

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	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

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 16, we will 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 today, Dec 16**, immediately after our worship service in order to finalize our discernment for filling the role of church treasurer. This will be the only item on the agenda. We hope you will be able to stay and share in this important decision. Chrys B (Moderator for CLMeetings)

"RMC Christmas Eve – Mon, Dec 24 at 7:00 pm

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."

Help serve brunch to 250 of our friends who will be hungry on **Tues Dec 31**. Oak City Outreach is open on holidays that the soup kitchen is closed to provide meals to our friends in need. You can help by making brunch casseroles, helping to serve or donating money for supplies. See Sue or Marc Segre if you would like to help.

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.

Our Prayer Concerns

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

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

Upcoming Events

Advent Season Hike, Umstead State Park, 1 pm <i>(guided by a ranger who will show us how animals get ready for winter)</i>	December 16
RMC Christmas Eve Service, 7 pm	December 24
Brunch at Oak City Outreach 10:30 to 12	December 31
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. 16)	Next Week (Dec. 23)
Greeter/ Usher	Luz and John F	Chrys B and Anne C
Nursery 9:30	No Nursery today	No Nursery today
OMS 10:30	Peggy M	
Sound	Sean B	John F
Bulletin	Ruth R	Ruth R
Worship Coordinator	Brenda NM	Melissa F-B
Speaker	Melissa F-B	Rachel T
Sharing	Dave C	Melissa F-B
Worship Setup	David and Rosene R	Chrys B and Pam B

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Mariechen and Joe J	December 19
Ariana Ch	December 22
Marva Kr	December 24

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 16, 2018

Advent 3

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

[Enemies](#)

Melissa F-B

Special Music "Gottes Sohn ist kommen", JS Bach Vocal Ensemble

Communion

Sheet Bendice, Senior

WB 471 Eat this Bread

Sharing and Prayer

Rachel (Red) D

Sending

Benediction STS 16 Peace Before Us