



Osler Mennonite Church

*A Welcoming Community for Peace
Following Jesus on the Path of Reconciliation*

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

June 16, 2024

The Mustard Seed Mystery

Prelude

Welcome/Land Acknowledgement/Announcements

Call to Worship: Psalm 20 (*Updated New Revised*)

L: May the Lord answer you in the day of trouble!

May the name of God protect you

and send you help from the sanctuary and give you support from Zion.

**C: May God remember all your offerings
and regard with favour your sacrifices.**

L: May God grant you your heart's desire and fulfill all your plans.

May we shout for joy over your victory

and in the name of our God set up our banners.

C: May the Lord fulfill all our petitions.

Some take pride in chariots and some in horses,

but our pride is in the name of the Lord our God.

They will collapse and fall, but we shall rise and stand upright.

O God; answer us when we call.

Prayer of Invocation: Gracious God, thank you for this morning of worship which guides us to act justly in the world. Thank you that you draw near to us in scripture and song and prayer. Bless this morning's service for your glory. Amen.

**Hymns of Praise: VT #1 Summoned by the God Who Made Us
VT #377 New Earth, Heavens New**

First Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17 (*Common English Bible*)

The love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: one died for the sake of all; therefore, all died. He died for the sake of all so that

those who are alive should live not for themselves but for the one who died for them and was raised. So then, from this point on we won't recognize people by human standards. Even though we used to know Christ by human standards, that isn't how we know him now. So then, if anyone is in Christ, that person is part of the new creation. The old things have gone away, and look, new things have arrived!

Children's Gathering Song: Today Earth is Singing

Story for All Ages: My Coins Count *with* MCC Les Gustafson-Zook Coin Gathering

Offering Prayer/Music for Meditation

Sharing Joys and Concerns/Prayer of the Church

Prayers – to the Bergen Braun family at the death of Julie's sister Lori. The funeral was in Winkler, MB on Saturday

- Jan Guenther and family at the death of Jan's brother Howard
- Frieda's hip replacement and move to Bethany,
- Harold and Lynn's children Erin & Trevor who continue to have health struggles

Thanksgiving - for Luke and youth leading the service and puppet show last Sunday and for deacons and M-Z providing picnic

- MCC Sale success
- Grade 9 graduation for Zoe, Mikwanis, Lanae, Nora

Candle Prayers for peace and our hearts' desires

Hymn: VT #44 We Long to Know Her

Second Reading: Mark 4:26-34 (CEB)

Then Jesus said, "This is what God's kingdom is like. It's as though someone scatters seed on the ground, then sleeps and wakes night and day. The seed sprouts and grows, but the farmer doesn't know how. The earth produces crops all by itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full head of grain. Whenever the crop is ready, the farmer goes out to cut the grain because it's harvesttime." He continued, "What's a good image for God's kingdom? What parable can I use to explain it? Consider a mustard seed. When scattered on the ground, it's the smallest of all the seeds on the earth; but when it's planted, it grows and becomes the

largest of all vegetable plants. It produces such large branches that the birds in the sky are able to nest in its shade.” With many such parables he continued to give them the word, as much as they were able to hear. He spoke to them only in parables, then explained everything to his disciples when he was alone with them.

Scripture Response:

Leader: For the word of God in Scripture,
For the word of God among us,
For the word of God within us.

People: Thanks be to God.

Hymn: VT #588 We Walk by Faith

Sermon: The Mustard Seed Mystery

Hymn: VT #809 Sing a New World into Being

Benediction: Go forth in peace and may the God who fills the hungry with good things fill us with all Christlike love and with a consuming hunger for justice in our world. Amen.

*Offerings can be done via e-transfer to osler.mc.treasurer@gmail.com

*Our Services are all Streamed and Archived on-line.

Welcome to Don Froese who is a Mennonite Brethren pastor, recently having served as interim minister at Mount Royal. “I am married to Una (she works as an RN in labour and delivery - so I have heard more birth stories than most men!). I have 4 adult children and 1.5 grandchildren. I am a history geek and I love to explore by reading and travelling. I also enjoy being a sports fan and any form of boating down the river.”

Les Gustafson-Zook is a storyteller, musician and *My Coins Count Ambassador* who uses wacky, thrift shop worthy homemade instruments to share songs and stories about the work of Mennonite Central Committee. He’s a long time MCC worker from Goshen, Indiana, whose MCC experiences have taken he and his wife, Gwen, across the US to work in Atlanta, start the DOOR program in Denver, the PLOW program in Portland, work a year in Jamaica and now to network with MCC relief sales across US and Canada. When not representing MCC, he teaches autoharp and performs at music festivals across the US and throws discs at the nearest disc golf course.

