapel Hill Mennonite Fellowship and Love Wins on Christmas morning for carols and celebrating Christ's birth!

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

Longest Night Service, 7:00 pm	Dec 21
Christmas Eve Service, 5:00 pm	Dec 24
Christmas Service, 10:30 am	Dec 25
Servant Leader Retreat	Jan 7
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

Mary & Joe J	Dec 19
Laurie J	Dec 19
Ariana C	Dec 22
Marva K	Dec 24

Adult Sunday School classes:

"Love is a Verb" 1 John Bible Study – Room 6
 "Trouble I've Seen" Racism and the Church – Room 2

	Today (December 17)	Next Week (December 25)
Greeter/Usher	Ruth and Al R	Chrys B
Nursery	Rachel T, Anne C, Anne Hope C	Joanna J, Ruth R
Sharing	Rachel T	Rachel T
Sound	Stan NM	John F
Bulletin	Joe J	Joe J
Worship Coordinator	Brenda NM	Melissa FlorerF-B

Raleigh Mennonite Church

December 18, 2016
 Fourth 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	Flutes of the Spirit
Welcome & Announcements	Stephen J
Invitation to Worship	Screen
Songs of Hope	Brenda NM
	Worship Team

WB 201 Hark! The herald angels sing
 SS 124 My soul cries out

Lighting of Advent Candle

Song SS 3 Come, Light of the World

Confessing, Reconciling Screen

Song SS 1 Praise the one who breaks the darkness

Children's Story Janet F and Pam B

Song WB 191 O little town of Bethlehem

Children are invited to Nursery

Hearing and Responding to God's Word

Scripture Reading [Psalm 80:1-7,14-19](#) ; [Luke 2:36-40](#)

Sermon [Hope and Cookies](#) Joy W

Song of Response SJ 13 My soul is filled

Sharing and Prayer Rachel T

Litany of Preparation for communion

Sending to Serve

Benediction Brenda NM