

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.

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| Pastor | Melissa F-B |
| Servant Leaders | Debbie B, Pam B, Chris H, & Karin S |
| 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. "Order of the Mustard Seed" (i.e. children's worship) is available mid-way through the service for children through 8 years old. To participate in Order of the Mustard Seed, which is led by Rachel Taylor and volunteers who have undergone our Safe Church Training, please 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, the devices make what is spoken from the podium much more intelligible.

Accessible Restroom

An accessible, gender-neutral bathroom is available near the front entrance.

Announcements

The Stewardship Commission reports that **contributions to the RMC General Fund** through November, the third month of the fiscal year, totaled \$40,169. This is almost exactly the budget-needed contributions of \$40,299. Thank you RMC for being faithful stewards.

December's Intergenerational Advent Sunday School class:

Based on the Gayle Boss Advent devotional *All Creation Waits*, this intergenerational Sunday School class will look at how wild animals preparing for winter can be our teachers for how to receive the gifts, growth, and life that happens when this season comes. We will spend one week each focusing on the Advent spiritual disciplines of saying no, praying, getting ready, and practicing hospitality. By paying attention to how wild animals of the northern hemisphere ingeniously adapt when darkness and cold descend, we will see and hear as if for the first time the ancient wisdom of Advent: *The dark is not an end but the way a new beginning comes*. After church on December 16th, we will also have a guided tour at Umstead State Park where a ranger will show us where we might find some animals getting ready for winter. We will meet at 1pm Umstead Road, Crabtree Creek Entrance off US 70.

Special **Church Life Meeting on Dec 16:** in order to finalize our discernment for filling the role of church treasurer, we will have a CLM immediately after our worship service on Dec 16. This will be the only item on the agenda. We hope you will be able to stay and share in this important decision. Let me know if you would like to review the job description for this role or if you have any questions! Chrys Browne (Moderator for CLMeetings)"

Saturday, **January 5 (5pm): Three Kings (and Queens!) Party:** Come celebrate Three Kings Day at RMC! Kids and adults will have the opportunity to dress up in royal costumes, decorate star-shaped cookies, create their own crowns and other crafts, and eat King Cake. We will end the evening by watching a movie based on the Henry Van Dyke story of the last king who got a little distracted on his journey.

Prayer Concerns

For all refugees and those who are threatened where they now live.

For Hope School Staff, Students and Families. For Building for Hope Board as they consider the future.

Upcoming Events

EVENTS CANCELLED TODAY BECAUSE OF SNOW

Advent Season Hike, Umstead State Park, 1 pm December 16
(guided by a ranger who will show us how animals get ready for winter)
 RMC Christmas Eve Service, 7 pm December 24
 Three Kings (and Queens!) Party, 5 pm January 5
 Fellowship Meal January 6
 Church Life Meeting January 13
 Women's Lunch at TGIF, 1pm January 14

| | Today (Dec. 9) | Next Week (Dec. 16) |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Greeter/ Usher | Sara Ch and Deb W | Luz and John F |
| Nursery 9:30 | Kathy and Dennis B | Anne C, Joanna J |
| OMS 10:30 | Justin K | Peggy M |
| Sound | Joe J | Sean B |
| Bulletin | Ruth R | Ruth R |
| Worship Coordinator | Janet F and Rosene R | Brenda NM |
| Speaker | Melissa Florer- Bixler | Melissa F-B |
| Sharing | Red B | Dave C |
| Worship Setup | Craig and Brenda Herb | David and Rosene R |

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Bonnie M December 11
 Mariechen and Joe J December 19

If you haven't shared the date of your birthday or anniversary so it can be included in this weekly list, please contact bulletin@raleighmennonite.org

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.

Raleigh Mennonite Church

December 9, 2018

Advent 2

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

10:30 a.m.

Sounding of Singing Bowl

Welcome & Announcements

Stephen J

Proclaiming

Call to Worship Let the Heavens Rejoice (WB187) Vocal Ensemble

Scripture [Malachi 3:1-7](#) (in four languages)

Lighting of Advent Candles

STS 14 Prepare the way (unison)

Screen Litany

STS 14 Prepare the way (two-part round)

WB 178 Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

WB 167 For God So Loved Us

Children are invited to Order of the Mustard Seed

Hearing and Responding

Church Creations

Belissa A

Scripture with Sung Refrain: [Luke 3:1-14](#)/STS 6 Save Us, O Lord

Sermon

Melissa F-B

Special Music "Gottes Sohn ist kommen", JS Bach

Vocal Ensemble

Communion

Sheet Bendice, Senor

WB 471 Eat this Bread

Sharing and Prayer

Rachel (Red) B

Sending

Benediction STS 16 Peace Before Us