TODAY'S June 16 *MCC Sunday*

Speaker: Don Froese Worship Leader: Patty Friesen

Song Leader: Michelle Accompanist: Melanie

Story: Les Gustafson-Zook Sound: Keri/James Ushers: Bill/Anna

Offering Counter Team: Jim Dyck, Kevin Boldt

Office Hours: 8:30 am – 12:30 pm Wednesday and Friday

Walking Club: Fridays 9:00 am starting from church – all are welcome

Coffee at the office on Friday @ 10:00 am

Patty's Week: Tues. work from home; Weds. office; Fri. Office

Luke's Week: Mon. NPMC Board Meeting; Wed. Outdoor Service

Meeting; Thurs. Mega Menno; Friday-Sunday: Off

Birthdays: 18 – Alexander Edwards Buhler

Gathering Room Coffee Schedule: June 16 - Karl

June 23 - Lynette

The Yard Maintenance Schedule:

Week of June 24 to June 29 – C & C Martens Funk and R & B Borne

July 1 to July 6 – B & D Buhler and family

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prayer for peace in Gaza

by Joanna Hiebert Bergen (MC Manitoba PIN chair)

O Spirit of life, of healing and compassion, we plead with you...

- be light and breath for the people of Gaza,
- be shelter for all for whom refuge is repeatedly denied,
- be comfort for those whose grief multiplies beyond words,
- be bread for the hungering, water and fuel for those insecure.

We ask you for the courage to continue to call our leadership in power to uphold the values of truth, justice and an end to all violence. Spirit of peace and restoration, we cry aloud for ceasefire...

- an end to drone and bombs and ground assaults,
- a pathway for relief,
- the beginning of rebuilding in justice and flourishing.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, who is close to all who suffer violence.
Amen.

TODAY Warman Community Band is having a summer concert on June 16 at 7 p.m. at the Brian King Centre in Warman. Tickets are \$15 and are available at the door or from band members in advance.

Summer coffee will be made by deacons. There may not be snacks. If you would like to provide snacks for special occasions - please be in touch with Karl, Matthew B, Wilf, Lynette, Frieda. If you would like a visit by deacons or pastors this summer please be in touch with them about that as well.

Deacons are looking for a card writing volunteer to send sympathy, get well cards from the church. Please contact Pastor Patty or Karl Martens.

Bethany Ukulele Band will be here September 29 and if any OMC ukulele/guitulele players want to join - please contact Pastor Patty for rehearsal music.

Anyone from the city willing to stop at Bethany Sun. Sept 29 to pick up band members with walkers and music stands, please talk to Pastor Patty. She also has a soprano uke with case for sale \$40. Anyone interested in learning please join rehearsals Tuesdays 2:00 Bethany by contacting Lynn Driedger lynnfriedger@gmail.com.

Moving time is coming for Frieda from Osler home into her new village away from Osler to Bethany Manor. This will be happening during the July week of 12th to 18th July. Bruce Peters and Dave McDonald will both be coming to help. Contact Bruce for details and arrangements at: greydawnwm@gmail.com. Also, Sharleen is here for contact as well at Frieda's home 306.239.4361 or her BC # 604.746.6333 (call or text). Thank you in advance, any help will be greatly appreciated by all the family members.

Did you know?? MC SK Fair Trade Coffee purchases support youth programming in Mennonite Church Saskatchewan. Please order at www.mcsask.ca/coffee.

When dropping off cans at Sarcan please donate to code "omcgreen" for the Youth Green Fund.

MCC Connects: June 20 marks World Refugee Day and June 21 marks National Indigenous Peoples Day. In honor of these days, MCC encourages your community to attend events in your area, listen to our podcast *How Do I Sponsor a Refugee?* on either Spotify or Apple

Podcasts, or watch the film *Reserve 107: Reconciliation on the Prairies* at: <https://www.reserve107thefilm.com/> .

MC Updates:

RJC Musical Les Misérables | 7:00pm June 20, 21 & 22 Tickets are now on sale for RJC's rendition of Les Misérables! The same show you know and love, set in the modern-day. The show runs Thursday, Friday and Saturday in the RJC Auditorium, 410 6th Ave, Rosthern, SK. Adults - \$24, 17 & under - \$15. Tickets are available at rjc.sk.ca/musical.

Please contact the school (306) 232-4222 to request wheelchair/accessible seating. Get your tickets today!

2 Free Tickets to RJC musical, Thurs. June 20, 7:00 p.m. Please contact Pastor Patty

RJC Red Carpet Open House | June 20 - Students in grades 6-11 are invited to a prospective student event prior to the opening night performance of RJC's musical "Les Misérables". MC Sask youth are invited to games at 4:30pm on the RJC campus, followed by supper in the RJC dining hall at 5:30pm, campus tour at 6:00pm and the musical performance at 7:00pm. Youth can register at rjc.sk.ca, with their youth sponsors/pastors or contact Alex Tiessen at admissions@rjc.sk.ca.

