

**MCC Connects:** MCC is now accepting applications for the Ottawa Student Seminar. Students in post-secondary interested in the theme of “People on the Move: Human Rights and Global Migration” can view information online at <https://mcccanada.ca/stories/ottawa-office-student-seminar-february-14-16-2019> or contact Erica Baerwald at the MCCS office (306) 665-2555 before December 19<sup>th</sup>.

\*Dec 8 & 9: Burnt Thicket Theatre presents **Christmas Presence** - a unique mashup of stories and songs that explores the incarnation with a messy but joyful hope. Artists include Tim Bratton, Becky Thomas, Wyndham Thiessen, and Stephen Waldschmidt. Everyone is welcome, including kids, and hot cider will be served! Two shows only: Dec 8 (7:30pm @ Studio 914, 914 20th St W) & Dec 9 (7:30pm @ College Park Covenant Church, 909 Acadia Dr) Admission: suggested donation of \$10 and/or a new stuffie for Stephen’s Backpacks to support kids in need in Saskatoon. Details at: [burntthicket.com](http://burntthicket.com) or see poster on bulletin board.

### OMC CALENDAR

Dec 6	Adult Choir practice, 7:00 pm
Dec 7	Osler School Christmas Concert, 10:15 am @ OMC
Dec 13	Adult Choir practice, 7:00 pm
Dec 15	S.S. Christmas pageant practice, 10:00 am
Dec 15	M & S Hamper distribution, 10:00 am
Dec 15	Men’s Breakfast at the Osler Café, 10:00 am
Dec 20	Adult Choir practice, 7:00 pm
Dec 22	Youth Christmas party at Terri Lynn & Thomas’, 6:30pm

Worship Leader: George Janzen	Sound: Stephanie Siemens
Song leader: Michelle McKinnell	Pianist: Mark Bigland-Pritchard
Ushers: Karl Martens, Anna Peters	Nursery: Micah Guenther

The Osler Mennonite Church, Box 129, Osler, Saskatchewan S0K 3A0		
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Church Office – 306-239-2133		
Fax – 306-239-2279		
<a href="mailto:oslermcoffice@sasktel.net">oslermcoffice@sasktel.net</a>	<a href="mailto:oslermcpastor@sasktel.net">oslermcpastor@sasktel.net</a>	
website: <a href="http://omchurch.org">http://omchurch.org</a>		



## OSLER MENNONITE CHURCH

Osler, Saskatchewan  
A Welcoming Christian  
Community for Peace

10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
December 2, 2018

First Sunday of Advent: Watching and Waiting

Prelude  
Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship:

L: Now is the time of waiting and watching. We wait expectantly for the Messiah, for God’s promises to be fulfilled.

**C: We turn to you, O God, in the midst of this chaotic world, longing for that day of salvation to arrive. How long must we wait?**

L: Pay attention, be still and know that God is with us. The signs are all around us.

**C: Fill us with the faith and the hope of what is to be as we come before you with open hearts.**

*All: Come, Lord Jesus, come!*

Invocation

**Hymns: Blue/HWB #366 “God of grace and God of glory”**  
**Blue/HWB #176 “Comfort, comfort, O my people”**

Children’s Time: Patty Friesen

Sharing Joys & Concerns / Prayer of the Church

**Hymn: Blue/HWB #175 “O Savior, rend the heavens”**

Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

Epistle Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

**Hymn: Green/SJ #54 “Longing for light”**

Gospel Reading: Luke 21:25-36

Sermon: “Praying for the World” Patty Friesen

Communion

**Sung Benediction: Blue/HWB #182 “Oh, how shall I receive thee”**

Spoken Benediction: Go now with unwavering faith in the promises of God. Go now with excited expectation in the coming of God’s Son. Go now with abundant love for one another and the world. Go in peace and pass the peace of Christ with each other.

Passing the Peace of Christ

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**To all our visitors: WELCOME.** We are delighted that you are worshipping with us.

**Scent Free:** We are striving to be considerate of those with sensitivities to scents/fragrances and ask all to avoid wearing scented products.

**Children’s Worship Binder**, an instrument to help children through the worship hour, is available in the foyer.

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**TODAY:**

- **Centering Prayer** in Classroom 1 at 9:15 - 9:30 am.
- **Beverages & Snacks** available after the worship service.
- **Sunday School for all ages** begins at 11:15 am.

**THIS WEEK:**

- **Thursday, Dec 6: Adult Choir practice, 7:00 pm**
  - **Friday, Dec 7: Osler School Christmas concert @ OMC, 9:45 am**
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**Next Sunday, Dec 9: Sermon: Terri Lynn Friesen**

Worship Leader: George Janzen Song leader: Loretta Sawatzky

Pianist: Naomi Schellenberg Children’s Time: Jake Buhler

Sound: Dick Braun

Nursery: Diana Buhler

Ushers: Karl Martens, Anna Peters

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**Patty’s Week:** Tues. sermon, Osler seniors' Christmas; Wed: office, Barn Playhouse; Fri: office, visits.

