

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	Chris H, David R, Karin S, & Rachel T
Church meeting location	1116 North Blount St., Raleigh NC
Mailing address	P.O. Box 25545, Raleigh NC 27611
Website	www.raleighmennonite.org
Facebook	www.facebook.com/raleighmennonite
Instagram	www.instagram.com/raleighmennonite
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 Craft materials are available for use during the service. Nursery is available mid-way through the service for children up to kindergarten. To use our nursery, staffed by volunteers who have undergone our Safe Church Training, meet at the back of the room during the hymn prior to the sermon.

For children and youth who remain in worship, a Church Creation project will be introduced and materials provided. Church Creations are designed to complement the day's scripture reading or another worship theme. While Church Creations are designed with children and youth in mind, adults are invited to participate as materials are available.

Hearing Assistance:

Hearing enhancement devices are available at the A/V table. Even if you do not have a hearing problem, they make what is spoken from the podium much more intelligible.

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

Prayer Concerns:

Lift up those attending a Community Church Planting training through VM Missions on Thursday and Friday. Pray that church planting efforts will be enriched and made more biblically faithful through this training.

Scripture Readings:

In preparation for next Sunday's worship service (Dec. 10), you are encouraged to read Ezekiel 37: 1-14.

Announcements:

- **Finger Food Fellowship Meal and Church Life Meeting will be held today after the worship service.** Hospitality asks that those with last names starting with the letters A-K help with setting up tables and chairs before the meal, as well as assist with cleanup afterward. The meeting will address the possibility of RMC becoming an affiliate of Industrial Areas Foundation, a broad-based community organizing collective of Wake County churches, organizations, and associations.
- **New adult Sunday School classes** are starting this month and will run through February. Classes meet from 9:30-10:20 prior to worship, and all are welcome. If you would like a book for one of the classes, please contact Karin S (kjS@gmail.com).

Sex, Gender, and the Sacred Story (starts today)

This class will study a guide written by our new (Central District) conference called "Human Sexuality in a Biblical Perspective," and will be co-led by Rachel T, Emily B, and Claire U.

Evangelism Revisited (starts December 10)

This class will discuss ideas from the book "Evangelism without Additives," and will be co-led by John F and Marc S.

- **Fellowship dinner and program with Parkview Manor residents** (and optional Christmas Caroling). Our annual potluck meal and a fun interactive program with residents of Parkview Manor will take place Saturday, Dec. 9 at 6:00pm. 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 about 6:00pm. As always, the ladies of Parkview make this a wonderful evening. Please RSVP (or send questions) to Craig Herb (craigherb608@gmail.com).

Announcements (continued):

- Stewardship Commission reports that contributions to the RMC General Fund through November, the third month of the fiscal year, totaled \$43,730. This is over the budget-projected contributions of \$41,693. In love, let us encourage one another to give as we have been given and ask for God's Spirit to give us the strength and courage to live as maturing stewards.

Upcoming Events

Fellowship meal & Church Life Meeting	Today
Caroling, dinner and program at Parkview Manor	December 9
Women's meeting at Mary Jo L's house	December 11
Women's beach retreat	April 27-30, 2018

Birthdays and Anniversaries

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

Barnaby A	December 10
Bonnie M	December 11

Adult Sunday School classes, Winter quarter (Dec - Feb)

Sex, Gender, and the Sacred Story - Room #2
 Evangelism Revisited – *will begin next Sunday*

	Today (Dec 3)	Next Week (Dec 10)
Greeter/ Usher	June A and Alyssa C	Deb W and Mary J
Nursery	Rosene R and Marva K	Duane B and Peggy M
Sharing	Melissa F-B	Brenda NM
Sound	Stan NM	Sean B
Bulletin	Pam Bruns	Ruth Reberg
Worship Coordinator	Brenda NM	Debbie B
Speaker	Jon Mark	Melissa F-B

Raleigh Mennonite Church

December 3, 2017, 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 coNorth me 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

9:30am

Gathering for Worship

10:30 a.m.

Prelude		
Welcome & Announcements		Stephen J
Call to Worship	Screen	Brenda NM
Songs of Hope		
<i>Great is the Lord</i>	<i>WB 87</i>	
<i>O come, O come Immanuel</i>	<i>WB 172</i>	
Lighting of the Advent Candle		
Reading	Screen	
Prayer		
<i>Come, light of the World</i>	<i>SS 3</i>	
Confession	Screen	
<i>Save us, O Lord</i>	<i>SS 6</i>	
Offering		
<i>Hope is a Candle (vv 1,5)</i>	<i>SS 15</i>	
(Children are invited to leave for nursery)		
Church Creations		Anne C

Hearing and Responding to God's Word

Scripture: Daniel 3: 1, 8-30	
Sermon Bowling Down, Standing Up	Jon Mark
Song of Response	
<i>Obey my voice</i>	<i>WB 163</i>
Sharing & Prayer	Melissa F-B

Sending to Serve

Benediction	Brenda NM
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