RJC Alumni & Friends BBQ | 5:30pm, June 22 - RJC alumni & friends are invited to our annual BBQ, prior to the final performance of RJC's musical "Les Misérables" on June 22. \$15 per person for the meal (10 & under - free). RSVP to office@rjc.sk.ca or call (306) 232-4222.

RJC Graduation | June 23 - Please join us as we celebrate the class of 2024! Baccalaureate Service at 10:30am held at Rosthern Mennonite Church (3016 5th St, Rosthern). Graduation Exercises at 2:30pm in the RJC Auditorium (410 6th Ave, Rosthern) All are welcome to attend!

Shekinah Summer Camp already has great volunteers to cook for 4 weeks of camp. We are now looking for volunteer cooks for the weeks of July 28 to August 2 and August 18 - 23. There is a weekly convener who will organize the work of the volunteer cooks. If you can help out for a day or two, please contact Audrey Kampen (audrey@shekinahretreatcentre.org)

Do you have a smartphone you don't use? Joanne DeJong, International Witness worker at Mesrete Kristos Seminary in Ethiopia, is requesting used smartphones to support students there. Some students

cannot afford a smartphone which is essential for getting the lecture notes and succeeding at the seminary. She is also looking for one lightweight laptop for the South Sudanese students to share. Joanne is briefly in Canada for the last two weeks of June, and she'd be happy to transport these back to Ethiopia. If you have an old smartphone or a laptop you could donate, please contact Joanne at joannedejong290@gmail.com. (new)

CMU invites inquiries and applications for a full-time Admissions Counsellor and a full-time Payroll and Benefits Administrator (both positions permanent, salaried with benefits). Other opportunities include Business and Social Work faculty positions. Visit cmu.ca/employment for information on all employment opportunities.

Climate Pollinator #41 comes from an interview with Will Braun, "Back to More with Less".

<https://carrot-sawfish-ws36.squarespace.com/climate-pollinator-series/nx954pnrtscst5-a58gm-hgjr8?rq=more%20with%20less>

Save the date! International Witness Sunday is October 27, 2024. Watch for details and resources coming soon! (*worship planning information*)

Join our nationwide community of faith for Mennonite Church Canada's Annual General Meeting (Zoom only) on Saturday, June 22, 12:00-1:30 p.m. (Central). Along with our business agenda, we will hear updates from our program directors, enjoy worship and reflect together as Joint Council members share what God has showed them over the past year. All are welcome. Agenda, information packet, audited financial statements, and registration portal coming soon.

You are invited to deepen the relationship between the Colombian Mennonite Church and Mennonite Church Canada by visiting Colombia in February 2025 (<https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/article/44830>). If you are interested in being part of a small delegation for this visit, contact MC Sask mcsask@mcsask.ca or Jeanette Hanson jhanson@mennonitechurch.ca for more information.

Hold in Prayer and Celebrate IEmergence

Saskatchewan (<https://iemergence.com/saskatchewan/>), the 2024 MCC and MC Canada Jubilee Fund Recipient. IEmergence seeks to provide culturally safe spaces for Indigenous children, youth and their families

to learn about their indigeneity. Tāpākōmitowin (Cree for Adopting as Kin) embodies the vision of rebuilding a community out on the land, where all nations come together as one adopted family (<https://www.facebook.com/Tapakomitowin>).

OMC Super Summer - (it's Pastor Patty's last and she wants to party!)

Sat. June 15, MCC Sale - Forest Grove Church

Weds. June 19, 7:00 Summer Singalong Bethany Courtyard

Sat. June 22, Mennos at Pride Parade, 12:00 University Bridge

Sun. June 23, 1:30 Katherine and Dakota's shower @ Kathy and Dick's yard *There will be a cash basket for future household purchases*

Mon. July 1, 11:00 Osler Parade, OMC Ice Cream & Water
- talk to Kaytee about volunteering

OMC Summer Backyard Book Club:

Weds. Aug. 21, 7:00 Book Club at Diane McKinnell's, discussing *A Good Neighbourhood* by Theresa Fowler. Copies at public library.

CALENDAR

Sat. June 15 11:00 am to 3 pm MCC Relief Sale

Sun. June 16 10:00 am Don Froese

Wed. June 19 7:00 pm Summer Sing-along @ Bethany

Sun. June 23 10:00 am Patty Friesen speaking *God on Wheels*

RJC High School Graduation programs

1:30 Shower for Katherine & Dakota @ Dick & Kathy's

Sun. June 30 10:00 am Terry Stefaniuk speaking

Sun. July 7 10:00 am Patty Friesen speaking

NEXT SUNDAY June 23 *God on Wheels - Accessibility*

Speaker: Patty Friesen Worship Leader: George Janzen

Song Leaders: Kathryn, Loretta Accompanist: Lynette

Story: Jake Sound: Benjamin Ushers: Susan/Dick

Offering Counter Team: Jim Dyck, Shelley Penner

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We gather on Treaty Six Lands, Nehiyaw Territory, and the Homeland of the Métis