# Shalom Mennonite Church January 29, 2012

Our Bodies, God's Image For it was you who created my being, and knit me together in my mother's womb. I thank you for the wonder of my being, for the wonders of all your creation. Psalm 139:13-14 Gathering in God's Presence			<b>Proclaiming the Word</b>		
			Scripture Readings	Genesis 1:26-31 and John 1:14	
			<b>Quiet Reflection</b> The periods of silence in our worship will begin and end with the ringing of a chime.		
Gathering I	II GUU SIICSCIICE		Children's Time		Crea Nieles
Welcome and Special Announceme	ents	Gerry Epp	Children's Time Hymn HWB 482	Mother	Greg Nickel
Gathering Music and Processional			Hymn H W <b>B</b> 482	Mothering God, you gave me birth	
We carry in a flame, the Bible, and a prayer cloth. May we trust the Light to guide us, the Word to teach us, and prayer to knit our lives together with God as we begin our time of worship.			Meditation	"what the body knows"	Eric Massanari
			Quiet Reflection		
Call to Worship			Hymn HWB 511		God, who touches earth
Response: We believe that we	are created in God's image	e.			
Opening Prayer		<b>Responding to the Word</b>			
Hymn HWB 46	I sing the mighty	v power of God	Offertory & Prayer		
Prayer of Confession (in unison) We confess, creating God, that we have not lived as faithful bearers of your holy image. We neglect our bodies, we abuse them, we belittle them in our minds.			<b>Sharing Time &amp; Introductions</b> During this time in the service we welcome visitors, invite responses to the worship service, and share prayer concerns and joys. Please sign the Welcome Pages (black books) in the pews so we can learn each others' names.		
We divide our spirit from our body and call one good and the other bad. With such thoughts, we have separated what			Prayers of the People		
you have joined together. With such acts we miss your gospel message.			Sending		
Forgive us for our foolish thoughts. Heal us of our blindness to your glory that dwells in us. Transform us, we pray, that we may find wholeness in our bodies, affirm our membership in the Body of Christ, and work together for the healing of all creation, which you have called good. Amen.			Sending Hymn HWB 7	1 J	oyful, joyful, we adore thee
			Blessing		
			Hearing devices are available from an usher or the sound booth.		

Words of Assurance

#### Some questions for your reflection on today's service:

- *Youth:* What does it mean to be created in the image of God? How does that compare with images of people in the media? Why do you imagine God created two sexes? Why not just one?
- *Parents of young children:* You might trace an outline of your child on a large piece of paper and color it in together. (There's a big roll of paper in the basement kitchen; help yourself!) Write around the edges, "God made me" and "God loves me." How do people in your family care for their bodies? How might you affirm God's image in your child?
- *Adults:* What different messages have you been given about your body as you have matured? Notice this week what messages you give through your body to friends, family, coworkers, strangers or your intimate partner. What messages is your body giving you at this moment in your life?
- *Older Adults:* When illness or circumstances that older adults are frequently faced with prevent or change/limit patterns of physical ability as well as sexual expression. How have physical changes impacted your daily life? Your sexuality? If you are in a couple relationship, how have these changes impacted your feelings of closeness and intimacy?

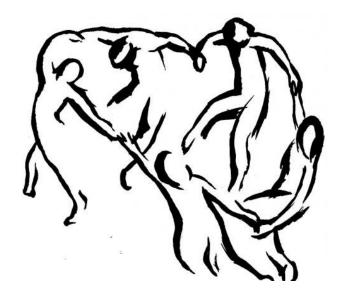
Bulletin Cover: Sketch by Rachel Bevan Baker http://rachelbevanbaker.wordpress.com

Greeters: Melanie Zuercher & the Senior High Youth Visual Arts: Yolanda Kauffman Musicians: Rachel Epp Buller, Greg Nickel Sound & Closing: Jeffrey Graber

Pastor: Eric Massanari Associate Pastor: Sara Dick Administrative Assistant: Grace Wenger Church Moderator: Matt Schmidt

## Body & Soul: Healthy Sexuality and the People of God

### Part 1: Our Bodies, God's Image



### Sunday, January 29, 2012

Our purpose is to worship and praise God together, to pray for and encourage each other to live our covenant with God and to share Christ's good news with others. As Anabaptist Christians we will reach out to others, welcome all people, be aware of our neighbors and respond to their needs, and give ourselves to service.

> 9:30 a.m.- Sunday School 10:45 a.m.- Worship 800 E. First St., Newton, KS Phone: (316) 283-7395 office@shalomnewton.org