**Terri Lynn’s Week:** Mon: Youth leaders meeting; Tues: Sermon prep; Thur: Choir practice; Fri: Osler School Concert, office

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**UPCOMING SERVICES**

Dec 16 Sunday School Christmas program

Dec 23 Adult Choir Christmas program

Dec 24 Candlelight Service, 7:00 pm

Dec 30 “Mary’s Ponderings” – Patty Friesen

Jan 6 Patty Friesen preaching

**Remember in Prayer:**

-Rachel's reaction to chemo + start of radiation

-Lara's end of chemo + start of radiation

-Walaa's arrival in Ankara for immigration interview (found husband of Buthayna Alnouri) -MCC's report at MHSS Winnipeg (Dick)

-Terri Lynn and Thomas' baby coming in May

-M&S donation to MCC's After-School Program Christmas

-Ben, Diane, Jake serving at Bethany Manor this morning

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Children’s song: MDS Theme Song: (Tune: This is the Day) Be with us Lord. Be with us, Lord. As we work today, as we work today. Help us to share your love and care, in the things we do and the words we say. Be with us, Lord, as we work today. Help us to show your love, we pray. Be with us, Lord. Be with us, Lord. As we work today.

**\*December Sunday School schedule:**

**Children's Sunday School:** Christmas program practice on Dec 2 & 9 during regular Sunday School time, with a **dress rehearsal on Sat, Dec 15, 10:00 am**. No Sunday School on Dec 16.

**Youth & Adults:** Regular Sunday morning Sunday School on Dec 2, Dec 9, and Dec 16.

**No Sunday School for all ages on Dec 23 and Dec 30.**

**\*Wednesday, December 5: Sonrisa Women's Choir & A Buncha Guys Christmas Concert** 7:30 pm at Nutana Park Mennonite Church, 1701 Ruth Street East, Saskatoon Tickets \$10.00 at the door.

**\*Sunday, December 9: A Very Shekinah Christmas**, 2-5:30 p.m. Get in the Christmas spirit and join us in the Timber Lodge for an afternoon of musical entertainment. Peppernuts and apple cider will be served from 2-3 p.m. in the Fireside Room. Photo Booth opens at 2 p.m. Sing-a-long to your favorite Christmas carols at 2:30 p.m. in the Great Hall. Guests A Buncha Guys and Sonrisa to perform at 3:00 p.m. Faspa to follow. Tickets are \$10 – available online ([shekinahretreatcentre.org](http://shekinahretreatcentre.org)) or at the door. Donations will be gratefully accepted.

\*Bill Braun is now living at the Luther Special Care Home, room 203, 1212 Osler Street in Saskatoon.

**\*RJC CHRISTMAS CONCERTS:**

Wednesday, Dec 19, 7:30 pm Knox United Church

Friday, Dec 21, 7:00 pm at RJC

**OMC YOUTH CALENDAR:**

**Youth Christmas Party! - Sat, Dec 22 - 6:30-8:30pm at Terri Lynn & Thomas' (419 Ave E S Saskatoon)**

A fun evening of Christmas festivities: snacks, cookie decorating and games! Friends are welcome! If you are able to drive, please respond on the google calendar invite.

**\*Missions & Service will be collecting items for the Christmas Hampers again.** We will be putting the hampers together on Dec 15th. We will take non-perishable, perishables (Dec 14 or 15) and cash donations.

**\*Our Sunday School Giving Project** this year is *Buckets of Thanks* - a Mennonite Central Committee program that provides essential hygiene supplies for families whose lives have been disrupted by war or disaster. Relief buckets are one of MCC's most requested material resources, and for every \$50 that we collect, a relief bucket can be sent to somewhere like Jordan, Haiti, Ukraine, or Syria. This is a project for everyone, regardless of your age or the size of your contribution! There are learning resources for families, and the youth have helped decorate the donation bucket in the lobby. Thanks for considering *Buckets of Thanks* as part of your Christmas giving.

\*Friday, December 7, 10:15 am: Osler School Grade 4 & 5 Christmas Concert here at OMC.

**\*ADULT CHRISTMAS CHOIR:** Keith and Merel will lead the adult choir. This will culminate with a **Christmas Choir program on Sunday, December 23** during the worship service. **Rehearsals will be on Thursdays at 7:00 pm.**

**Taste of Syria - On Saturday, January 5, 2019 at 5:30pm** OMC will host a Syrian meal prepared by the Alnouri family with help from the Sponsorship group. We encourage the church family to come out, enjoy the food and get to know the family that we and the Living Sky group have sponsored and continue to support. More information about the family was in the last church newsletter. Come help us bring in the new year by celebrating the Alnouris' first 8 months in Canada.

To help cover the cost of the meal we are suggesting donations of \$10.00 per adult or \$20.00 for a family. If you plan to come please put your name on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board before Dec. 30<sup>th</sup> to assist in planning. If you have any questions please talk to Linda Stucky or Margaret Dyck.

**\*Frozen Meal Drive** for Baby Doucette (Erica and Robin) and Baby Tatyra (Kathryn and James). Please help yourself to foil pans and make double when making supper, label and freeze and bring to deacons' freezer Room 007. Prairie Meat meals an option as well - see fundraiser note on bulletin board.

### **TODAY'S SCRIPTURES: Jeremiah 33:14-16**

#### *The Righteous Branch and the Covenant with David*

<sup>14</sup>The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>15</sup>In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>16</sup>In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

### **1 Thessalonians 3:9-13**

<sup>9</sup>How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? <sup>10</sup>Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

<sup>11</sup>Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. <sup>12</sup>And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. <sup>13</sup>And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

### **Luke 21:25-36**

#### *The Coming of the Son of Man*

<sup>25</sup>"There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. <sup>26</sup>People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

#### *The Lesson of the Fig Tree*

<sup>29</sup>Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; <sup>30</sup>as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. <sup>31</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. <sup>33</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

#### *Exhortation to Watch*

<sup>34</sup>"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, <sup>35</sup>like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."